

INTRODUCTION

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- “**Hound Dog**” by Elvis Presley
- *ain't*
- **prescriptive** (vs. descriptive)
- *Webster's Third*

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- **descriptive**
- “**Rosebud**” (cf. [Citizen Kane](#))
- **oxymoronic**, as paradoxical as a sequined pocket protector
- *Oxford English Dictionary (OED)*

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- **The Word Detective**
(cf. [The Word Detective](#))
- **Gothic stories** (cf. Gothic novels)

Gothic fiction, sometimes referred to as **Gothic horror**, is a genre or mode of literature that combines elements of both horror and romance. Gothicism's origin is attributed to English author Horace Walpole, with his 1764 novel *The Castle of Otranto*, subtitled "A Gothic Story". The effect of Gothic fiction feeds on a pleasing sort of terror, an extension of Romantic literary pleasures that were relatively new at the time of Walpole's novel. Melodrama and parody (including self-parody) were other long-standing features of the Gothic initiated by Walpole. It originated in England in the second half of the 18th century and had much success during the English romantic period with Mary Shelley's *Frankenstein* and the works of Edgar Allan Poe. A later well known novel in this genre, dating from the Victorian era, is Bram Stoker's *Dracula*. The name Gothic refers to the (pseudo)-medieval buildings in which many of these stories take place. This extreme form of romanticism was very popular in England and Germany. The English gothic novel also led to new novel types such as the German Schauerroman and the French roman noir.

- **Hadrian's Wall**



- **grammazons** (cf. [Pseudodictionary grammazon](#))
grammazon - Used by Roy Peter Clark in *The Glamour of Grammar* for those grammar czars and czarinas who go a step too far by jumping on anyone who makes the slightest grammatical error. I picture grammazons as being of the female persuasion, and built like those "lady wrestlers" on WWE's Monday Night Raw -- or like the high school girl (name unremembered) I had a blind date with my second year in college. Can also be a verb.
- **Lynne Truss** (cf. [Eats, Shoots and Leaves](#))
Eats, Shoots & Leaves: The Zero Tolerance Approach to Punctuation is a non-fiction book written by Lynne Truss, the former host of BBC Radio 4's Cutting a Dash programme. In the book, published in 2003, Truss bemoans the state of punctuation in the United Kingdom and the United States and describes how rules are being relaxed in today's society. Her goal is to remind readers of the importance of punctuation in the English language by mixing humour and instruction.

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- **holy cards**
(cf. [Holy cards](#)) [*also called prayer cards*]

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PART ONE

Words

p.7

- “In the beginning was the Word,” says the Bible. (cf. John 1.1: In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.)
- “The word is love,” sang the Beatles. (cf. *Rubber Soul*)
The Word
Say the word and you'll be free
Say the word and be like me
Say the word I'm thinking of
Have you heard the word is love?
It's so fine, it's sunshine
It's the word, love
- **Groucho Marx** (cf. *You Bet Your Life ...* an American quiz show originally hosted by Groucho Marx of the Marx Brothers; [Wikipedia: Marx Brothers](#))

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- **What's the word?**
- **Word up!**
- **Word to your mother.** (<Word to the mother.) (*also Word!*) [A response of affirmation.
cf. *Word to the mother!* in *Black Talk* by G. Smitherman.]
- **thesaurus**
- **parts of speech**

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01 Read dictionaries for fun and learning.

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- **OED and AHD**
- **scavenger hunt**

scavenger hunt |'skævəndʒər hənt|

noun

a game, typically played in an extensive outdoor area, in which participants have to collect a number of miscellaneous objects.

- “dictionary based upon historical principles”

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- **red-state vs. blue-state politics**
- **phonics vs. whole language**

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- **Neapolitan (ice cream)**
- **hug it like a blanket** ==> cf. a security blanket ([security blanket](#))
- **Grammar Girl** (cf. [Grammar Girl](#) [Amazon.com])

Mignon Fogarty, a.k.a. Grammar Girl, is determined to wipe out bad grammar - but she's also determined to make the process as painless as possible. One year ago, she created a weekly pod cast to tackle some of the most common mistakes people make while communicating. The pod casts have now been downloaded more than seven million times, and Mignon has dispensed grammar tips on Oprah and appeared on the pages of "The New York Times", "The Wall Street Journal", and "USA Today". Written with the wit, warmth, and accessibility that the pod casts are known for, "Grammar Girl's Quick and Dirty Tips for Better Writing" covers the grammar rules and word-choice guidelines that can confound even the best writers. From "between vs. among" and "although vs. while" to comma splices and misplaced modifiers, Mignon offers memory tricks and clear explanations that will help readers recall and apply those troublesome grammar rules. Chock-full of tips on style, business writing, and effective e-mailing, "Grammar Girl's" print debut deserves a spot on every communicator's desk.

- **Webster's Third**

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- **sentence adverb**
- **hopefully, mercifully as sentence adverbs**
- **different from, different than**

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02 Avoid speed bumps caused by misspellings.

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- **gospel**

gospel, n.

(¹gɒspəl)

Forms: 1–5 godspel(l, 3–4 goddspel(l, 4 godspelle, gossPELL, 4–7 gOSPELL(e, 5 gosPEEL, gOSPILLE, 6 ghOSPEL(l(e, 3– gosPEL.

[OE. godspel, doubtless orig. **gód spel** (see good a. and spell n.), good tidings (cf. láð spel evil tidings), a rendering of the L. bona adnuntiatio (Corpus Gloss. Int. 117) or bonus nuntius ('Euuangelium, id est, bonum nuntium, godspel', Voc. c 1050 in Wr.-Wülcker 314/8), which was current as an explanation of the etymological sense of L. evangelium, Gr. εὐαγγέλιον (see evangely). Cf. Goth. þiuþspillôn 'to preach the gospel' (εὐαγγελίζεσθαι), f. þiuþ-s good + spillôn to announce (cogn. w. spell). When the phrase gód spel was adopted as the regular translation of evangelium, the ambiguity of its written form led to its being interpreted as a compound, **göd-spel**, f. god + spel in the sense 'discourse' or 'story'. The mistake was very natural, as the resulting sense was much more obviously appropriate than that of 'good tidings' for a word which was chiefly known as the name of a sacred book or of a portion of the liturgy. From OE. the word passed, in adapted forms, into the languages of the Teutonic peoples evangelized from England: OS. godspell, OHG. gotspell, ON. guð-, goðspiall; in each case the form of the first element shows unequivocally that it was identified with God, not with good. The ON. form has survived into mod.Icel.; the continental Teut. langs. early discarded the word for adoptions of L. evangelium.

Although the ó in OE. gódspel would necessarily in time have been shortened by the regular operation of phonetic law, it does not appear that this process could have taken place early enough to account for the form of the word in OS. and OHG. The form gödspel must therefore (as above explained) be due to a misinterpretation of the written form, originating before the word had any oral currency.]

1. a.1.a 'The glad tidings (of the kingdom of God)' announced to the world by Jesus Christ. Hence, the body of religious doctrine taught by Christ and His apostles; the Christian revelation, religion or dispensation. Often contrasted with the Law, i.e. the Old Testament dispensation. Phrase, to preach, †minister the gospel.

c 950 Lindisf. Gosp. Matt. ix. 35 Ðe hælend· ·bodade god~spell [so c 1000 Ags. Gosp., c 1160 Hatton Gosp. godspel] rices. c 1205 Lay. 29507 Austin þu scalt· ·beode þer godes goddspel.

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- **the conventional American spellings**

- **art into an ars**

- **a pixie hairdo.** Cf. pixie hat, pixie hood, pixie haircut; pixie dust; pixie(-)ish

- **a button nose**

(Curved nose, short and rounded like here [Button nose](#) It's a compliment; they are cute to most.)

cf. Frosty the Snowman ([Lyrics](#))

Frosty the snowman was a jolly happy soul,
With a corncob pipe and a button nose
And two eyes made out of coal.

Frosty the snowman is a fairy tale, they say,
He was made of snow but the children
Know how he came to life one day.

- **pedal pushers**

Pedal pushers are calf-length trousers that were popular during the 1950s[1] and have seen a resurgence in the 2000s. Often cuffed and worn tight to the skin, they are related in style to Capri pants, and are sometimes referred to as "clam diggers". The name "pedal pushers" originated from the style originally worn by cyclists, but the style quickly became identified with teenage girls. They are the subject of "Pink Pedal Pushers", a song by Carl Perkins.

- **capri pants**

capri pants |kə'prē|(also **capris**)

plural noun

close-fitting calf-length tapered trousers, usually worn by women and girls.

ORIGIN 1950s (originally US): named after the island of [Capri](#).

cf. [Capri Pants](#)

- **truth be told**

to tell (you) the truth (or **truth to tell** or **if truth be told**) to be frank (used esp. when making an admission or when expressing an unwelcome or controversial opinion): *I think, if truth be told, we were all a little afraid of him. to tell you the truth, I've never met the guys.*

- **picture window**

- **my mother, who snuck up behind me and pierced the bubble of my fantasy with this crack:**

- **juvenile delinquent**

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- **Chaucerian**

- **like Bottom in A Midsummer Night's Dream**

(From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia)

Nick Bottom is a character in Shakespeare's *A Midsummer Night's Dream* who provides comic relief throughout the play, and is famously known for getting his head transformed into a donkey by the elusive Puck within the play. Bottom and Puck are the only two characters who interact and progress the three central stories in the whole play, Puck is the one who is first introduced in the fairies story and creates the drama of the lover's story by messing up who loves who, as well as placing the donkey's head on Bottom's head in his story. Similarly Bottom is performing in a play in his story intending it to be presented in the lover's story as well as interacting with Titania in the fairies' story.

- **the movie *Spellbound***

Spellbound (2002 film)

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

Spellbound is a 2002 documentary that was directed by Jeffrey Blitz. The film follows eight competitors in the 1999 Scripps National Spelling Bee. The film was nominated for the Academy Award for Documentary Feature;[1] Yana Gorskaya's editing won the ACE Eddie award for best editing of documentary. *Spellbound* won the Emmy for Cultural/Artistic Programming and Jeffrey Blitz was nominated for directing. In 2007, it was included as #4 of the "IDA's Top 25 Documentaries" of all-time by the members of the International Documentary Association. Frank Neuhauser, winner of the first National Spelling Bee held in 1925, also appears in the film.[2]

- **spelling bee**
- **nerd**

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- **Ammon Shea**

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

Ammon Shea is an American writer, known for his nonfiction books about the English language. With Peter Novobatzky, he wrote *Depraved English* (1999) and *Insulting English* (2001), which both highlight obscure and unusual English words. Shea later read the entire Oxford English Dictionary, and documented his observations in *Reading the OED: One Man, One Year, 21,730 Pages* (2008).[1][2] He was subsequently hired to work at Oxford University Press as a consulting editor of American dictionaries. Shea has also contributed to the "On Language" column in Sunday's New York Times.[3] Shea's most recent full-length work is *The Phone Book: The Curious History of the Book That Everyone Uses But No One Reads* (2010).[4]

A dictionary collector, Shea had already read Webster's Second International Dictionary in the 1990s.[5] During his life, he has worked as a gondolier, a mover, and a busker.[6]

- homophones

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03 Adopt a favorite letter of the alphabet.

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- **the omega point**

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

Thus Teilhard postulates the Omega Point as this supreme point of complexity and consciousness, which in his view is the actual cause for the universe to grow in complexity and consciousness. In other words, the Omega Point exists as supremely complex and conscious, transcendent and independent of the evolving universe.

- **Zorro**

- **Uzi**

Uzi l'oozēl

noun

a type of submachine gun of Israeli design.

ORIGIN 1950s: from Uziel Gal, the Israeli army officer who designed it.

- **Ursula**

- **usufruct**

- **ululate**

- **humuhumunukunukuapua'a**

the Hawaiian fish that "go swimming by" in the old song "My Little Grass Shack": either of two species, *Rhinecanthus aculeatus* and *Rhinecanthus rectangulus*, of triggerfishes native to the reefs of Hawaii.

My Little Grass Shack

Songwriters: NOBLE, JOHNNY/COGSWELL, BILL/HARRISON, TOMMY

I want to go back to my little grass shack

In Kealakekua, Hawaii

I want to be with all the kanes and wahines

That I used to know long ago

I can hear the old guitars playing
On the beach at Honaunau
I can hear the old Hawaiians saying
Komo mai no kua I ka hale welakahao

It won't be long till my ship will be sailing
Back to Kona
A grand old place
That's always fair to see, you're telling me

I'm just a little Hawaiian
A homesick island boy
I want to go back to my fish and poi

I want to go back to my little grass shack
In Kealakekua, Hawaii
Where the humuhumunukunukuapua'a
Go swimming by

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- **Ulysses**

Ulysses is a novel by the Irish author James Joyce. It was first serialised in parts in the American journal *The Little Review* from March 1918 to December 1920, and then published in its entirety by Sylvia Beach in February 1922, in Paris. One of the most important works of Modernist literature,[1] it has been called "a demonstration and summation of the entire movement".[2] "Before Joyce, no writer of fiction had so foregrounded the process of thinking." [3]

Ulysses chronicles the passage of Leopold Bloom through Dublin during an ordinary day, 16 June 1904 (the day of Joyce's first date with his future wife, Nora Barnacle).[4] Ulysses is the Latinised name of Odysseus, the hero of Homer's poem *Odyssey*, and the novel establishes a series of parallels between its characters and events and those of the poem (e.g., the correspondence of Leopold Bloom to Odysseus, Molly Bloom to Penelope, and Stephen Dedalus to Telemachus). Joyce fans worldwide now celebrate 16 June as Bloomsday.

- **Story of O**

Story of O - Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

Story of O is an erotic novel published in 1954 about love, dominance and submission by French author Anne Desclos under the pen name Pauline Réage. Desclos did not reveal herself as the author for forty years after the initial publication.

- **zoot**

cf. zoot suit

A zoot suit (occasionally spelled zuit suit) is a men's suit with high-waisted, wide-legged, tight-cuffed, pegged trousers, and a long coat with wide lapels and wide padded shoulders. This style of clothing became popular within the Chicano, African American, and Italian American communities during the 1940s.[1] [2]In Britain the bright-coloured suits with velvet lapels worn by Teddy Boys bore a slight resemblance to zoot suits in the length of the jacket.

- **Eve Ensler**

Ensler was born in New York City, New York, the daughter of Chris, a housewife, and Arthur Ensler, a food industry executive.[4][5][6] Her father was Jewish and her mother was from a Christian background.[7] She reports having been physically and sexually abused by her father's best friend when she was a child.[7][8] She graduated from Middlebury College in 1975. She married Richard McDermott in 1978, and divorced him 10 years later. She is the adoptive mother of actor Dylan McDermott, whom she adopted when he was 15 and she was 23.[9]

- **The Vagina Monologues**

The Vagina Monologues was written in 1996. First performed in the basement of the Cornelia Street Café in Greenwich Village, The Vagina Monologues has been translated into 48 languages and performed in over 140 countries. Celebrities who have starred in the play include: Jane Fonda, Whoopi Goldberg, Idina Menzel, Glenn Close, Susan Sarandon, Marin Mazzie, Cyndi Lauper, Mary Testa and Oprah Winfrey. Ensler was awarded the Obie Award in 1996 for 'Best New Play' and in 1999 was awarded a Guggenheim Fellowship Award in Playwriting. She has also received the Berrilla-Kerr Award for Playwriting, the Elliot Norton Award for Outstanding Solo Performance, and the Jury Award for Theater at the U.S. Comedy Arts Festival.[11]

- **V-Day**

V-Day, February 14th, is a global activist movement to end violence against women and girls inspired by Eve Ensler's play, The Vagina Monologues. The movement was started in 1998 by author, playwright and activist Eve Ensler. Ensler has been quoted as saying that it was women's reactions to the play that launched V-Day. After seeing The Vagina Monologues, women would line up after to tell Eve their personal experiences, most often of sexual violence.[1]

- **hex**

- **Generation X**

The term Generation X came from a book written in 1991 by Douglas Coupland by the same name. It is a fictional book about three strangers who decide to distance themselves from society to get a better sense of who they are. He describes the characters as "underemployed, overeducated, intensely private and unpredictable."

Generation X can technically be defined as the generation following the Baby Boomers. Xers were born between 1965 and 1980, 1961 and 1981, 1964 and 1979, 1963 and 1979, 1965 and 1975 or since the mid-1960s, depending on which source you use. For practical purposes we will say that Generation X was born between 1965 and 1980, now ranging in age from 17-32 and usually judged by characteristics assigned to them by the media.

Generation Xers were brought up on television, Atari 2600s and personal computers. They are the generation that was raised in the 1970s and 1980s, and saw this country undergo a selfish phase that they do not want to repeat.

cf. Generation Y [Numbering over 70 million, Generation Y is the fastest growing segment of the workforce. Discover the characteristics of this new generation of legal professionals.]

- **Ex-Lax**

cf. **Ex lax** laxative is commonly used for relieving constipation in patients and is easily available over the shelf however due to some misconceptions this laxative has started

being used as ex lax weight loss drug which is very unhealthy. [For other meanings, cf. <http://www.urbandictionary.com/define.php?term=ex-lax>]

- **sex fiend**

one all-consumed with sex. Synonyms: nymphet, nympho, nymphomaniac, pervert, sex freak, sexual deviant, sexual pervert

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- **liquid consonants**

- **roll out the barrel**

cf. Beer Barrel Polka

([Lyrics](#))

([YouTube](#))

The Concise Oxford Dictionary of Music | 1996 | MICHAEL KENNEDY and JOYCE BOURNE | 269 words | Copyright

Beer Barrel Polka ('Roll out the barrel'). Tune composed by Jaromír Vejvoda (b 1902) and pubd. in Prague, 1934, as Lost Love (Škoda Lásky). Acquired Eng. title when pubd. in NY, 1939. Became very popular with Servicemen in 2nd World War.

cf. *Lolita* by Vladimir Nabokov

Lolita, light of my life, fire of my loins. My sin, my soul. Lo-lee-ta: the tip of the tongue taking a trip of three steps down the palate to tap, at three, on the teeth. Lo. Lee. Ta.

She was Lo, plain Lo, in the morning, standing four feet ten in one sock. She was Lola in slacks. She was Dolly at school. She was Dolores on the dotted line. But in my arms she was always Lolita.

====> [from the Plot Summary, s.v. *Lolita*, *Wikipedia*] ... Humbert Humbert, a literary scholar, has harboured a long-time obsession with young girls, or "[nymphets](#)". He suggests that this was caused by the premature death of a childhood sweetheart, [Annabel Leigh](#). After an unsuccessful marriage and having recovered from a mental breakdown, Humbert moves to the small [New England](#) town of [Ramsdale](#) to write. He rents a room in the house of [Charlotte Haze](#), a widow. While Charlotte shows him around the house, Humbert meets her 12-year-old daughter, [Dolores](#) (born 1935[1]), known as "[Lo](#)", "[Lola](#)", or "[Dolly](#)" with whom he immediately becomes infatuated, partly due to her uncanny resemblance to Annabel, and privately nicknames her "[Lolita](#)". Humbert stays at the house only to remain near her. While he is obsessed with Dolores, he disdains her crassness and preoccupation with contemporary American popular culture, such as teen movies and comic books.

- **shuck and jive**

"To shuck and jive" originally referred to the intentionally misleading words and actions that African-Americans would employ in order to deceive racist Euro-Americans in power, both during the period of slavery and afterwards. (answers.yahoo.com/.../index?qid...)

In 2008, then New York attorney general Andrew Cuomo said of then Democratic Party candidate Barack Obama (who was running against Hillary Clinton, the candidate Cuomo supported): "You can't shuck and jive at a press conference. (en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Shuckin'_and_jivin')

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04 Honor the smallest distinctions – even between *a* and *the*.

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- **Gone with a Wind**
cf. *Gone with the Wind*
- **now part of history**
- **Neil Armstrong moon landing video** (YouTube: [Neil Armstrong moon landing](#))
- **His Honor**
(**His**, **Your**, etc., **Honor**) a title of respect given to or used in addressing a judge or a mayor.
- **Authors at Work**
by Charles Pebody (?)

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- **To a Skylark**
cf. [To a Skylark](#)
- **Percy Bysshe Shelley**
Shelley, Mary ⁱ^ˈShɛlᵻ ^l
(1797–1851), English writer; daughter of William Godwin and Mary Wollstonecraft; full name Mary Wollstonecraft Shelley. She eloped with Percy Bysshe Shelley in 1814 and married him in 1816. She is chiefly remembered as the author of the Gothic novel *Frankenstein, or the Modern Prometheus* (1818).
- **Shelley, Percy Bysshe** ⁱ^ˈShɛlᵻ ^l
(1792–1822), English poet. A leading figure of the romantic movement with radical political views, his works include *Queen Mab* (1813), *Prometheus Unbound* (1820), and *Adonais* (1821), an elegy on the death of Keats. He was the husband of Mary Shelley.
- **definite/indefinite articles**
- **Buckeye football**
Football - Ohio State Buckeyes
Complete coverage of Buckeye Football. Contains scores, statistics, news, trivia, chats, polls, shopping and cheerleaders.
- **Robert Atwan**
Robert Atwan is the series editor of *The Best American Essays*, which he founded in 1986. He has written for *The New York Times*, *The Los Angeles Times*, *The St. Petersburg Times*, *the Boston Review*, and *the Atlantic Monthly*. He has authored studies of popular culture and has contributed criticism and poetry to *the Iowa Review*, *the Kenyon Review*, *the Denver Quarterly*, and *Image*.
- **Montaigne** (Montaigne, Michel de mɑːn ^ˈtɑːn, mɒn ^ˈtenyə)
From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia
The **Essays** of [Michel de Montaigne](#) are contained in three books and 107 chapters of variable length. Montaigne's stated design in writing, publishing and revising the *Essays* over the period from approximately 1570 to 1592 was to record for the 'private benefit of friends and kinsmen ... some traits of my character and of my humours.' The *Essays* were first published in 1580 and cover a wide range of topics. As *Essai* is [French](#) for "trial" or "attempt", so Montaigne attempted to explore his thoughts, his life and learning in written form. His essays are widely regarded as the predecessor of the modern essay: a focused treatment of issues, events and concerns past, present and future.
- **Michael Kazin**
Michael Kazin is a professor of history at Georgetown University. He is co-editor of *Dissent* magazine.[1]
- **Alfred Kazin**
[Wikipedia](#)

Alfred Kazin (June 5, 1915 – June 5, 1998) was an American writer and literary critic, many of whose writings depicted the immigrant experience in early twentieth century America. Contents. 1 Early life; 2 Career; 3 Personal life; 4 Bibliography ...
Early life - Career - Personal life - Bibliography

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• Re ten titles:

A Day to Remember is an American [rock](#) band from [Ocala](#), Florida. Founded in 2003 by guitarist Tom Denney and drummer Bobby Scruggs, the band has released four studio albums, 15 singles and 11 music videos. They are mainly known for their unusual amalgamation of [metalcore](#) and [pop punk](#) as a musical style. The band consists of vocalist [Jeremy McKinnon](#), rhythm guitarist and backing vocalist Neil Westfall, bassist Josh Woodard, percussion and drummer Alex Shelnutt and lead guitarist Kevin Skaff.

The Godfather is a 1972 American [crime film](#) directed by [Francis Ford Coppola](#) and produced by [Albert S. Ruddy](#) from a screenplay by [Mario Puzo](#) and Coppola. Based on Puzo's 1969 [novel of the same name](#), the film stars [Marlon Brando](#) and [Al Pacino](#) as the leaders of a powerful New York crime family. The story, spanning the years 1945 to 1955, centers on the transformation of [Michael Corleone](#) (Pacino) from reluctant family outsider to ruthless [Mafia boss](#) while also chronicling the [Corleone family](#) under the patriarch [Vito Corleone](#) (Brando).

The Holy Bible

The Great Gatsby is a 1925 novel written by [American](#) author [F. Scott Fitzgerald](#) that follows a cast of characters living in the fictional town of West Egg on prosperous [Long Island](#) in the summer of 1922. The story primarily concerns the young and mysterious millionaire [Jay Gatsby](#) and his quixotic passion for the beautiful Daisy Buchanan. Considered to be Fitzgerald's [magnum opus](#), *The Great Gatsby* explores themes of [decadence](#), [idealism](#), resistance to change, social upheaval, and excess, creating a portrait of the [Jazz Age](#) that has been described as a cautionary tale regarding the [American Dream](#).^[1]

A House Is Not a Home is a 1964 [drama film](#) loosely based on the 1953 autobiography by [madam Polly Adler](#). The film stars [Shelley Winters](#), [Robert Taylor](#), [Cesar Romero](#), and [Kaye Ballard](#). [Raquel Welch](#) made her film debut in a small role as a prostitute.

"**Land of a Thousand Dances**" (or "**Land of 1000 Dances**") is a song written and first recorded by [Chris Kenner](#) in 1962. The song is famous for its "na na na na na" hook, which [Cannibal & the Headhunters](#) added in their 1965 version, which reached thirty on the [Billboard](#) chart.^[1] The song's best-known version was [Wilson](#)

[Pickett](#)'s 1966 recording on his album, which became an [R&B](#) #1 and his biggest ever [pop](#) hit. Some releases of the song credit [Antoine "Fats" Domino](#) as a co-author of the song with Kenner. Domino agreed to record the song in exchange for half of the song's royalties.[2]

The Power and the Glory (1940) is a [novel](#) by British author [Graham Greene](#). The title is an [allusion](#) to the [doxology](#) often added to the end of the [Lord's Prayer](#): "For thine is the kingdom, (and) the power, and the glory, now and forever (or *forever and ever*), amen." This novel has also been published in the US under the name ***The Labyrinthine Ways***. In 2005, the novel was chosen by [TIME](#) magazine as one of the one hundred best English-language novels since 1923.[1]

A Little Night Music is a [musical](#) with music and lyrics by [Stephen Sondheim](#) and book by [Hugh Wheeler](#). Inspired by the [Ingmar Bergman](#) film [Smiles of a Summer Night](#), it involves the romantic lives of several couples. Its title is a literal English translation of the German name for [Mozart](#)'s [Serenade No. 13 for strings in G major](#), *Eine kleine Nachtmusik*. The musical includes the popular song "[Send in the Clowns](#)".

A Man For All Seasons is a play by [Robert Bolt](#). An early form of the play had been written for [BBC Radio](#) in 1954, and a one-hour live television version starring [Bernard Hepton](#) was produced in 1957 by the BBC,[1] but after Bolt's success with *The Flowering Cherry*, he reworked it for the stage. The plot is based on the true story of [Sir Thomas More](#), the 16th-century [Chancellor of England](#), who refused to endorse King [Henry VIII](#)'s wish to divorce his aging wife [Catherine of Aragon](#), who could not bear him a son, so that he could marry [Anne Boleyn](#), the sister of his former mistress. The play portrays More as a man of principle, envied by rivals such as [Thomas Cromwell](#) and loved by the common people and by his family.

"**The Star-Spangled Banner**" is the [national anthem](#) of the United States of America. It is also among some of the world's national anthems that are based on a poem, along with the [Hymn to Liberty](#), the national anthem of both [Greece](#) and the [Republic of Cyprus](#). The lyrics come from "Defence of Fort McHenry",[1] a poem written in 1814 by the 35-year-old lawyer and amateur poet, [Francis Scott Key](#), after witnessing the bombardment of [Fort McHenry](#) by the [British Royal Navy](#) ships in [Chesapeake Bay](#) during the [Battle of Fort McHenry](#) in the [War of 1812](#).

The poem was set to the tune of a popular British song written by [John Stafford Smith](#) for the [Anacreontic Society](#), a men's social club in London. "The Anacreontic Song" (or "[To Anacreon in Heaven](#)"), with various lyrics, was already popular in the United States. Set to

Key's poem and renamed "The Star-Spangled Banner", it would soon become a well-known American patriotic song. With a [range](#) of one and a half octaves, it is known for being difficult to sing. Although the poem has four [stanzas](#), only the first is commonly sung today.

A Separate Peace (1959) is a novel by [John Knowles](#). Based on his earlier short story "Phineas", it was Knowles' first published novel and became his best-known work.

The Catcher in the Rye is a 1951 novel by [J. D. Salinger](#).^[3] Originally published for adults, it has since become popular with adolescent readers for its themes of teenage angst and alienation.^[4] ^[5] It has been translated into almost all of the [world's major languages](#).^[6] Around 250,000 copies are sold each year with total sales of more than 65 million books.^[7] The novel's [protagonist](#) and [antihero](#), [Holden Caulfield](#), has become an icon for teenage rebellion.^[8]

The Wonderful Wizard of Oz is a [children's novel](#) written by [L. Frank Baum](#) and illustrated by [W. W. Denslow](#). Originally published by the [George M. Hill Company](#) in Chicago on May 17, 1900, it has since been reprinted numerous times, most often under the name ***The Wizard of Oz***, which is the name of both the popular [1902 Broadway musical](#) and the well-known [1939 film adaptation](#). The story chronicles the adventures of a young girl named [Dorothy Gale](#) in the [Land of Oz](#), after being swept away from her Kansas farm home in a [cyclone](#). The novel is one of the best-known stories in American popular culture and has been widely translated. Its initial success, and the success of the 1902 Broadway musical which Baum adapted from his original story, led to Baum's writing thirteen more [Oz books](#). The original book has been in the [public domain](#) in the US since 1956.

- “A Star-Spangled Banner”

Cf. [Newspaper clip](#)

(YouTube: [A Star-Mangled Banner](#))

This is every American's nightmare. In Canada, though, the crowd is less than surprised. They can't really sing it, either, to help our absent-minded performer — hell, it's kind of a tough song. She is left to improvise, and "A Star-Mangled Banner" is born. Land of the free, home of the brave, play hockey.

p.24

- **St. Pete**

= St. Petersburg, Florida

- **George Will**

George Frederick Will (born May 4, 1941) is an American newspaper columnist, journalist, and author. He is a Pulitzer Prize-winner best known for his conservative commentary on politics. In 1986, the Wall Street Journal called him "perhaps the most powerful journalist in America," in a league with Walter Lippmann (1889–1974).

- **Nancy Pelosi**

Nancy Patricia D'Alesandro Pelosi (pron.: /pə'loʊsi/; born March 26, 1940) is the Minority Leader of the United States House of Representatives and served as the 60th Speaker of the United States House of Representatives from 2007 to 2011. She was the first woman to hold the office and to date is the highest-ranking female politician in American history.

- **Roy Clark**

Roy Linwood Clark (born April 15, 1933) is an American country music musician and performer. He is best known for hosting *Hee Haw*, a nationally televised country variety show, from 1969–1992. Roy Clark has been an important and influential figure in country music, both as a performer and helping to popularize the genre. Most of all, he is an entertainer, with an amiable personality and a telegenic presence.

- **Joseph Heller**

Joseph Heller (May 1, 1923 – December 12, 1999) was an American satirical novelist, short story writer, and playwright. The title of one of his works, *Catch-22*, entered the English lexicon to refer to a vicious circle where an absurd, no-win choice, particularly in situations in which the desired outcome of the choice is an impossibility, and regardless of choice, the same negative outcome is a certainty. Although he is remembered primarily for *Catch-22*, his other works center on the lives of various members of the middle class and remain examples of modern satire.

p.25

- **postmodern literary theory**

Postmodern literature is literature characterized by heavy reliance on techniques like fragmentation, paradox, and questionable narrators, and is often (though not exclusively) defined as a style or trend which emerged in the post–World War II era. Postmodern works are seen as a reaction against Enlightenment thinking and Modernist approaches to literature.

- **Mary McCarthy**

Mary Therese McCarthy (June 21, 1912 – October 25, 1989) was an American author, critic and political activist.

- **Lillian Hellman**

Lillian Florence "Lilly" Hellman (June 20, 1905 – June 30, 1984) was an American author of plays, screenplays, and memoirs and throughout her life, was linked with many left-wing political causes.

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05 Consult a thesaurus to remind yourself of words you already know.

p.27

- **highfalutin**

highfalutin |,hīfə'loōtn|(also **highfaluting** |-'loōtiNG|)

adjective informal

(esp. of speech, writing, or ideas) pompous or pretentious: *you don't want any highfalutin jargon.*

ORIGIN mid 19th cent.: perhaps from **high** + *fluting* (present participle of **flute**).

- **besotted**

besotted |bi'sätid|

adjective

1 strongly infatuated: *he became **besotted with** his best friend's sister.*

2 archaic intoxicated; drunk.

ORIGIN late 16th cent.: past participle of *besot* 'make foolishly affectionate,' from **be-** 'cause to be' + **sot**.

- (cf. rhyme)

- **word territory**

p.28

- **carouser**

carouse |kə'rouz|

verb [no obj.]

drink plentiful amounts of alcohol and enjoy oneself with others in a noisy, lively way: *they danced and caroused until the drink ran out* | (as noun **carousing**): *a night of carousing.*

noun

a noisy, lively drinking party: *corporate carouses.*

DERIVATIVES

carousal |-zəl|noun,

carouser noun

ORIGIN mid 16th cent.: originally as an adverb meaning 'all out, completely' in the phrase *drink carouse*, from German *gar aus trinken*; hence 'drink heavily, have a drinking bout.'

- **dipsomaniac**

dipsomania |,dipsə'mānēə|

noun

alcoholism, specifically in a form characterized by intermittent bouts of craving for alcohol.

DERIVATIVES

dipsomaniac |-nē,ak|noun,

dipsomaniacal |-mə'nīəkəl|adjective

ORIGIN mid 19th cent.: from Greek *dipso-* (from *dipsa* 'thirst') + **-mania**.

- **the CSI television mysteries**

"CSI: Crime Scene Investigation" (*original title*)

TV Series - 60 min - [Crime](#) | [Drama](#) | [Mystery](#)

An elite team of police forensic evidence investigation experts work their cases in Las Vegas.

Creators: [Ann Donahue](#), [Anthony E. Zuiker](#)

Stars: [George Eads](#), [Paul Guilfoyle](#), [Marg Helgenberger](#) | [See full cast and crew](#)

- **gumshoe**

gumshoe |'gəm,SHoo|

noun informal

a detective.

ORIGIN early 20th cent.: from *gumshoes* in the sense 'sneakers,' suggesting stealth.

- **bloodhound**

bloodhound |'bləd,hound|

noun

a large hound of a breed with a very keen sense of smell, used in tracking.

- **latex glove**

Medical gloves are disposable [gloves](#) used during medical examinations and procedures that help prevent contamination between caregivers and patients.[1] Medical gloves are made of different polymers including [latex](#), [nitrile rubber](#), [vinyl](#) and [neoprene](#); they come unpowdered, or powdered with [cornstarch](#) to lubricate the gloves, making them easier to put on the hands. [Wikipedia]

- **gummy bear**

[gummy bears](#)

p.29

- **Re Shelley's "To a Skylark"**, see p.22.

=====

06 Take a class on how to cross-dress the parts of speech.

p.32

- **hot dog!**

exclam. informal

used to express delight or enthusiastic approval: *hot dog! I've finally found something I can do that you can't.*

- **phat**

phat |fat|

adjective informal

excellent: *a phat and funky sound.*

ORIGIN 1970s (originally used to describe a woman, in the sense 'sexy, attractive'): of uncertain origin.

- **sheesh**

sheesh |SHĒSH|

exclam.

used to express disbelief or exasperation: *sheesh! what fun is it to mock people when they don't even get it?*

- **omigod**

omigod |,ōmī'gād|

exclam. informal

used to express shock or disbelief: *omigod, omigod, I'm going to be famous!*

ORIGIN 1960s: altered spelling of *oh my God*.

p.33

- **tiddlywinks!**

cf. **tiddlywink** |'tidlē,wɪNGk|(also **tiddledywink** |'tidl-dē-|)

noun

1 (tiddlywinks) a game in which small plastic counters are flicked into a central receptacle by being pressed on the edge with a larger counter.

cf. [YouTube](#)

2 a counter used in such a game.

ORIGIN mid 19th cent.: of unknown origin; perhaps related to [tiddly](#). The word originally denoted an unlicensed bar, also a game of dominoes. Current senses date from the late 19th cent.

- **know-it-all**

know-it-all |'noʊ əd 'ɔl|

noun informal

a person who behaves as if they know everything.

- **missy**

missy |'misē|

noun (pl. **missies**)

used as an affectionate or disparaging form of address to a young girl: “*Don't tell lies, missy,*” he said sternly.

adjective

of or relating to the misses range of garment sizes: *available in missy and petite sizes.*

- **cross-dress**

cross-dress

verb [no obj.]

wear clothing typical of the opposite sex.

DERIVATIVES

cross-dresser noun

- Ben Yagoda

Ben Yagoda (born 22 February 1954) is a writer and educator. He is a professor of [journalism](#) and English at the [University of Delaware](#). (Wikipedia)

- like the dickens

dickens |'dikinz|

noun [in sing.] informal, dated

used for emphasis, euphemistically invoking the Devil: *they work like the dickens* | *she was in a dickens of a rush.*

- (the dickens) used when asking questions to express annoyance or surprise: *what the dickens is going on?*

- **street cred, street credibility**

street credibility (also informal **street cred**)

noun

acceptability among young black urban residents.

- **pimp**

pimp |pimp|

noun

a man who controls prostitutes and arranges clients for them, taking part of their earnings in return.

verb

1 [no obj.] (often as noun **pimping**) act as a pimp.

- [with obj.] provide (someone) as a prostitute.

- [with obj.] informal sell or promote (something) in an extravagant or persistent way: *he pimped their debut album to staff writers at Rolling Stone.*

2 [with obj.] informal make (something) more showy or impressive: *he pimped up the car with spoilers and twin-spoke 18-inch alloys.*

ORIGIN late 16th cent.: of unknown origin.

word trends: How do completely negative words gain a positive meaning? **Pimp** is a telling example of this process in action. Even the modern extended sense of ‘sell or promote in an extravagant or persistent way’ carries a strong dose of moral disapproval: *they need to release quality music instead of pimping boy bands*. However, the popularity of hip-hop culture has made the **pimp** a figure of social aspiration for some people, with the word increasingly associated with a glamorous world of champagne, fast cars, and flashy jewelry. This image has spawned a positive sense of the verb, inspired in part by the MTV show *Pimp My Ride*, in which worn-out cars are transformed and customized: *we’ve got to get that minivan pimped out | I could have hired PR people to pimp up my material*.

Cf. Japanese: ヤバイ、ヤバス、ヤバ

Cf. From good to bad: nice; Japanese: きさま (貴様)

=====

07 Enjoy, rather than fear, words that sound alike.

p.35

• Audubon

Audubon, John James |'ôdə,bān|

(1785–1851), US naturalist and artist. His most notable work is *The Birds of America* (1827–38), in which he portrayed even the largest birds life-size and painted them in action.

• Peter Meinke

Peter Meinke (born 1932) is an [American poet](#) and [author](#). He has published 17 books of poems and short stories. *The Piano Tuner*, won the 1986 [Flannery O'Connor Award for Short Fiction](#). His poetry has received many awards, including 2 [NEA Fellowships](#) and 3 prizes from the [Poetry Society of America](#). His work has appeared in [The New Yorker](#), [Atlantic Monthly](#), [Poetry](#), and other magazines. (Wikipedia)

• sonnet

noun

a poem of fourteen lines using any of a number of formal rhyme schemes, in English typically having ten syllables per line.

verb (**sonnets**, **sonneting**, **sonneted**) [no obj.] archaic

compose sonnets.

• [with obj.] celebrate in a sonnet.

ORIGIN mid 16th cent.: from French, or from Italian *sonetto*, diminutive of *suono* ‘a sound.’

p.36

• “Contranym”

[contra-](#) |'kɒntrə|

prefix

1 against; opposite; contrasting: *contradict* | *contraflow* | *contralateral*.

2 Music (of instruments or organ stops) pitched an octave below: *contralto* | *contrabass*.

• the word *bad*

Good, excellent, great, fine. Loan translation from the Mandinka language (spoken by the Mandingo people of West Africa), a *ka nyi ko-jugu*, literally "It is good badly," meaning, "It is very good," that is, it is so good it is *bad*. Crossover use. [*Black Talk*, s.v. *bad*]

Cf. word trends: A common trick of slang is to invert meanings, so that seemingly negative words are used as terms of approval— **bad** and **wicked** are two established examples, with positive uses dating back to 1897 and 1920, respectively. **Sick** is a more recent arrival, first seen as a synonym for ‘excellent’ or ‘very impressive’ in 1983: *it was a sick party and there were tons of cool people there*. It is particularly common in skateboard and snowboard culture, where it can be used to imply an element of risk and danger: *Shawn is a badass skater. He busts some sick tricks*.

- **The Eiger Sanction**

[Wikipedia]

The Eiger Sanction is a 1972 thriller novel by [Trevanian](#), the pen name of Rodney William Whitaker. The story is about a classical art professor and collector who doubles as a professional assassin, and who is coerced out of retirement to avenge the murder of an old friend. The novel was made into a [film](#) directed by and starring [Clint Eastwood](#) in 1975. Whitaker wrote a sequel entitled *The Loo Sanction*.

Plot

Dr. Jonathan Hemlock is an [art professor](#) and [mountaineer](#). He is also a collector of paintings, most of them obtained from the [black market](#). To finance his collection he works as an [assassin](#) for a secret [U.S.](#) government agency, the CII. In order to acquire a [Pissarro](#), Hemlock agrees to carry out a couple of "sanctions" (contract assassinations). The first one is easily dealt with in [Montreal](#). For the second, he will need to join a group of climbers who are about to attempt the north face of the [Eiger](#), a particularly difficult challenge. Hemlock goes back into training and eventually climbs the mountain with the team that he believes includes his would-be victim — whose identity he will have to deduce on the mountain itself. Poor climbing conditions disrupt the climb, and lead Hemlock to the discovery that his target is someone other than he had expected.

cf.

usage: **Sanction** is confusing because it has two meanings that are almost opposite. In most domestic contexts, **sanction** means ‘approval, permission’: *voters gave the measure their sanction*. In foreign affairs, **sanction** means ‘penalty, deterrent’: *international sanctions against the republic go into effect in January*. (Oxford American Dictionary)

- Principal Hudpucker

??????

- **Ward Cleaver**

Ward Cleaver is a [fictional](#) character in the [American television sitcom](#) [Leave It to Beaver](#). Ward and his wife, [June](#), are often invoked as [archetypal suburban](#) parents of the babyboomer 1950s. The couple are the parents of [Wally](#), a thirteen-year-old in the eighth grade, and seven-year-old ("almost eight") second-grader Theodore, nicknamed "[The Beaver](#)". A typical episode from *Leave It to Beaver* follows a misadventure committed by one or both of the boys, and ends with the culprits receiving a moral lecture from their father and a hot meal from their mother. (Wikipedia: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ward_Cleaver)

- **cleave to ~**

cleave² |klēv|

verb [no obj.] (**cleave to**) literary

stick fast to: *Rose's mouth was dry, her tongue cleaving to the roof of her mouth*.

- adhere strongly to (a particular pursuit or belief): *part of why we cleave to sports is that excellence is so measurable*.

• become very strongly involved with or emotionally attached to (someone): *it was his choice to cleave to the Brownings.*

ORIGIN Old English *cleofian, clifian, clīfan*; related to Dutch *kleven* and German *kleben*, also to [clay](#) and [climb](#).

p.37

• **go figure**

go figure! informal said to express the speaker's belief that something is amazing or incredible.

• **A carrot ... the stick**

cf. carrot-and-stick

adjective

characterized by both the offer of reward and the threat of punishment: *carrot-and-stick reforms intended to break long-term dependency on state and federal handouts.*

p.38

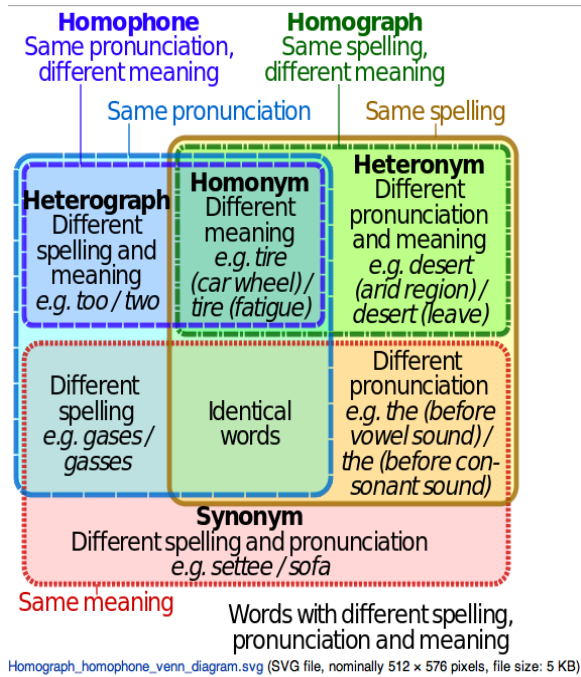
• **strutted their stuff**

strut one's stuff informal dance or behave in a confident and expressive way.

[Homonyms, etc.](#)

Re homonym, homograph, etc.

Term	Meaning	Spelling	Pronunciation
<i>Homonym</i>	Different	Same	Same
<i>Homograph</i>	Different	Same	Same or different
<i>Homophone</i>	Different	Same or different	Same
<i>Heteronym</i>	Different	Same	Different
<i>Heterograph</i>	Different	Different	Same
<i>Polyseme</i>	Different but related	Same	Same or different
<i>Capitonym</i>	Different when capitalized	Same except for capitalization	Same or different



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08 Learn seven ways to invent words.

p.40

- **by acclamation**
(of election, agreement, etc.) by overwhelming vocal approval and without ballot.
- **among the forty-three men**
This should be “among the forty-four men.”
- **Slate**
[Website](#)

p.41

- **gerrymander**
ORIGIN early 19th cent.: from the name of Governor Elbridge Gerry of Massachusetts + [salamander](#), from the supposed similarity between a salamander and the shape of a new voting district on a map drawn when he was in office (1812), the creation of which was felt to favor his party: the map (with claws, wings, and fangs added), was published in the Boston *Weekly Messenger*, with the title *The Gerry-Mander* .
- **bowdlerize**
ORIGIN mid 19th cent.: from the name of Dr. Thomas Bowdler (1754–1825), who published an expurgated edition of Shakespeare in 1818, + [-ize](#).
- **ginormous**
ORIGIN 1940s (originally military slang): blend of *gigantic* and *enormous* .
- **wordspy.com**
<http://wordspy.com>
- **the patois of the net**
patois |'pa,twä, 'pä-|
noun (pl. **same**)

the dialect of the common people of a region, differing in various respects from the standard language of the rest of the country: *the nurse talked to me in a patois that even Italians would have had difficulty in understanding.*

• the jargon or informal speech used by a particular social group: *the raunchy patois of inner-city kids.*

ORIGIN mid 17th cent.: French, literally ‘**rough speech**,’ perhaps from Old French *patoier* ‘**treat roughly**,’ from *patte* ‘**paw**.’

p.42

• **trickeration**

[trickeration](#) [Urban Dictionary]

Cab Calloway (YouTube: [Cab Calloway](#))

• **Canadian Broadcasting Company**

Cf. (Wikipedia) The **Canadian Broadcasting Corporation** ([French](#): *Société Radio-Canada*), commonly known as **CBC** and officially as **CBC/Radio-Canada**, is a [Canadian crown corporation](#) that serves as the national public [radio](#) and [television](#) broadcaster. **Radio-Canada** is the national French-language broadcast arm of the corporation.

p.43

• **the bee’s knees**

the bee's knees informal an outstandingly good person or thing.

• **the cat’s pajamas** **cat's pajamas**

noun ([the cat's pajamas](#)) informal, dated

an excellent person or thing: *this car is the cat's pajamas.*

• **fix his wagon**

fix someone's wagon bring about a person's downfall or spoil their chances of success.

• **fly by the seat of your pants**

fly (or drive) by the seat of one's pants informal rely on instinct rather than logic or knowledge.

• **heavens to betsy**

A mild exclamation of surprise. (This expression is now something of an anachronism)

• **peace out**

Peace out.

Said upon departure, “good-bye.” (*Hip Hoptionary*)

• **spend a penny**

(Go to the bathroom in the days of pay toilets.)

• **spill the beans**

spill the beans informal reveal secret information unintentionally or indiscreetly.

p.44

• **Taser**

Taser |'tāzər|

noun trademark

a weapon firing barbs attached by wires to batteries, causing temporary paralysis.

verb(**taser** or **tase**) [with obj.]

fire a Taser at (someone) in order to incapacitate them temporarily.

ORIGIN 1970s: from the initial letters of *Tom Swift's electric rifle* (a fictitious weapon), on the pattern of *laser*. (Roy P. Clark writes (The Glamour of Grammar, p.44) : its name an acronym drawn from one of his boyhood adventure stories: *Tom A. Swift and His Electric Rifle*.)

- **sound words**

Cf. onomatopoeia. [Wikipedia]

In the case of a [frog](#) croaking, the spelling may vary because different frog species around the world make different sounds: [Ancient Greek](#) *brekekekex koax koax* (only in Aristophanes' comic play *The Frogs*) for probably [marsh frogs](#); English [ribbit](#) for species of frog found in North America; English verb "[croak](#)" for [the common frog](#).

Some other very common English-language examples include *hiccup*, *zoom*, *bang*, *beep*, *moo*, and *splash*. [Machines](#) and their sounds are also often described with onomatopoeia, as in *honk* or *beep-beep* for the horn of an automobile, and *vroom* or *brum* for the engine. When someone speaks of a mishap involving an audible [arcing](#) of electricity, the word "zap" is often used (and has subsequently been expanded and used to describe non-auditory effects generally connoting the same sort of localized but thorough interference or destruction similar to that produced in short-circuit sparking).

For [animal](#) sounds, words like [quack](#) ([duck](#)), *moo* ([cow](#)), [bark](#) or *woof* ([dog](#)), [roar](#) ([lion](#)), [meow/miaow](#) or [purr](#) ([cat](#)), [cluck](#) ([chicken](#)) and *baa* ([sheep](#)) are typically used in English. Some of these words are used both as nouns and as verbs.

Some languages flexibly integrate onomatopoeic words into their structure. This may evolve into a new word, up to the point that it is no longer recognized as onomatopoeia. One example is English "bleat" for the [sheep](#) noise: in [medieval](#) times it was pronounced approximately as "blairt" (but without an R-component), or "blet" with the vowel drawled, which is much more accurate as onomatopoeia than the modern pronunciation.

An example of the opposite case is "[cuckoo](#)", which, due to continuous familiarity with the bird noise down the centuries, has kept approximately the same pronunciation as in [Anglo-Saxon](#) times and its vowels have not changed as they have in the word "furrow".

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09 Become your own lexicographer

p.45

- **a foreign tongue, dialect, jargon, or slang**

- **Roald Dahl**

[Official Website](#)

The official website of **Roald Dahl** (1916 - 1990), the best-selling children's author of classic books including CHARLIE AND THE CHOCOLATE FACTORY, THE BFG, MATILDA and THE WITCHES.

cf. <http://ja.wikipedia.org/wiki/ロアルド・ダール>

- **gated**

gated community [ɡeɪtɪd kə'mjʊnədi]

noun

a residential area with roads that have gates to control the movement of traffic and people into and out of the area.

- **all manner of ~**

all manner of many different kinds of: *they accuse me of all manner of evil things.*

- **sundowner**

sundowner |'sʌn,dəʊnər|

noun

1 Brit. informal an alcoholic drink taken at sunset.

2 Austral. a tramp arriving at a sheep station in the evening under the pretense of seeking work, so as to obtain food and shelter.

p.46

- **chota**

chota |'tʃəʊtə|

adjective Indian

small or young.

• lower in rank or importance.

ORIGIN from Hindi *choṭā* .

- **peg**

Cf. 2 chiefly Indiana measure of liquor: *have a peg of whiskey.*

- **memsahib**

memsahib |'mem,sə(h)ib, -,səb|

noun Indian dated

a married white or upper-class woman (often used as a respectful form of address by nonwhites).

ORIGIN from *mem* (representing an Indian pronunciation of [ma'am](#)) + [sahib](#).

Cf. **sahib** |'sə(h)ib|

noun Indian

a polite title or form of address for a man: *the Doctor Sahib.*

ORIGIN Urdu, via Persian from Arabic *ṣāhib* 'friend, lord.'

- **shufti**

shufti |'SHʊʊftē|

noun (pl. **shuftis** |-tēz|) Brit. informal

a look or reconnoiter, esp. a quick one: *I'll take a shufti round the wood while I'm about it.*

ORIGIN 1940s (originally military slang): from Arabic *ṣāfa* 'try to see.'

- **shenzi**

shenzi ('ʃenzi) [<OED s.v. shenzi]

[Swahili.]

In East Africa, an uncivilized tribesman. In extended sense, a barbarian, a person outside the person's cultural group.

1910 T. Roosevelt Afr. Game Trails x. 258 The 'shenzis'—wild natives called in Swahili.. 'wa-shenzi'. 1921 Blackw. Mag. Jan. 121/2 He, an askari of G company, ran away from a lot of miserable shouting shenzis! 1926 Spectator 3 July 10/2 Local shenzis..had gathered round the gramophone. 1976 K. Thackeray Crownbird vi. 111 The Chinese face was impassive... That he should be..involved with this bunch of shenzis..was very confusing.

- language and gender scholar **Deborah Tannen**

- "yo mama" jokes

cf. [yo mamma jokes](#)

- **playing the dozenz**

Cf. **The Dozens** is a game of spoken words between two contestants, common in [African-American](#) communities, where participants insult each other until one gives up. It is customary for the Dozens to be played in front of an audience of bystanders, who encourage the participants to reply with more egregious insults to heighten the tension and consequently, to be more interesting to watch. Among African-Americans it is also known as "sounding", "joning", "woofing", "wolfing", "sigging", or "signifying",^{[1][2]} while the insults themselves are known as "snaps".^{[3][4]}

- **Ann Fadiman**

Anne Fadiman (born August 7, 1953 [New York](#)) is an [American](#) author, editor and teacher.^[1]

She is the daughter of the renowned literary, radio and television personality [Clifton Fadiman](#) and [World War II](#) correspondent and author [Annalee Jacoby Fadiman](#). She attended [Harvard University](#), graduating in 1975 from [Radcliffe College](#).^[2]

Fadiman's 1997 book [The Spirit Catches You and You Fall Down](#) won the [National Book Critics Circle Award](#). Researched in [California](#), it examined an extended [Hmong](#) family with a child with epilepsy, and their cultural, linguistic, and medical struggles in America.

- **Ex Libris**

ex libris |eks 'lĕbrɪs, 'lĭbrɪs|

adverb

used as an inscription on a bookplate to show the name of the book's owner: *ex libris Edith Wharton*.

noun (pl. **same**)

a bookplate inscribed in such a way, esp. a decorative one.

ORIGIN late 19th cent.: Latin, literally 'out of the books or library (of someone).'

- **mephitis**

mephitis |mə'fɪtɪs|

noun

a noxious gas emanating from something, esp. from the earth.

- a foul or poisonous stench.

ORIGIN early 18th cent.: from Latin.

- **keister**

keister |'kĕstər|(also **keester**)

noun

1 informal a person's buttocks.

2 dated a suitcase, bag, or box for carrying possessions or merchandise.

ORIGIN late 19th cent. (in the sense '*suitcase, bag*'): of unknown origin.

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10 Take advantage of the short-word economy of English

p.49

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- **louche**

louche |looSH|

adjective

disreputable or sordid in a rakish or appealing way: *the louche world of the theater.*

DERIVATIVES

loucheness noun

ORIGIN early 19th cent.: from French, literally ‘*squinting.*’

- **Joan Didion**

Joan Didion (born December 5, 1934) is an American author best known for her novels and her literary journalism. Her novels and essays explore the disintegration of American morals and cultural chaos, where the overriding theme is individual and social fragmentation. A sense of anxiety or dread permeates much of her work. [Wikipedia, s.v. Joan Didion]

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- **Marshall Frady**

Marshall Bolton Frady (1940 – March 9, 2004) was an American journalist and author particularly known for his work on the [African-American civil rights movement](#) in the [American South](#). In 1968, he published *Wallace*, a controversial biography of [George Wallace](#), later described by contemporary [Marc Cooper](#) as "an instant classic".[1] His articles appeared in [The New York Review of Books](#), [The New Yorker](#), [Newsweek](#), [Life](#) and [Harper's](#), and he contributed to the [American Broadcasting Company's](#) news series [Close Up](#) and [Nightline](#).

p.52

- **clangor**

clangor |'klaNGər|(Brit. **clangour**)

noun [in sing.]

a continuous loud banging or ringing sound: *he went deaf because of the clangor of the steam hammers.*

DERIVATIVES

clangorous |'klaNGərəs|adjective

ORIGIN late 16th cent.: from Latin *clangor*, from *clangere* ‘*resound.*’

- **exsanguinate**

exsanguination |ɛkˌsɑNGgwəˈnāSHən|

nounMedicine

the action of draining a person, animal, or organ of blood.

- severe loss of blood.

DERIVATIVES

exsanguinate |ɛkˌsɑNGgwəˈnāt|verb

ORIGIN early 20th cent.: from Latin *exsanguinatus* ‘*drained of blood*’ (from *ex-* ‘*out*’ + *sanguis*, *sanguin-* ‘*blood*’) + *-ion*.

- **Bob Dotson**

Robert Charles "Bob" Dotson (born October 3, 1946) is an [American](#) broadcast journalist employed by [NBC News](#). [1] Dotson is a national correspondent on NBC News' top-rated morning program, [Today](#).

- **grainy**

grainy |'grānē|

adjective (**grainier** , **grainiest**)

1 granular: *a juicy, grainy texture.*

- Photography showing visible grains of emulsion, as characteristic of old photographs or modern high-speed film.
- (of sound, esp. recorded music or a voice) having a rough or gravelly quality: *the grainy sound of bootleg cassettes.*

2 (of wood) having prominent grain.

DERIVATIVES

graininess noun

- **long-lens**

long lens

noun

a lens with a long focal length, especially as a camera attachment for taking photographs from a great distance.

- **jump shot**

jump shot |'dʒəm(p) ʃɑt|

noun

1 Basketball a shot made while jumping.

2 Billiards a shot in which the cue ball is made to jump over another ball.

DERIVATIVES

jump shooter noun

p.53

- **beyond spare**

cf. **spare**

2 with no excess fat; thin: *a spare, bearded figure.*

• elegantly simple: *her clothes are smart and spare in style.*

• meager; nearly inadequate: *the furnishings were spare and unadorned.*

- **Camille Paglia**

Camille Anna Paglia ([/ˈpɑːliə/](#); born April 2, 1947) is an American teacher and social critic. Paglia, a self-described dissident [feminist](#),^[1] has been a professor at [The University of the Arts](#) in [Philadelphia, PA](#) since 1984. She is the author of [Sexual Personae: Art and Decadence from Nefertiti to Emily Dickinson](#) (1990), a best-selling work of literary criticism, among other books and essays. She also wrote an analysis of [Alfred Hitchcock's](#) [The Birds](#), and *Break, Blow, Burn* on poetry. She writes articles on art, popular culture, feminism, and politics. Paglia has celebrated [Madonna](#) and taken radical libertarian positions on controversial social issues such as [abortion](#), [homosexuality](#), and drug use. She is a critic of American feminism, and is also strongly critical of the influence of French writers such as [Jacques Lacan](#), [Jacques Derrida](#), and [Michel Foucault](#).

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- **horripilation**

horripilation |hōˈrɪpəˈlāSHən, hə-|

noun literary

the erection of hairs on the skin due to cold, fear, or excitement.

DERIVATIVES

horripilate |hōˈrɪpəˈlāt, hə-|verb

ORIGIN mid 17th cent.: from late Latin *horripilatio(n)-*, from Latin *horrere* 'stand on end' (see [horrid](#)) + *pilus* 'hair.'

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11 Learn when and how to enrich your prose with foreign words

p.55

- **pezzazz**

pizzazz |pə'zaz| (also pizazz)
noun informal

an attractive combination of vitality and glamour: a new way to add graphic pizzazz to your desktop-publishing project.

ORIGIN said to have been invented by Diana Vreeland, fashion editor of Harper's Bazaar in the 1930s.

- **The Elements of Style**

[The quoted paragraph appears on p.81.]

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- **Slumdog Millionaire**

Slumdog Millionaire (2008)

PG-12 120 min - [Drama](#) | [Romance](#) | [Thriller](#) - [18 April 2009 \(Japan\)](#)

Ratings: **8.1**/10 from [390,172 users](#) Metascore: [86/100](#)

Reviews: [959 user](#) | [406 critic](#) | [36](#) from [Metacritic.com](#)

A Mumbai teen who grew up in the slums, becomes a contestant on the Indian version of "Who Wants To Be A Millionaire?" He is arrested under suspicion of cheating, and while being interrogated, events from his life history are shown which explain why he knows the answers.

Directors: [Danny Boyle](#), [Loveleen Tandan](#)

Writers: [Simon Beaufoy](#) (screenplay), [Vikas Swarup](#) (novel)

Stars: [Dev Patel](#), [Saurabh Shukla](#), [Anil Kapoor](#) | [See full cast and crew](#)

- **Bollywood**

ボリウッド (英: Bollywood、ヒンディー語: बॉलीवुड、ウルドゥー語: بالیوڈ) は[インド](#)・[ムンバイ](#)の映画産業全般につけられた非公式な名称。ムンバイの旧称「ボンベイ」の頭文字「ボ」と、[アメリカ映画](#)産業の中心地「ハリウッド」を合わせてつけられた。ボリウッド及びその他の地域の映画産業 ([タミル語](#)、[マラーティー語](#)、[ベンガル語](#)、[テルグ語](#)、[マラーヤラム語](#)、[カンナダ語](#)) 等と合わせると[インドの映画産業](#) (作品数、入場者数で) は全体で世界最大の規模を誇る。インド映画はインドのみならず、他の[南アジア](#)諸国、[中近東](#)、[アフリカ](#)の一部、[東南アジア](#)の一部、世界中の海外在住のインド人社会などでも人気の文化となっている。特に、[イギリス](#)、[カナダ](#)、[オーストラリア](#)、[アメリカ](#)などインド出身の[移民](#)が多い国々で人気がある。ボリウッドはよく「ヒンディー語映画」産業といわれることが多いが、ヒンディー語とウルドゥー語の総称としての「[ヒンドゥスターニー語](#)映画」という方がより正確かもしれない。但しこれらの言語は日常生活でも混交している場合も多く、議論の分かれるところである。また、劇中の[台詞](#)や[挿入歌](#)などでの[英語](#)も増えてきている。[字幕](#)や多言語[サウンドトラック](#)なども使い、2、3カ国語の登場する映画もいくつか作られている。ボリウッド映画の多くは、この町にある広大な敷地の撮影所「フィルム・シティー (Film City)」で制作されている。

- **Jai Ho**

[Jai Ho](#) (YouTube video)

- **Gaelic**

Gaelic |'gālik|

adjective

of or relating to the Goidelic languages, particularly the Celtic language of Scotland, and the culture associated with speakers of these languages and their descendants.

noun(also **Scottish Gaelic**)

a Goidelic language brought from Ireland in the 5th and 6th centuries AD and spoken in the highlands and islands of western Scotland.

- (also **Irish Gaelic**) another term for [Irish](#) (the language).

Cf. Celtic languages ... Q-Celtic [Goidelic] (Irish, Scottish Gaelic, Manx)

P-Celtic [Brythonic] (Welsh, Cornish, Breton)

- **banshee**

banshee |'banSHē|

noun

(in Irish legend) a female spirit whose wailing warns of an impending death in a house: *the little girl dropped her ice cream and began to howl like a banshee* | [as modifier] : *a horrible banshee wail.*

ORIGIN late 17th cent.: from Irish *bean sídhe*, from Old Irish *ben síde* 'woman of the fairies.'

- **blarney**

blarney |'blārnē|

noun

talk that aims to charm, pleasantly flatter, or persuade: *he had the "street charm" of an Irish politician, but this blarney concealed his inner self.*

- amusing and harmless nonsense: *this story is perhaps just a bit of blarney.*

verb (**blarneys**, **blarneying**, **blarneyed**) [with obj.]

influence or persuade (someone) using charm and pleasant flattery.

ORIGIN late 18th cent.: named after Blarney, a castle near Cork in Ireland, where there is a stone said to give the gift of persuasive speech to anyone who kisses it.

- **brogue**

brogue¹ |brōg|

noun

a strong outdoor shoe with ornamental perforated patterns in the leather.

- historical a [rough](#) shoe of untanned leather, formerly worn in parts of Ireland and the Scottish Highlands.

ORIGIN late 16th cent.: from Scottish Gaelic and Irish *bróg*, from Old Norse *brók* (related to [breech](#)).

brogue² |brōg|

noun [usu. in sing.]

a marked accent, esp. Irish or Scottish, when speaking English: *a fine Irish brogue* | *a sweet lilt of brogue in her voice.*

ORIGIN early 18th cent.: perhaps allusively from [brogue](#)¹, referring to the rough footwear of Irish peasants.

- **colleen**

colleen |kə'lēn, 'käl'ēn|

noun

an Irish term for a girl or young woman.

ORIGIN early 19th cent.: from Irish *cailin*, diminutive of *caile* 'countrywoman.'

• **leprechaun**

leprechaun |'leprə,kæn, -,kôn|

noun

(in Irish folklore) a small, mischievous sprite.

ORIGIN early 17th cent.: from Irish *leipreachán*, based on Old Irish *luchorpán*, from *lu* 'small' + *corp* 'body.'

概要[編集]

靴職人とされ、童話『小人の靴屋』に登場する妖精とはこのレブラコーンのことと言われる。地中の宝物のことを知っており、うまく捕まえることができると黄金のありかを教えてくれるが、大抵の場合、黄金を手に入れることはできない。「小さな体」を意味する名でありルブラホーン、ラバーキン、ルホルバン、ルプラホーン、とも呼ばれる。英語読みではレブラカーン。小さなしわくちの顔にごま塩のあごひげ、とがった鼻に輝く目をしている。銀のボタンの赤ジャケット、茶色の半ズボン、銀の留め金つきの黒ブーツを履くという。また、1日に靴を片方しか作らないことから、体が小さくて余り仕事が出来ないから、または一本足であるからとも言われる。たいてい皮のエプロンをし、忙しそうに小槌でコツコツと靴の修理をしている。この妖精は金の入った壺を持ち一瞬でも目をそらすとすぐに悪戯を仕掛け笑いながら姿を消すといわれている。アイルランド南西部には「レブラコーンに注意」(Leprechaun crossing)の交通標識があることで有名。アメリカの学校では聖パトリックの祝日に、レブラコーンを捕まえるための罠を作ることが宿題として出されている。『ハリー・ポッターと炎のゴブレット』では、クィディッチのアイルランドチームのマスコットとして登場し会場に金貨を降らせた。ただしこの話のレブラコーンが降らせた金貨は、2、3時間ほどで消滅する。



• **shamrock**

shamrock |'SHam,räk|

noun

a low-growing, cloverlike plant with three-lobed leaves, used as the national emblem of Ireland.

[The shamrock of legend has been identified with a number of different plants in the family Leguminosae, in particular the lesser yellow trefoil (*Trifolium minus*).]

- a spray or leaf of this plant.

ORIGIN late 16th cent.: from Irish *seamróg* 'trefoil' (diminutive of *seamar* 'clover').

• **piazza**

piazza

noun

1 |pē'ätsə|a public square or marketplace, esp. in an Italian town.

2 |pē'azə|the veranda of a house.

ORIGIN late 16th cent.: Italian.

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• **kibitzer**

kibitz |'kibits|

verb [no obj.] informal

look on and offer unwelcome advice, esp. at a card game.

- speak informally; chat: *she kibitzed with friends.*

DERIVATIVES

kibitzer noun

ORIGIN 1920s: Yiddish, from colloquial German, from German *Kiebitz* 'interfering onlooker' (literally 'lapwing').

- **phooey**

phooey |'fōōē| informal

exclam.(also **pfui**)

used to express disdain or disbelief: *I say phooey to all their money and fine clothes.*

noun

nonsense: *those excuses are a lot of phooey.*

ORIGIN 1920s: imitative.

- **schlemiel**

schlemiel |SHlə'mēl|(also **shlemiel**)

noun informal

a stupid, awkward, or unlucky person.

ORIGIN late 19th cent.: from Yiddish *shlemiel* .

- **schmaltz**

schmaltz |SHmälts, SHmôlts|(also **schmalz**)

noun informal

excessive sentimentality, esp. in music or movies.

ORIGIN 1930s: from Yiddish *schmaltz*, from German *Schmalz* 'drippings, lard.'

- **schmuck**

schmuck |SHmæk|(also **shmuck**)

noun informal

a foolish or contemptible person.

ORIGIN late 19th cent.: from Yiddish *shmok* 'penis.'

- **avatar**

avatar |'avə,tär|

noun

1 chiefly Hinduism a manifestation of a deity or released soul in bodily form on earth; an incarnate divine teacher.

- an incarnation, embodiment, or manifestation of a person or idea: *he chose John Stuart Mill as the avatar of the liberal view.*

2 Computing an icon or figure representing a particular person in computer games, Internet forums, etc.

ORIGIN from Sanskrit *avatāra* 'descent,' from *ava* 'down' + *tar-* 'to cross.'

- **mahatma**

mahatma |mə'hātmə, -'hatmə|

noun

(in South Asia) a person regarded with reverence or loving respect; a holy person or sage.

- (**the Mahatma**)Mahatma Gandhi.

- (in some forms of theosophy) a person in India or Tibet said to have supernatural powers.

ORIGIN from Sanskrit *mahātman*, from *mahā* 'great' + *ātman* 'soul.'

- **chow**

chow |CHou|

noun

1 informal food.

2 (also **chow chow**) a dog of a sturdy Chinese breed with a broad muzzle, a tail curled over the back, a bluish-black tongue, and typically a dense thick coat.

- **written vocabulary**

- **King James Version of the Bible**

noun

an English translation of the Bible made in 1611 at the order of King James I and still widely used. Also called *Authorized Version*, chiefly in the UK.

cf. [\[\[the ~\]\] 欽定 \(きんてい\) 訳聖書\(Authorized Version, \(略\) K.J.V.\)](#).

- **grouding**

groundling |'groundliNG|

noun

1 a spectator or reader of inferior taste, such as a member of a theater audience who traditionally stood in the pit below the stage: *Dante is not for groundlings*.

[with reference to Shakespeare's *Hamlet* iii. ii. 11.]

2 a person on the ground as opposed to one in a spacecraft or aircraft.

3 a fish that lives at the bottom of lakes and streams, esp. a gudgeon or loach.

4 a creeping or dwarf plant.

ORIGIN early 17th cent. (denoting a fish): from **ground**¹ + **-ling**; compare with Dutch *grondeling*, German *Gründling* 'gudgeon.'

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- **maven**

maven |'māvən|

noun [often with modifier] informal

an expert or connoisseur: *fashion mavens*.

ORIGIN 1960s: Yiddish.

- **Martha Stewart**

[Martha Stewart.com](http://MarthaStewart.com)

- **tipping point**

tipping point

noun

the point at which a series of small changes or incidents becomes significant enough to cause a larger, more important change.

Cf. [The Tipping Point](#) by Malcolm Gladwell.

- **Avenue Q**

[UTube video site](#)

プロット [\[編集\]](#) (Wikipedia)

大学を卒業したものの職にあぶれた**プリンストン**は、人生の「[負け犬](#)」ばかりが集まる**ニューヨーク**のQ番街のアパートに引っ越す。そこには、会社をクビになったきり仕事が見つからない**ブライアン**、その婚約者で、[韓国料理屋](#)でアルバイトをする**日本人**の**クリスマス・イブ**、恋愛にコンプレックスを持つ銀行員の**ロッド**とそのルームメイトの**ニッキー**、幼稚園の教師をめざす**モンスター**の**ケイト**、同じくモンスターで[引きこもり](#)、[インターネット中毒](#)の**トレッキー**、そして昔は有名な**子役**だったが今は一文無しでアパートの大家で生計を立てる**ゲイリー・コールマン**とい

う、個性的な住人たちが住んでいた。人生の目的を探すプリンス頓を取り巻く、若者たちの青春と恋愛模様をコメディータッチで描く。セサミストリートと同じパペットクリエイターがスタッフとして参加したことも話題を呼び、政治や従来の子ども向けミュージカルを皮肉ったような毒のある脚本、パペット同士のベッドシーンなど、その斬新さが評価された。

- **Sonia Nazario**

Sonia Nazario has written about social issues for more than two decades, most recently as a projects reporter for the [Los Angeles Times](#). She holds the distinctions of winning the 2003 [Pulitzer Prize for Feature Writing](#),^[1] and of being the youngest writer to be hired by the [Wall Street Journal](#).

She grew up both in Kansas and Argentina. She permanently moved to the U.S. as the Dirty War happening in Argentina.

She is a graduate of Williams College and holds a master's degree in Latin American Studies from the University of California, Berkeley. She received an honorary doctorate in 2010 from Mt. St. Mary's College.

Nazario serves on the advisory boards of the University of North Texas Mayborn Literary Non-fiction Writer's Conference and of Catch the Next, a non-profit working to double the number of Latinos enrolling in college. She is also on the board of Kids In Need of Defense, a non-profit launched by Microsoft and Angelina Jolie to provide pro-bono attorneys to unaccompanied immigrant children. [[Sonia Nazario](#) (Wikipedia)]

- **crushing**

- **crush**

- bring about a feeling of overwhelming disappointment or embarrassment in (someone): *his defeat crushed a lot of left-wing supporters* | (as adj. **crushing**): *the news came as a crushing blow*.

End of Part One