

# Collins Rhyming Dictionary



Rosalind Fergusson,  
Foreword by Andrew Motion

# **Collins** Rhyming Dictionary

*foreword by* ANDREW MOTION



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# Foreword

*by Andrew Motion, Poet Laureate*

Like a lot of people born shortly after the war, and starting to read poems in the 1960s, I was brought up to think that rhyming poetry was done for. My teachers regretted it, but the evidence of the contemporary they liked best (Ted Hughes), and the rising chorus of radical poets appearing at the Albert Hall and elsewhere, told them the great modernist experiment with free verse during the 1910s and '20s was about to sweep all before it.

In fact things haven't turned out like that. From the vantage point of a new century, we can see that although the modernist experiment has flourished and diversified, it has done so alongside a continuing tradition of poets doing the old things in new ways. In Great Britain, the rhyming line from Auden and the poets of the 1930s, through Betjeman and Larkin, has been extended through most of the major poets of the late c20, and forward into the best of our contemporaries.

Why is this? Loss of nerve? Another example of local reactionary instincts? I don't think so. Rhyming poetry – and rhyme in poems which have no settled formal pattern – has survived because it is fundamental to our sense of what poetry is, and what it can achieve. Most of us make our first acquaintance with it in the playground, chanting and playing word games. We learn that rhyme brings words to life, gets them to dance, and makes them memorable. If we forget this later on, when we develop a more elaborate sense of language and a more sophisticated idea of composition, we do so at our peril.

But this isn't to say metre has to be tum-ti-tum, and rhyme has to be obvious and orthodox. One of the best things about this excellent book is that it encourages us to think broadly about rhyme – to explore part-rhymes,

para-rhymes and half-rhymes as well as full and complete ones. It's easy to use, resourceful in its listing, and ambitious in its reach.

Will people who are already 'professional' writers feel it's somehow beneath them to use it? They shouldn't. One of the greatest pleasures of poetry, for its authors as well as its readers, is the way it combines a sincere exploration of the world and the self with a delight in tricks and playfulness. To varying degrees, poets are able to devise these games in the solitude of their own heads – but as with everything else in life, a little help never comes amiss. This help might clarify an internal process that is already under way. It might equally well lead to something unexpected and unplanned. Byron was not the only poet to admit that 'a rhyme led me to a thought'.

Back at school in the '60s, I mistakenly thought that rhyme was a hindrance: a way of blocking or re-routing what I 'really wanted to say'. I soon saw the error of my ways. Rhyme – in all its delightful diversity of forms – is a reliable way to recognise and release strong feeling, as well as smart thinking, elegant compression and proper concentration. In this respect, the extent to which it appears 'unnatural' (in the sense that we don't usually chat away to one another in rhyme) conceals a vital paradox. The ingenuity of rhyme is in fact a way of proving what is intrinsic to us as human beings.

# Using the dictionary

## How the words are arranged

The rhymes are arranged in sections according to the main vowel sound of the word. The first half of each section contains words with this sound as their final or only vowel sound (e.g. *cat* and *unpack* in the **-a-** section); the second half contains words with this sound followed by one or more weaker syllables (e.g. *happy* and *examiner*). The sections are as follows, in this order:

- a-** (as in *mat, unpack, happy, examiner*)
- ah-** (as in *half, depart, larder, impartially*)
- air-** (as in *hair, unfair, scarcely, bearable*)
- ay-** (as in *same, display, waiting, Australia*)
- e-** (as in *pen, infect, ready, separate*)
- er-** (as in *her, return, working, university*)
- eer-** (as in *beer, revere, fiercely, endearment*)
- ee-** (as in *breed, complete, teacher, meaningless*)
- i-** (as in *sit, evict, whistle, revision*)
- ire-** (as in *tire, require, admirer, violently*)
- ie-** (as in *try, untie, glider, reliable*)
- o-** (as in *toss, forgot, copper, historical*)
- or-** (as in *ford, implore, daughter, victorious*)
- oor-** (as in *cure, endure, purely, maturity*)
- ow-** (as in *cow, endow, louder, boundary*)
- ower-** (as in *hour, empower, towering, floury*)
- oy-** (as in *toy, enjoy, noisy, avoidable*)
- oe-** (as in *boat, ago, grocer, totally*)
- u-** (as in *run, instruct, double, gluttony*)
- uu-** (as in *put, withstood, booking, womanly*)

**-oo-** (as in *too, rebuke, cruiser, beautiful*)

Within each section, the words are arranged in numbered groups according to the sound that follows this vowel (e.g. *at/bat/cat, adder/ladder/madder*). Many of these groups contain words that are close but not perfect rhymes (e.g. *hammer/banner*), to give you a fuller range of possibilities.

Within each numbered group, the rhymes are divided by asterisks into sets of words with the same number of syllables (e.g. *hack, jack, pack \* aback, attack, repack*) or with the same rhythm (e.g. *aback, attack, repack \* hatchback, knapsack, tailback*).

## **How to find a particular rhyme**

If you are looking for a rhyme for a particular word, the easiest way is to use the index at the back of the book, which will guide you to the numbered group in which your word appears. For example, *batter* is in group 2.10. Once you have found this group, cast your eye over all the words – you may find a close rhyme some distance away (e.g. *regatta* and *antimatter*). Some of the longer sets of rhymes, e.g. the *-ation* words, have been divided into several smaller groups, so it is always a good idea to look at the groups above and below the one containing the word you are trying to rhyme.

Words that have more than one sound appear in more than one group. For example, *graph* can rhyme with *naff* or *half*, so both group numbers are given in the index. Similarly, *sow* rhymes with *cow* when it means ‘female pig’ and with *go* when it means ‘put seed in ground’.

If your word is not in the index, does it have an extra ending, such as the *-s* of *stamps* or the *-ed* of *dragged*? If so, remove the ending and look for the main form of the word (i.e. *stamp* or *drag*). You may be able to add the same ending to other words in its group (e.g. *cramps/lamps/tramps* or *bragged/lagged/sagged*). Many words with these endings have groups of their own, often with ‘etc.’ at the end, which means that more rhymes can be made by adding the same ending to other words. For example, group 1.4 contains some of the most common *-acks* words that rhyme with *axe*, but there is not room to include them all – you can make many more by adding *-s* to the other *ack* words in group 1.3.

If you still cannot find a suitable rhyme for your word, you may find a near-rhyme in another group. Words ending in the 'f' sound, for example, are sometimes rhymed with words ending in the 'v' or 'th' sound (e.g. *leaf/weave/teeth/breathe*). Other letter sounds that can be paired in this way are 'b' and 'p' (*crab/tap*), 'k' and 'g' (*rack/stag*), 'd' and 't' (*bed/set*), 'm' and 'n' (*rim/thin*), 's' and 'z' (*miss/fizz*), and 'sh' and 'ch' (*squash/watch*).

Finally, here is a list of words that have no rhyme:

bilge  
cusp  
damask  
depth  
eighth  
else  
gouge  
month  
ninth  
period  
scarce  
sixth  
warmth  
wasp  
Welsh  
width

## -a-

*The rhymes in this section have the ‘a’ sound of mat and happy as their main or final vowel sound.*

**1.1** blab, cab, crab, Crabbe, dab, drab, fab, flab, gab, grab, jab, lab, Mab, nab, scab, slab, stab, tab, \* McNab, Cantab., kebab, vocab, \* Ahab, spacelab, prefab, rehab, Skylab, confab, Joab, Moab, \* smash-and-grab, hackney cab, taxicab, shish kebab, minicab, baobab

**Mungojerrie and Rumpelteazer had a very unusual gift of the gab,  
They were highly efficient cat-burglars as well, and remarkably smart  
at a smash-and-grab.**

T. S. ELIOT

**1.2** abs, Babs, cabs, crabs, dabs, grabs, jabs, nabs, scabs, slabs, stabs, \* abdabs, prefabs, \* dribs and drabs, shish kebabs, minicabs, etc.

**1.3** back, black, Black, Braque, clack, claque, crack, flak, hack, jack, Jack, Jacques, knack, lac, lack, mac, Mac, Mach, pack, plaque, quack, rack, sac, sack, shack, slack, smack, snack, stack, tack, thwack, track, vac, wack, whack, WRAC, wrack, yack, yak, Zack, \* aback, unpack, macaque, attack, alack, laid-back, repack, Chirac, Dirac, Iraq, \* ack-ack, cashback, flashback, splashback, hatchback, backpack, bratpack, ratpack, NASDAQ, lampblack, Shadrach, backtrack, yashmak, knapsack, ransack, Balzac, Anzac, dhansak, flapjack, blackjack, hardback, halfback, hardtack, fast-track, Tarmac®, Carnac, Karnak, bareback, payback, playback, tailback, haystack, hayrack, racetrack, setback, sweptback, shellac, Lurpak®, feedback, greenback, leaseback, Meshach, Taoiseach, cheapjack, kickback, slingback, switchback, ridgeback, six-pack, ticktack, rickrack, gimcrack,

knickknack, skipjack, Dyak, kayak, buy-back, tieback, zwieback, wisecrack, sidetrack, hijack, skyjack, softback, Cognac, Cossack, hopsack, Toshack, clawback, drawback, horseback, Dvořák, outback, soundtrack, blowback, throwback, Kodak, smokestack, Slovak, Prozac®, Kojak, humpback, cutback, comeback, hunchback, mudpack, thumbtack, rucksack, muntjac, fullback, woolpack, bushwhack, woolsack, Blu-Tack®, shoeblack, bootblack, sumac, Cusack, Muzak®, \* back-to-back, saddleback, Pasternak, Savernake, almanac, Sassenach, Bacharach, Skagerrak, bladderwrack, anorak, haversack, crackerjack, natterjack, applejack, Cadillac, amphibrach, paddywhack, Dannimac®, heart attack, Armagnac, cardiac, paperback, razorback, maniac, leatherback, Kerouac, Bergerac, steeplejack, coeliac, stickleback, in the black, bric-a-brac, hit the sack, iliac, Syriac, piggyback, ipecac, bivouac, Pontiac, Mauriac, quarterback, Kodiak, zodiac, lumberjack, multipack, multitrack, cul-de-sac, Union Jack, Cluniac, \* celeriac, amnesiac, insomniac, ammoniac, demoniac, simoniac, \* counterattack, yackety-yak, \* kleptomaniac, egomaniac, nymphomaniac, dipsomaniac, pyromaniac, monomaniac, necrophiliac, paedophiliac, haemophiliac, sacroiliac, paradisiac, aphrodisiac, Dionysiac, hypochondriac, sal ammoniac, \* megalomaniac

**Then I saw the Congo, creeping through the black,  
Cutting through the forest with a golden track.**

VACHEL LINDSAY

**1.4** axe, backs, BACS, Bax, cracks, fax, flax, jacks, Jack's, lacks, lax, max, Max, packs, pax, racks, Sachs, Sacks, sax, shacks, slacks, snacks, stacks, tax, tracks, wax, whacks, \* unpacks, attacks, repacks, relax, \* hatchbacks, Tampax®, gravlax, backtracks, anthrax, Balzac's, flapjacks, Fairfax, haystacks, AWACS, Ajax, Pentax, Ex-Lax®, surtax, earwax, meataxe, Ceefax®, beeswax, slingbacks, pickaxe, syntax, hyrax, styrax, kayaks, climax, sidetracks, hijacks, drawbacks, borax, storax, thorax, smokestacks, poleaxe, toadflax, Lomax, \* battleaxe, parallax, gravadlax, almanacs, Sassenachs, Halifax, paperbacks, sealing wax, sticklebacks, minimax, Filofax®, overtax, supertax, Union Jacks, \* anticlimax, \* kleptomaniacs, aphrodisiacs, etc.

**1.5** axed, faxed, taxed, waxed, \* untaxed, unwaxed, etc.

**1.6** act, backed, bract, cracked, fact, hacked, lacked, packed, pact, quacked, smacked, stacked, tact, tracked, tract, whacked, \* compact, unpacked, attacked, attract, subtract, contract, jam-packed, abstract, transact, react, prepacked, detract, retract, refract, impact, intact, distract, extract, diffract, enact, exact, entr'acte, protract, \* abstract, backtracked, ransacked, play-act, extract, impact, sidetracked, hijacked, compact, contact, contract, gobsmacked, humpbacked, hunchbacked, \* cataract, vacuum-packed, artefact, retroact, re-enact, interact, inexact, Pontefract, counteract, overact, underact, subcontract, \* counterattacked, matter-of-fact, overreact, etc.

**1.7** batch, catch, hatch, latch, match, natch, patch, scratch, snatch, thatch, \* attach, unlatch, Brands Hatch, detach, dispatch, mismatch, \* Sandbach, rematch, mismatch, eyepatch, crosspatch, crosshatch, nuthatch, \* slanging match, purple patch, reattach

**1.8** hatched, latched, matched, patched, scratched, snatched, thatched, \* attached, unhatched, unlatched, unscratched, unmatched, detached, dispatched, mismatched, \* reattached, unattached, \* semidetached

**1.9** ad, add, bad, bade, brad, Brad, cad, chad, Chad, clad, dad, fad, gad, Gad, glad, grad, had, lad, mad, pad, plaid, rad, sad, SAD, scad, shad, Strad, tad, trad, Vlad, \* unclad, Baghdad, Riyadh, egad, begad, jihad, forbad, \* scratchpad, grandad, farad, Amstrad, Karlsbad, sketchpad, stepdad, keypad, kneepad, Sinbad, inkpad, dryad, naiad, triad, cycad, Conrad, monad, launch pad, small ad, notepad, snowclad, gonad, nomad, footpad, \* Galahad, Stalingrad, barking mad, helipad, Leningrad, Petrograd, Gilead, *Iliad*, Trinidad, ironclad, hopping mad, Volgograd, \* Jalalabad, Islamabad, bromeliad, Olympiad, Upanishad, \* Faisalabad, Hyderabad

**Ask you what provocation I have had?**

**The strong antipathy of good to bad.**

ALEXANDER POPE

**1.10** ads, adds, adze, cads, dad's, lads, pads, scads, \* kneepads, Conrad's, small ads, nomads, gonads, etc.

**1.11** caff, chaff, daff, faff, gaff, gaffe, *Graf*, graph, naff, RAF, Taff, WAAF, \* carafe, Llandaff, Piaf, giraffe, \* decaf, rifferaff, chiffchaff, digraph, Olaf, \* tachograph, barograph, paragraph, shandygaff, shadowgraph, Cenotaph, stenograph, epitaph, epigraph, telegraph, Dictograph®, pictograph, lithograph, spirograph, micrograph, seismograph, Chinagraph®, logograph, holograph, homograph, chronograph, monograph, polygraph, autograph, blow the gaff, photograph, phonograph, \* cardiograph, radiograph, ideograph, Mimeograph®, choreograph, \* encephalograph

**1.12** daffs, graphs, Staffs, WAAFs, \* carafes, giraffes, \* paragraphs, photographs, etc.

**1.13** bag, blag, brag, Bragg, cag, clag, crag, dag, drag, fag, flag, gag, hag, jag, Jag, lag, mag, nag, quag, rag, sag, scrag, shag, slag, snag, spag, stag, swag, tag, wag, \* debug, reflag, \* ragbag, handbag, sandbag, ratbag, gasbag, ragtag, stalag, air bag, mailbag, sailbag, jet lag, greylag, workbag, fleabag, teabag, feedbag, beanbag, windbag, kitbag, wigwag, chinwag, zigzag, dogtag, Sontag, washrag, Morag, Gro-bag®, postbag, nosebag, toerag, scumbag, punchbag, Gulag, \* saddlebag, scallywag, carpetbag, paper bag, Jiffy bag®, Brobdingnag, tucker-bag

### **The common cormorant (or shag)**

**Lays eggs inside a paper bag.**

CHRISTOPHER ISHERWOOD

**1.14** bags, brags, crags, flags, gags, nags, rags, wags, \* handbags, sandbags, air bags, mailbags, teabags, beanbags, \* saddlebags, paper bags, moneybags, etc.

**1.15** badge, cadge, hajj, Madge, \* rebadge

**1.16** Al, gal, Hal, mall, pal, Sal, shall, Val, \* cabal, Natal, halal, banal, canal, Pascal, Chagall, Pall Mall, La Salle, Chantal, mescal, et al., decal, Vidal, grand mal, low-cal, \* caracal, *femme fatale*, chaparral, falderal, Amytal®, acetal, barbital, Pentothal®, petit mal, Nembutal®, L'Oréal, \* Guadalcanal

1.17 calque, talc, \* catafalque

1.18 Alf, Ralph

1.19 alp, palp, scalp

1.20 shalt, \* Gestalt, \* asphalt

1.21 salve, valve, \* lip salve, bivalve

1.22 am, cam, Cam, clam, cram, Cram, dam, damn, drachm, dram, gam, glam, gram, ham, jam, jamb, lam, lamb, Lamb, ma'am, 'Nam, Pam, pram, ram, RAM, Sam, scam, scam, sham, slam, spam, Spam®, swam, Tam, tram, wham, yam, \* madame, Saddam, Pan-Am, Assam, mesdames, Vietnam, exam, Siam, goddamn, cheongsam, pro-am, \* CAD/CAM, pangram, ashram, webcam, Edam, Etam, flimflam, Islam, wigwam, iamb, Priam, NICAM, quondam, Potsdam, Oxfam, logjam, doorjamb, program, programme, \* deprogramme, reprogram, \* Amsterdam, mammogram, anagram, traffic jam, aerogram, Abraham, cablegram, Babycham®, hectogram, pentagram, tetragram, hexagram, Steadicam®, epigram, telegram, centigram, give a damn, pictogram, histogram, kilogram, kissagram, dithyramb, milligram, diagram, seismogram, diaphragm, Rotterdam, cofferdam, hologram, monogram, oriflamme, Surinam, Uncle Sam, \* gorillagram, oscillogram, ad nauseam, temazepam, diazepam, Omar Khayyám, \* angiogram, cardiogram, radiogram, stereogram, ideogram, battering ram, \* encephalogram, \* parallelogram, in memoriam

**I had written to Aunt Maud,  
Who was on a trip abroad,  
When I heard she'd died of cramp  
Just too late to save the stamp.**

HARRY GRAHAM

1.23 amp, camp, champ, clamp, cramp, damp, gamp, lamp, ramp, scamp, stamp, tamp, tramp, vamp, \* decamp, revamp, encamp, \* gas lamp, headlamp, wheel clamp, streetlamp, firedamp, oil lamp, blowlamp,

chokedamp, \* standard lamp, afterdamp, lava lamp, Davy lamp, postage stamp, rubber-stamp

**1.24** an, Ann, Anne, ban, bran, can, Cannes, clan, dan, Dan, fan, flan, Fran, gan, gran, Jan, Jeanne, man, Mann, nan, Nan, pan, Pan, plan, ran, scan, scran, span, Stan, tan, than, van, \* Strabane, Japan, rattan, pavane, Oran, Moran, unman, Kazan, Tehran, élan, Cézanne, Leanne, trepan, began, sedan, Sedan, divan, Milan, tisane, Cheyenne, Diane, Roxanne, Joanne, Johann, Lausanne, Roseanne, outran, yuan, Sudan, Bhutan, Suzanne, \* *kanban*, sampan, cancan, Afghan, gratin, kaftan, banyan, ragman, swagman, adman, badman, sandman, Batman, Salman, gasman, axeman, taxman, claypan, brainpan, brain scan, apeman, caveman, mailman, spaceman, bedpan, deadpan, chessman, pressman, merman, birdman, earthman, pecan, free man, he-man, freedman, liegeman, skidpan, wingspan, hit man, binman, Nissan, fireman, cyan, lifespan, ice man, Chopin, stockman, con man, strongman, saltpan, FORTRAN, doorman, lawman, Outspan®, oilcan, Gauguin, Rodin, snowman, Onan, dustpan, suntan, stuntman, newsman, Poussin, \* tragopan, astrakhan, Astrakhan, Aberfan, caravan, Callaghan, Hanrahan, Catalan, rataplan, anchorman, Kazakhstan, Marianne, Caliban, Taliban, Pakistan, Dagestan, Acrilan®, gamelan, handyman, Bantustan, man-to-man, marzipan, artisan, partisan, Parmesan, dairyman, stableman, ladies' man, weatherman, Telemann, self-made man, jerry can, ferryman, Everyman, exciseman, Turkestan, Kyrgyzstan, Kurdistan, serviceman, turbofan, Peter Pan, spick-and-span, middleman, billycan, minivan, businessman, Hindustan, trimaran, Spiderman, Isle of Man, frying pan, lifeboatman, quarryman, gombeen-man, *coq au vin*, also-ran, slaughterman, courtesan, Moynihan, open-plan, overran, overman, bogeyman, muscleman, Ku Klux Klan, superman, Superman, Houlihan, \* extractor fan, Afghanistan, orang-utan, bipartisan, nonpartisan, remainderman, Uzbekistan, Turkmenistan, Tajikistan, committeeman, Baluchistan, \* flash in the pan, carry the can, catamaran, cameraman, cavalryman, infantryman, newspaperman, angry young man

**Pat-a-cake, pat-a-cake, baker's man,**

**Bake me a cake as fast as you can.**

NURSERY RHYME

**1.25** ankh, bank, blank, clank, crank, dank, drank, flank, franc, Franck, frank, Frank, hank, Hank, lank, Planck, plank, prank, rank, Rank, sank, shank, shrank, spank, stank, swank, tank, thank, wank, yank, Yank, \* embank, outflank, outrank, point-blank, \* sandbank, gangplank, redshank, sheepshank, Millbank, think-tank, Clydebank, mudbank, Cruikshank, Ewbank, \* antitank, data bank, interbank, riverbank, piggy bank, Girobank, Jodrell Bank, mountebank, Bundesbank

**1.26** banks, Banks, blanks, cranks, flanks, francs, Frank's, Hanks, Lancs, Manx, pranks, ranks, tanks, thanks, Yanks, \* sandbanks, phalanx, Fairbanks, \* spindleshanks, piggy banks, mountebanks, etc.

**1.27** banked, clanked, flanked, ranked, spanked, thanked, yanked, \* unfranked, unthanked, outflanked, outranked, \* sacrosanct, etc.

**1.28** and, band, banned, bland, brand, canned, fanned, gland, grand, hand, land, Land, manned, panned, rand, sand, spanned, stand, strand, Strand, tanned, \* unhand, unmanned, unplanned, crash-land, rebrand, disband, expand, withstand, offhand, \* hatband, jazz band, bandstand, grandstand, handstand, backhand, Lapland, adland, gangland, armband, chargehand, parkland, heartland, farmland, grassland, waistband, waveband, stagehand, Lakeland, wasteland, neckband, headband, sweatband, headstand, freehand, Queensland, wristband, kickstand, inkstand, inland, quicksand, firebrand, Thailand, Rhineland, watchband, washstand, longhand, dockland, broadband, forehand, shorthand, browband, cowhand, noseband, homeland, own brand, suntanned, clubland, scrubland, newsstand, \* behindhand, beforehand, \* sarabande, Samarkand, ampersand, Talleyrand, graduand, hand-to-hand, fatherland, Swaziland, fairyland, Maryland, tableland, lend a hand, second-hand, bellyband, Ferdinand, Rio Grande, timberland, hinterland, Kristiansand, Disneyland, Dixieland, Hildebrand, sleight of hand, contraband, borderland, overhand, Oberland, overland, overmanned, no man's land, Togoland, understand, underhand, wonderland, motherland, one-night stand, Krugerrand, Newfoundland, \* Somaliland, Sudetenland, Van Diemen's Land, Witwatersrand, misunderstand, cloud-cuckoo-land

**The stately homes of England,**

**How beautiful they stand!  
Amidst their tall ancestral trees  
O'er all the pleasant land.**

FELICIA HEMANS

**1.29** bang, Chang, clang, dang, fang, gang, hang, Lang, pang, prang, rang, sang, slang, sprang, tang, Tang, twang, vang, whang, Yang, \* harangue, meringue, slap-bang, Shenyang, rehang, shebang, Penang, Pyongyang, \* gangbang, headbang, press gang, mustang, Wolfgang, \* charabanc, *Sturm und Drang*, overhang, boomerang, \* orang-utang

**1.30** Ange, flange, \* Falange, phalange

**1.31** Hans, Hanse, manse, stance, Vance, \* askance, Penzance, expanse, finance, romance, \* happenstance, Langerhans, circumstance

**1.32** Gdansk, Murmansk

**1.33** ant, Brandt, cant, Kant, pant, rant, scant, \* Brabant, gallant, decant, recant, descant, extant, Levant, Besant, enceinte, U Thant, \* descant, Rembrandt, \* gallivant, sycophant, hierophant, commandant, confidant, confidante

**1.34** ants, Franz, Hants, Kant's, pants, rants, \* decants, recants, Northants, \* gallivants, smarty-pants, sycophants, Rosencrantz, underpants, etc.

**1.35** tragacanth, amaranth, coelacanth

**1.36** Anne's, banns, bans, Cannes, cans, clans, Dan's, fans, glans, Hans, Jan's, pans, plans, Stan's, tans, vans, \* kaftans, Ray-Bans®, brain scans, bedpans, oilcans, \* caravans, Callaghan's, Marianne's, artisans, Prestonpans, jerry cans, \* Lytham Saint Anne's, catamarans, etc.

**1.37** bap, cap, chap, clap, crap, dap, flap, gap, Gap, hap, Jap, knap, Knapp, lap, Lapp, map, nap, pap, rap, sap, scrap, slap, snap, strap, tap, trap, WAP, wrap, yap, zap, \* uncap, unwrap, unstrap, recap, rewrap, enwrap, entrap, \* blackcap, madcap, claptrap, mantrap, catnap, mayhap, redcap, death trap,

earflap, kneecap, recap, heeltap, mishap, giftwrap, chinstrap, bitmap, kidnap, wiretap, firetrap, nightcap, whitecap, icecap, flytrap, mobcap, stopgap, jockstrap, watchstrap, mousetrap, snowcap, toecap, hubcap, skullcap, mudflap, suntrap, foolscap, dewlap, bootstrap, \* rattletrap, Andy Capp, handicap, take the rap, Tonle Sap, overlap, thunderclap, honeytrap, booby trap

**1.38** apse, caps, chaps, claps, craps, daps, flaps, gaps, lapse, maps, raps, schnapps, scraps, straps, taps, traps, wraps, yaps, zaps, \* perhaps, collapse, unwraps, elapse, relapse, \* earflaps, kneecaps, toecaps, prolapse, hubcaps, mudflaps, bootstraps, etc.

**1.39** apt, chapped, clapped, flapped, knapped, rapt, strapped, wrapped, \* adapt, untapped, unwrapped, unmapped, enwrapped, inapt, \* catnapped, kidnapped, snowcapped, \* handicapped, readapt, overlapped, etc.

**1.40** ass, bass, crass, gas, lass, mass, Mass, sass, strass, TASS, wrasse, vas, \* alas, harass, morass, Madras, Patras, amass, Laplace, Alsace, degas, kick ass, crevasse, cuirass, volte-face, en masse, \* jackass, badass, Hamas, landmass, Sampras, ACAS, Esdras, tear gas, Mithras, tightass, Ofgas, groundmass, \* Calor gas®, sassafras, Candlemas, palliasse, Adidas®, Badedas®, gravitas, Martinmas, Quatermass, demitasse, Pythias, hippocras, Caiaphas, biogas, biomass, Fortinbras, Hudibras, \* Tiberias, Leonidas, Herodias, Asturias, \* Ozymandias, Herod Antipas, \* *in vino Veritas*, materfamilias, paterfamilias

**1.41** asp, hasp

**1.42** bast, massed, gassed, hast, \* lambast, harassed, amassed, degassed, \* bombast, \* pederast, cineaste, chloroplast, scholiast, \* iconoclast, Elastoplast®, enthusiast

**1.43** ash, ASH, Ashe, bash, brash, cache, cash, clash, crash, dash, flash, gash, gnash, hash, lash, mash, MASH, Nash, pash, plash, rash, sash, slash, smash, splash, stash, tache, thrash, trash, \* abash, unlash, panache, rehash, encash, \* slapdash, backlash, gatecrash, rehash, whiplash, mishmash,

earbash, eyelash, potash, Saltash, goulash, newsflash, \* have a bash, calabash, pebbledash, Johnny Cash, balderdash, water brash, succotash

**1.44** bashed, cashed, crashed, flashed, gashed, mashed, smashed, splashed, thrashed, trashed, \* abashed, rehashed, \* unabashed, etc.

**1.45** at, bat, brat, cat, chat, drat, fat, flat, GATT, gnat, hat, mat, matt, Matt, Nat, pat, Pat, plait, plat, prat, Pratt, rat, sat, scat, shat, skat, slat, spat, splat, sprat, tat, that, twat, vat, VAT, \* Sadat, cravat, fat cat, rat-tat, Passat®, hard hat, thereat, whereat, expat, Fermat, hereat, begat, resat, howzat, \* backchat, hellcat, hepcat, Zermatt, meerkat, brickbat, dingbat, tipcat, Kit Kat®, diktat, Brinks-Mat, chitchat, whinchat, wildcat, combat, wombat, bobcat, tomcat, top hat, doormat, format, cowpat, Croat, polecat, stonechat, numbat, mudcat, Muscat, sunhat, mud flat, muskrat, \* concordat, reformat, \* acrobat, rat-a-tat, Ararat, caveat, Kattegat, habitat, marrow fat, aerostat, scaredy-cat, baby-sat, Cheshire cat, democrat, Democrat, technocrat, thermostat, rheostat, pitapat, tit-for-tat, ziggurat, Symonds Yat, diplomat, aegrotat, Montserrat, monocrat, copycat, autocrat, automat, Laundromat®, bureaucrat, Eurocrat, Postman Pat, Photostat®, butterfat, pussycat, plutocrat, Rubáiyát, \* Jehoshaphat, Magnificat, \* aristocrat, requiescat

**But thousands die, without or this or that,**

**Die, and endow a college, or a cat.**

ALEXANDER POPE

**1.46** bats, brats, cats, chats, flats, gnats, hats, Katz, mats, Matt's, Pat's, plaits, rats, SATs, \* cravats, congrats, fat cats, expats, \* ersatz, dingbats, cowpats, mud flats, etc.

**1.47** Cath, Gath, hath, lath, Plath, \* aftermath, telepath, psychopath, polymath, \* naturopath, osteopath, homeopath, sociopath

**1.48** Cath's, laths, maths, \* telepaths, psychopaths, polymaths, etc.

**1.49** chav, have, lav, \* satnav, Olav

**1.50** as, Baz, Chas, Daz®, Gaz, has, jazz, \* La Paz, whereas, Shiraz, pizzazz, \* Boaz, topaz, \* razzmatazz, Alcatraz

**2.1** abbey, Abby, cabbie, crabby, flabby, Gaby, gabby, grabby, Rabbie, scabby, shabby, tabby, yabby, Bambi, can be, Ashby, chappie, crappy, flappy, gappy, happy, nappy, pappy, sappy, scrappy, snappy, strappy, yappy, zappy, scampi, \* unhappy, \* slaphappy, \* Newtownabbey, namby-pamby, happy-clappy

**2.2** baccy, Bacchae, Blackie, cacky, Jackie, lackey, Mackie, raki, sake, tacky, wacky, cranky, Frankie, hanky, lanky, manky, Sankey, swanky, Yankee, ASCII, Askey, Laski, Spassky, Aggie, baggy, craggy, daggy, draggy, jaggy, Maggie, quaggy, ragi, saggy, scraggy, shaggy, \* Iraqi, Baisakhi, Polanski, \* Nagasaki, Kawasaki, Yamasaki, teriyaki, sukiyaki, catananche, hanky-panky, Killiecrankie, Widow Twankey, Stanislavsky

**2.3** Addy, baddie, caddie, caddy, daddy, faddy, gladdie, had he, laddie, Maddy, paddy, Paddy, Andy, bandy, brandy, candy, dandy, *Dandy*, Gandhi, handy, Mandy, randy, sandy, shandy, Tandy, batty, catty, chatty, fatty, flattie, Hattie, natty, Patti, patty, ratty, Satie, scatty, Tati, tattie, tatty, ante, anti, Dante, scanty, shanty, Asti, pasty, \* Vivaldi, unhandy, chapati, Hanratty, Scarlatti, Bugatti, bacchante, Ashanti, Ferranti, Chianti, Durante, \* granddaddy, \* finnan haddie, Fittipaldi, Andy Pandy, Rio Grande, Tonypandy, Kiribati, Cincinnati, Alicante, in flagrante, dilettante, vigilante, rhinoplasty, \* Asti spumante, \* modus operandi

**2.4** café, daffy, NAAFI, Taffy, Malfi, navy, savvy, Canvey, Cathy, Xanthe, \* Gaddafi, Amalfi, \* cybercafé, Iolanthe

**2.5** Ali, alley, Ally, bally, dally, galley, Halley, pally, Raleigh, rally, sally, Sally, scally, tally, valley, Chablis, brambly, haply, amply, blackly, crackly, frankly, Shankly, straggly, waggly, gangly, badly, Bradley, gladly, Hadleigh, madly, sadly, grandly, Attlee, Batley, flatly, rattly, aptly, Bramley, family, Hanley, Manley, manly, Stanley, Langley, Ashley, rashly, Barrie, Barry, Carrie, carry, Cary, Clarrie, Gary, harry, Harry, Larry, marry, parry, Parry, tarry, blackberry, cranberry, lamprey, angry, Crabtree, gantry, pantry,

Langtry, \* McNally, Aunt Sally, reveille, O'Malley, doolally, exactly, unmanly, Winstanley, Osmanli, glengarry, remarry, miscarry, du Barry, Deganwy, Myfanwy, \* peely-wally, Tin Pan Alley, dilly-dally, shillyshally, intermarry, etc.

**Of all the girls that are so smart**

**There's none like pretty Sally,**

**She is the darling of my heart,**

**And she lives in our alley.**

HENRY CAREY

**2.6** chamois, clammy, gammy, Grammy, hammy, jammy, mammy, ramie, Sammy, shammy, tammy, Tammy, whammy, acme, Lakshmi, Annie, can he, canny, cranny, Danny, fanny, Fanny, granny, nanny, trannie, acne, Hackney, Cagney, Daphne, slangy, tangy, \* Miami, uncanny, Giovanni, Evadne, \* double whammy, hootenanny, Ariadne, \* damn me, sack me, etc.

**2.7** Bassey, brassie, Cassie, chassis, gassy, lassie, Lassie, Massey, Plassey, massy, sassy, jacksie, Laxey, maxi, taxi, waxy, Patsy, antsy, Yangtze, Clancy, fancy, Nancy, has he, jazzy, snazzy, Ramsay, Ramsey, pansy, tansy, ashy, flashy, mashie, splashy, trashy, catchy, patchy, scratchy, snatchy, hajji, algae, Algy, Angie, \* Manasseh, Apache, Hitachi, Comanche, \* Malagasy, Tallahassee, paparazzi, cartomancy, necromancy, \* Haile Selassie

**2.8** Abba, blabber, crabber, dabber, drabber, grabber, jabber, amber, camber, clamber, mamba, samba, timbre, clapper, crapper, dapper, flapper, grappa, kappa, mapper, nappa, napper, rapper, sapper, scrapper, slapper, snapper, strapper, tapper, trapper, wrapper, yapper, Zappa, zapper, scalper, camper, clamper, damper, hamper, pamper, scamper, stamper, Tampa, tamper, Caspar, jasper, Jasper, \* kidnapper, \* liquidambar, handicapper, whippersnapper, \* viola da gamba, \* grab her, trap her, etc.

**2.9** backer, blacker, clacker, cracker, Dakar, Dhaka, hacker, knacker, lacker, lacquer, nutcracker, *Nutcracker*, packer, sacker, slacker, smacker, stacker, tacker, tracker, wacker, Kafka, anchor, banker, canker, chancre, danker, flanker, franker, hanker, rancour, ranker, spanker, tanker, wanker, blagger,

bragger, dagger, flagger, gagger, Jagger, lagger, nagger, quagga, ragga, stagger, swagger, alga, anger, Bangor, clangour, kanga, Kanga, languor, manga, \* unpacker, attacker, Malacca, maraca, alpaca, Kamchatka, Bianca, Sri Lanka, Alaska, Nebraska, Trafalgar, realgar, Kananga, Northanger, \* backpacker, safecracker, shelf-stacker, firecracker, hijacker, skyjacker, wisecracker, bushwhacker, Schumacher, \* illywhacker, Casablanca, lingua franca, supertanker, Madagascar, Athabaska, carpetbagger, cloak-and-dagger, \* thank her, nag her, etc.

**This particularly rapid, unintelligible patter  
Isn't generally heard, and if it is it doesn't matter.**

W. S. GILBERT

**2.10** adder, bladder, Claddagh, ladder, madder, sadder, lambda, LAMDA, Banda, blander, candour, dander, gander, grander, panda, pander, sander, stander, Asda, Mazda, attar, batter, chatter, clatter, fatter, flatter, hatter, latter, matter, natter, patter, platter, ratter, satyr, scatter, shatter, spatter, splatter, tatter, ABTA, captor, chapter, raptor, actor, factor, tractor, BAFTA, Yalta, banter, canter, Fanta®, Granta, manta, plantar, ranter, Santa, aster, Astor, pasta, Rasta, raster, Baxter, hamster, gangsta, gangster, \* veranda, Amanda, germander, pomander, Menander, backhander, left-hander, Leander, meander, expander, philander, Miranda, right-hander, Lysander, Luanda, Rwanda, Uganda, Buganda, Luganda, two-hander, goosander, ciabatta, Al Fatah, Mad Hatter, Kenyatta, bespatter, regatta, adaptor, protractor, contractor, reactor, detractor, retractor, extractor, refractor, Atlanta, decanter, Vedanta, infanta, levanter, trochanter, cadaster, piastre, pilaster, canasta, Jocasta, \* Tadcaster, Lancaster, Doncaster, \* stepladder, Laplander, Queenslander, bystander, Icelander, \* Esmeralda, jacaranda, salamander, Afrikander, Netherlander, memoranda, chest-expander, gerrymander, propaganda, oleander, coriander, Parramatta, antimatter, pitter-patter, overmatter, malefactor, benefactor, chiropractor, subcontractor, Atalanta, tam-o'-shanter, alabaster, poetaster, Zoroaster, \* Anaximander, velociraptor, cotoneaster, \* virgo intacta, \* forbade her, sacked her, etc.

**2.11** chaffer, gaffer, Jaffa, Shaffer, Staffa, Agfa, alpha, Balfour, camphor, chamfer, slaver, salver, salvor, naphtha, anther, panther, blather, gather,

lather, Mather, \* alfalfa, cadaver, Samantha, ingather, foregather, \* Luftwaffe, quacksalver, \* pyracantha, \* chaff her, have her, etc.

**2.12** Allah, Bala, Calor®, pallor, valour, babbler, dabbler, gabbler, ambler, Ambler, gambler, rambler, scrambler, trampler, cackler, haggler, straggler, angler, strangler, wrangler, Adler, paddler, saddler, Sadler, handler, battler, prattler, rattler, *Tatler*, tattler, antler, dazzler, ashlar, Barra, Farrah, para, Varah, Vanbrugh, chakra, bhangra, Sandra, Tantra, mantra, Aphra, camera, CAMRA, Basra, aqua, stature, Anya, Vanya, \* Valhalla, Alhambra, podagra, pellagra, Niagara, Viagra®, Cassandra, Biafra, subaqua, Managua, lasagne, Britannia, \* Alexandra, Cleopatra, \* Caracalla, bobby-dazzler, Nicaragua, \* abracadabra, etc.

**2.13** clamour, crammer, gamma, glamour, grammar, hammer, jammer, mamma, rammer, scammer, shammer, slammer, stammer, yammer, drachma, agma, magma, asthma, Alma, halma, Palma, palmar, Cranmer, plasma, Anna, banner, Branagh, canner, Hanna, Hannah, manna, manner, manor, nana, planner, scanner, spanner, tanner, Abner, Wagner, Radnor, Patna, Ratner, Shatner, banger, clanger, clangour, ganger, hangar, hanger, Langer, Sanger, \* enamour, syntagma, Mahatma, miasma, Havana, Kavanagh, savanna, Savannah, Alannah, Fermanagh, bandanna, Diana, Guiana, Guyana, Montana, goanna, Joanna, hosanna, Susanna, Stavanger, haranguer, \* sledgehammer, windjammer, programmer, straphanger, head-banger, cliffhanger, \* Alabama, yellowhammer, Santa Ana, caravanner, Indiana, Pollyanna, paperhanger, doppelgänger, \* Louisiana, \* ipecacuanha, \* damn her, outran her, etc.

**It's awf'ly bad luck on Diana,  
Her ponies have swallowed their bits;  
She fished down their throats with a spanner  
And frightened them all into fits.**

JOHN BETJEMAN

**2.14** gasser, NASA, Nasser, Yasser, lapser, Saxa, taxer, waxer, Khalsa, salsa, cancer, Cancer, Hansa, Gazza, Lanza, panzer, stanza, azure, Asher, dasher, flasher, gnasher, Jascha, lasher, masher, pasha, rasher, Sacha,

slasher, smasher, thrasher, Hampshire, catcher, dacha, Hatcher, patcher, scratcher, snatcher, stature, thatcher, Thatcher, capture, rapture, fracture, badger, cadger, Alger, ganja, grandeur, \* amasser, madrasah, Nyasa, Mombasa, relapser, relaxer, piazza, merganser, romancer, Balthazar, Belshazzar, Braganza, bonanza, organza, Natasha, focaccia, dispatcher, recapture, enrapture, contracture, gastralgia, myalgia, nostalgia, neuralgia, phalanger, \* gate-crasher, rat-catcher, backscratcher, flycatcher, spycatcher, cowcatcher, \* necromancer, Salmanazar, haberdasher, cradle snatcher, oystercatcher, manufacture, \* extravaganza, \* antimacassar, \* splash her, scratch her, etc.

## 2.15 Arab, carob, scarab

2.16 Braddock, Craddock, haddock, Madoc, paddock, shaddock, mattock, havoc, arrack, barrack, carrack, hammock, bannock, Cannock, Lanark, Rannoch, Zanuck, cassock, hassock, \* Caradoc, Portmadoc

**cage me and i d go frantic**

**my life is so romantic**

**capricious and corybantic**

DON MARQUIS

2.17 aspic, Bacchic, asdic, attic, Attic, batik, static, lactic, tactic, antic, frantic, mantic, drastic, mastic, plastic, spastic, crabstick, chapstick, slapstick, matchstick, \* syllabic, iambic, stomachic, sporadic, nomadic, heraldic, Icelandic, aquatic, chromatic, dramatic, fanatic, pragmatic, asthmatic, Carnatic, phlegmatic, spermatic, schematic, thematic, hepatic, ecstatic, emphatic, lymphatic, erratic, stigmatic, prismatic, schismatic, sciatic, climatic, Socratic, quadratic, dogmatic, traumatic, somatic, pneumatic, rheumatic, galactic, syntactic, didactic, climactic, Atlantic, romantic, pedantic, Vedantic, semantic, gigantic, scholastic, monastic, shagstastic, fantastic, sarcastic, aplastic, elastic, dynastic, gymnastic, bombastic, \* dissyllabic, trisyllabic, dithyrambic, acrobatic, aromatic, achromatic, pancreatic, Hanseatic, antistatic, astigmatic, charismatic, Adriatic, Asiatic, democratic, emblematic, enigmatic, enzymatic, thermostatic, symptomatic, systematic, cinematic, diplomatic, Hippocratic,

hierocratic, operatic, problematic, autocratic, automatic, morgantic, bureaucratic, programmatic, subaquatic, plutocratic, chiropractic, prophylactic, transatlantic, necromantic, sycophantic, Corybantic, unromantic, periphrastic, thermoplastic, inelastic, orgiastic, hudibrastic, \* polysyllabic, monosyllabic, aristocratic, meritocratic, undemocratic, semiaquatic, anagrammatic, axiomatic, asymptomatic, melodramatic, telegrammatic, idiomatic, diagrammatic, psychosomatic, undiplomatic, paradigmatic, intergalactic, anaphylactic, anticlimactic, iconoclastic, ecclesiastic, enthusiastic, \* semiautomatic, idiosyncratic, unenthusiastic, \* overenthusiastic

**2.18** graphic, maffick, traffic, Sapphic, \* seraphic, empathic, \* tachygraphic, calligraphic, cartographic, reprographic, demographic, stenographic, ethnographic, epigraphic, telegraphic, xerographic, geographic, cryptographic, pictographic, lithographic, biographic, typographic, hydrographic, seismographic, topographic, holographic, homographic, polygraphic, autographic, orthographic, pornographic, photographic, phonographic, psychopathic, telepathic, \* hagiographic, radiographic, palaeographic, cardiographic, stereographic, lexicographic, bibliographic, choreographic, naturopathic, osteopathic, homeopathic, sociopathic, \* cinematographic, photolithographic

**2.19** Alec, Gaelic, Gallic, phallic, baric, Garrick, Tariq, fabric, cambric, Patrick, hat trick, gastric, Chadwick, Gatwick, \* smart aleck, italic, metallic, cephalic, oxalic, vocalic, Uralic, Amharic, barbaric, tartaric, Pindaric, Kirkpatrick, theatric, Fitzpatrick, Downpatrick, \* bimetallic, nonmetallic, Balearic, geriatric, paediatric, psychiatric, nasogastric

**2.20** Alnwick, manic, panic, stannic, tannic, \* Islamic, ceramic, dynamic, balsamic, ophthalmic, phantasmic, miasmatic, orgasmic, botanic, satanic, tetanic, galvanic, Germanic, tympanic, Hispanic, mechanic, Britannic, titanic, *Titanic*, volcanic, organic, Koranic, \* panoramic, dioramic, ectoplasmic, cytoplasmic, protoplasmic, Magellanic, talismanic, messianic, inorganic, oceanic, \* aerodynamic, thermodynamic, transoceanic

2.21 classic, Grassic, dabchick, magic, tragic, \* boracic, Jurassic, thoracic, Triassic, pelagic, myalgic, nostalgic, neuralgic, \* apparatchik, haemorrhagic

2.22 Maddox, paddocks, hallux, barracks, hammocks, bannocks, cassocks, Hassocks, \* Appomattox, etc.

2.23 attics, tactics, antics, plastics, matchsticks, affix, graphics, Alec's, Alex, fabrics, Patrick's, classics, \* aquatics, dramatics, pneumatics, rheumatics, semantics, gymnastics, theatrics, ceramics, dynamics, mechanics, \* acrobatics, aerobatics, mathematics, informatics, numismatics, demographics, geriatrics, paediatrics, \* aerodynamics, thermodynamics, etc.

2.24 crabbed, rabid, rapid, vapid, jagged, ragged, caddied, bandied, candid, candied, avid, gravid, dallied, pallid, rallied, tallied, valid, arid, carried, married, tarried, acrid, Astrid, Alfred, languid, hackneyed, acid, flaccid, placid, fancied, rancid, \* invalid, unmarried, remarried, miscarried, Mohammed, arachnid, antacid, \* caryatid, dilly-dallied, shillyshallied, semiarid, intermarried, etc.

**When the lamp is shattered  
The light in the dust lies dead –  
When the cloud is scattered  
The rainbow's glory is shed.**  
PERCY BYSSHE SHELLEY

2.25 jabbered, scabbard, tabard, halberd, knackered, lacquered, hankered, tankard, blackguard, haggard, Haggard, laggard, staggered, swaggered, angered, added, laddered, padded, branded, landed, standard, stranded, battered, dratted, fatted, matted, plaited, scattered, shattered, tattered, Apted, acted, bastard, dastard, Stafford, Strafford, Trafford, Bradford, Radford, Blandford, Catford, Ashford, ballad, salad, farad, Garrard, Harrod, backward, landward, galliard, halyard, lanyard, Spaniard, clamoured, Talmud, mannered, hazard, Hazzard, captured, fractured, \* substandard, unbranded, backhanded, cack-handed, crash-landed, barehanded, red-handed, left-handed, disbanded, expanded, philandered, high-handed, right-

handed, nonstandard, offhanded, forehanded, short-handed, two-handed, adapted, compacted, protracted, abstracted, reacted, impacted, distracted, extracted, decanted, Angharad, Muhammad, enamoured, unmannered, haphazard, \* empty-handed, heavy-handed, even-handed, single-handed, underhanded, unadapted, subcontracted, etc.

**2.26** scabbards, tankards, blackguards, bastards, ballads, salads, Harrods, backwards, landwards, Spaniards, hazards, etc.

**2.27** Babbage, cabbage, package, baggage, adage, bandage, lavage, ravage, savage, Savage, salvage, carriage, garage, Harwich, marriage, sandwich, Sandwich, language, damage, manage, passage, \* repackage, disparage, miscarriage, mismanage, stage-manage, \* intermarriage, undercarriage

**For you dream you are crossing the Channel, and tossing about in a steamer from Harwich –  
Which is something between a large bathing machine and a very small second-class carriage.**

W. S. GILBERT

**2.28** babble, dabble, Drabble, gabble, rabble, scrabble, Scrabble®, amble, bramble, Campbell, gamble, gambol, ramble, scramble, shamble, apple, chapel, Chappell, dapple, grapple, scrapple, scalpel, ample, trample, Aspel, cackle, crackle, grackle, hackle, jackal, mackle, shackle, tackle, ankle, rankle, Wankel, Gaskell, paschal, gaggle, haggle, straggle, waggle, algal, angle, bangle, dangle, jangle, mangel, mangle, spangle, strangle, tangle, wangle, wrangle, addle, paddle, raddle, saddle, staddle, straddle, candle, dandle, Handel, handle, Randall, sandal, scandal, vandal, battle, Battle, cattle, chattel, prattle, rattle, tattle, dactyl, fractal, mantle, pastel, pastille, baffle, raffle, snaffle, yaffle, thankful, tactful, manful, bashful, Cavell, gavel, gravel, ravel, Savile, travel, Athol, Aral, barrel, carol, Carol, carrel, Carroll, Darrell, Farrell, gambrel, mackerel, mandrel, lateral, astral, Avril, tranquil, Maxwell, Daniel, spaniel, camel, Hamill, mammal, Tamil, trammel, annal, channel, Channel, flannel, panel, grapnel, shrapnel, Bracknell, cracknel, Bagnell, Cassell, hassle, tassel, vassal, axle, cancel, Hansel, Mansell, basil, Basil, dazzle, frazzle, razzle, damsel, satchel,

Tatchell, \* unscramble, preamble, Whitechapel, pineapple, unshackle, bedraggle, untangle, entangle, astraddle, unsaddle, skedaddle, mishandle, Seattle, embattle, dismantle, unravel, apparel, collateral, bilateral, trilateral, Nathaniel, enamel, phantasmal, empanel, Newcastle, bedazzle, substantial, financial, Tintagel, \* ramshackle, rectangle, pentangle, triangle, right angle, quadrangle, packsaddle, side-saddle, manhandle, panhandle, Fremantle, \* technobabble, psychobabble, tabernacle, raggle-taggle, disentangle, fiddle-faddle, Coromandel, pterodactyl, tittle-tattle, consonantal, covenantal, equilateral, quadrilateral, multilateral, unilateral, multichannel, Newport Pagnell, razzle-dazzle, antidazzle, circumstantial, insubstantial, \* Quetzalcoatl

### **On the coast of Coromandel**

#### **Dance they to the tunes of Handel.**

OSBERT SITWELL

**2.29** dappled, trampled, rankled, mangled, spangled, tangled, addled, handled, baffled, travelled, Harold, Jarrold, panelled, dazzled, \* bedraggled, entangled, embattled, dismantled, newfangled, unravelled, untravelled, well-travelled, untrammelled, etc.

**2.30** brambles, shambles, apples, hackles, shackles, ankles, paddles, sandals, vandals, baffles, Raffles, barrels, carols, Darrell's, Daniels, spaniels, mammals, trammels, annals, panels, \* at right angles, \* Feast of Tabernacles, etc.

**2.31** Antrim, passim, maxim, Maxim, \* smacks him, catch him, etc.

**2.32** Brabham, album, Clapham, Rackham, Malcolm, talcum, Adam, madam, random, tandem, atom, Chatham, sanctum, bantam, phantom, anthem, Grantham, fathom, alum, Balham, Calum, Malham, carom, marram, antrum, tantrum, angstrom, ashram, stannum, magnum, sphagnum, gladsome, handsome, hansom, ransom, Ransome, transom, chasm, spasm, Masham, \* amalgam, macadam, McCallum, alarum, panjandrum, per annum, phantasm, \* sarcasm, orgasm, \* memorandum, cataplasm,

ectoplasm, neoplasm, pleonasm, cytoplasm, protoplasm, \* nil desperandum, iconoclasm, enthusiasm, \* grab 'em, had 'em, etc.

**2.33** albums, Adams, Addams, atoms, fathoms, Calum's, tantrums, spasms, etc.

**2.34** cabin, hatpin, backspin, napkin, Atkin, catkin, Slatkin, lambkin, Rankin, lambskin, stand-in, Latin, satin, captain, plantain, Baffin, Gavin, Alvin, Calvin, chaplain, Chaplin, Jacklin, Franklin, Shanklin, javelin, Hamelin, Hamlyn, aspirin, chagrin, Kathryn, Brangwyn, sanguine, Chatwin, famine, gamin, admin, jasmine, Yasmin, tannin, \* grimalkin, Aladdin, Prestatyn, prolactin, examine, assassin, imagine, \* Portakabin®, alexandrine, re-examine, cross-examine, \* grabbin', slackin', etc.

**2.35** cap'n, happen, crampon, dampen, aspen, blacken, bracken, clachan, slacken, Strachan, Gascon, dragon, flagon, wagon, bad 'un, gladden, madden, sadden, Camden, Hampden, Brandon, Landon, Ramsden, baton, batten, fatten, flatten, Grattan, Hatton, patten, pattern, Patton, platen, Saturn, slattern, Staten, Tatton, Clapton, Hampton, Acton, Clacton, plankton, Lambton, canton, lantern, Langton, Aston, pastern, capstan, Caxton, Paxton, Gladstone, Branston, Ashton, Cavan, cavern, raven, tavern, Alan, Allen, Callan, Fallon, gallon, talon, raglan, Raglan, Scanlon, Aran, Arran, Arun, baron, barren, Darren, Karen, marron, Sharon, saffron, scallion, stallion, banyan, canyon, Ammon, gammon, mammon, salmon, shaman, cabman, chapman, Chapman, Hackman, bagman, flagman, ragman, swagman, adman, Bradman, Caedmon, madman, batman, hangman, axeman, cracksman, Flaxman, Paxman, Manxman, batsman, Tasman, bandsman, clansman, Flashman, cannon, canon, Shannon, Casson, Masson, flaxen, Jackson, klaxon, Saxon, waxen, Datsun, Samson, Branson, Jansen, Manson, Nansen, damson, Kansan, ashen, fashion, passion, ration, caption, action, faction, fraction, traction, sanction, mansion, scansion, stanchion, \* Sri Lankan, Alaskan, Nebraskan, Pendragon, Abaddon, McFadden, abandon, Rwandan, Ugandan, Manhattan, harmattan, Mountbatten, Rockhampton, Northampton, Southampton, Okehampton, Hunstanton, Craigavon, Van Allen, decathlon, heptathlon, pentathlon, biathlon, triathlon, McLaren, Biafran, battalion, rapscallion, medallion,

Italian, companion, d'Artagnan, Cro-Magnon, colcannon, Dungannon, Clackmannan, Guianan, Guyanan, Rhiannon, Montanan, Buchanan, compassion, refashion, impassion, dispassion, contraption, compaction, attraction, protraction, subtraction, contraction, abstraction, transaction, reaction, impaction, detraction, retraction, distraction, extraction, diffraction, refraction, infraction, inaction, exaction, olfaction, proaction, expansion, \* snapdragon, bandwagon, backgammon, \* Madagascan, Littlehampton, Wolverhampton, jack-o'-lantern, parrot-fashion, abreaction, satisfaction, rarefaction, petrification, benefaction, retroaction, interaction, liquefaction, counteraction, stupefaction, putrefaction, \* self-satisfaction, dissatisfaction, counterattraction, overreaction, overexpansion

**I can't get no satisfaction**

**I can't get no girl reaction.**

MICK JAGGER & KEITH RICHARDS

**2.36** happened, blackened, maddened, saddened, flattened, patterned, Langland, gangland, Hammond, dachshund, rationed, sanctioned, \* impassioned, old-fashioned, unsanctioned, etc.

**2.37** calends, badlands, dachshunds

**2.38** cabins, hatpins, Atkins, catkins, matins, satins, captains, aspirins, Kathryn's, \* examines, assassins, etc.

**2.39** dragons, flagons, wagons, battens, patterns, lanterns, caverns, taverns, Athens, gallons, talons, barons, Saxons, damsons, fashions, passions, rations, actions, factions, fractions, sanctions, mansions, etc.

**2.40** lambent, rampant, bacchant, hadn't, patent, Havant, haven't, savant, advent, Advent, gallant, talent, arrant, Lamont, fragment, catchment, hatchment, stagnant, nascent, passant, absent, accent, hasn't, pageant, plangent, tangent, \* attractant, surfactant, reactant, apparent, transparent, entrapment, encampment, embankment, enactment, abashment, encashment, attachment, detachment, renascent, relaxant, cotangent, \* re-enactment

**2.41** savants, balance, valance, talents, Clarence, fragments, nascence, absence, accents, pageants, \* reactance, unbalance, imbalance, off-balance, outbalance, transparence, embankments, renascence, \* counterbalance, overbalance, etc.

**2.42** grabbing, stabbing, capping, clapping, flapping, mapping, napping, rapping, slapping, strapping, tapping, trapping, wrapping, yapping, scalping, camping, cramping, stamping, tramping, backing, blacking, cracking, hacking, lacking, packing, racking, sacking, slacking, smacking, stacking, tacking, tracking, whacking, banking, clanking, flanking, planking, ranking, spanking, thanking, bragging, dragging, flagging, gagging, lagging, nagging, sagging, wagging, adding, cladding, madding, padding, banding, landing, sanding, standing, batting, chatting, Gating, matting, plaiting, rapping, tating, acting, Bating, panting, ranting, chaffing, fapping, having, babbling, dabbling, brambling, gambling, rambling, grappling, sapling, crackling, tackling, angling, gangling, strangling, wrangling, handling, Gatling, rattling, baffling, handspring, hamstring, lapwing, waxwing, batwing, cramming, damming, jamming, lambing, shamming, banning, canning, Canning, Channing, manning, Manning, planning, tanning, banging, clanging, hanging, slanging, gassing, massing, lapsing, taxing, waxing, bashing, crashing, dashing, flashing, gnashing, lashing, mashing, slashing, smashing, thrashing, catching, matching, snatching, scratching, thatching, cadging, \* unwrapping, decamping, revamping, unpacking, attacking, outranking, unflagging, debuggling, upstanding, freestanding, outstanding, adapting, attracting, contracting, distracting, exacting, decanting, haranguing, relaxing, financing, \* handclapping, backslapping, catnapping, kneecapping, kidnapping, phone-tapping, backpacking, nerve-racking, hijacking, formatting, play-acting, programming, cliffhanging, square-bashing, gate-crashing, tongue-lashing, backscratching, \* understanding, notwithstanding, subcontracting, photographing, undermanning, overhanging, \* misunderstanding, etc.

**While I nodded, nearly napping, suddenly there came a tapping,  
As of someone gently rapping, rapping at my chamber door.**

EDGAR ALLAN POE

2.43 scavenge, challenge

2.44 gallop, Gallup, Salop, scallop

2.45 haggis, caddis, Gladys, brattice, gratis, lattice, practice, practise, mantis, Travis, Alice, chalice, Challis, malice, palace, Sallis, Tallis, Clarice, Harris, Paris, Janice, Daphnis, axis, praxis, taxis, \* malpractice, Atlantis, oxalis, Beaumaris, Onassis, \* praying mantis, prophylaxis, peristalsis, \* anaphylaxis, \* *mutatis mutandis*

**They're changing guard at Buckingham Palace –  
Christopher Robin went down with Alice.**

A. A. MILNE

2.46 Abbas, tapas, Malpas, campus, grampus, pampas, Bacchus, Gracchus, Angus, cactus, Sanctus, cantus, canvas, canvass, apthous, Callas, callous, callus, Dallas, Pallas, phallus, thallus, hapless, strapless, backless, trackless, thankless, landless, atlas, Atlas, hatless, tactless, cashless, matchless, arras, Arras, harass, mattress, Patras, actress, Lammas, stannous, drabness, dampness, blackness, slackness, frankness, Agnes, Magnus, badness, gladness, madness, sadness, blandness, grandness, flatness, aptness, rashness, Crassus, Lassus, lapsus, Kansas, captious, factious, fractious, anxious, \* Barabbas, Cerne Abbas, Caracas, Damascus, acanthus, dianthus, embarrass, St Pancras, Las Palmas, marasmus, Erasmus, chiasmus, McManus, Manassas, Parnassus, \* hippocampus, Diophantus, agapanthus, Rhadamanthus, Erymanthus, helianthus, polyanthus, disembarrass, benefactress, overanxious, \* Grammaticus, \* Halicarnassus, \* track us, splash us, etc.

2.47 Trappist, Baptist, practised, blacklist, fascist, \* unpractised, \* Anabaptist

2.48 drabbest, dampest, blackest, slackest, dankest, rankest, maddest, saddest, damnedest, blandest, grandest, fattest, canvassed, ballast, harassed, \* embarrassed, \* unembarrassed, etc.

**2.49** Lappish, snappish, blackish, brackish, Frankish, waggish, caddish, laddish, radish, Standish, blandish, brandish, flattish, catfish, flatfish, lavish, ravish, parish, vanquish, anguish, languish, Amish, famish, Spanish, banish, clannish, mannish, vanish, hashish, \* outlandish, establish, McTavish, \* horseradish, \* disestablish

**2.50** abbot, Abbott, Cabot, Albert, Lambert, Ascot, mascot, agate, braggart, faggot, maggot, Taggart, Calvert, ballot, palate, Barrett, carat, caret, carrot, claret, garret, Garrett, Jarrett, parrot, gamut, cannot, magnate, \* Newton Abbott

**2.51** Babbitt, habit, rabbet, rabbit, ambit, gambit, lappet, tappet, sandpit, bracket, jacket, packet, placket, racket, blanket, gasket, bandit, pandit, pamphlet, davit, mallet, palette, pallet, valet, tablet, applet, caplet, chaplet, lamplit, backlit, anklet, flatlet, hamlet, Hamlet, Hazlitt, Sanskrit, banquet, dammit, Hammett, gannet, granite, Janet, planet, Thanet, magnet, asset, basset, facet, tacit, transit, Cratchit, Datchet, hatchet, Pratchett, ratchet, gadget, Paget, \* inhabit, cohabit, Hugh Capet, in transit, \* pay packet, straitjacket, \* leatherjacket, lumberjacket, underblanket, Shepton Mallet, pomegranate, Narragansett, \* electromagnet, \* had it, catch it, etc.

**2.52** sabbath, Lambeth, Gareth, Brandreth, Dankworth, Tamworth, mammoth, Falmouth

**2.53** captive, active, massive, passive, \* adaptive, attractive, subtractive, reactive, refractive, inactive, proactive, substantive, impassive, \* maladaptive, interactive, hyperactive, overactive, underactive, unattractive, unreactive, \* radioactive

**2.54** abbeys, cabbies, nappies, lackeys, hankies, Yankees, baddies, caddies, Andes, candies, patties, panties, pasties, cafés, navvies, alleys, galleys, rallies, valleys, families, taxis, pansies, Ganges, \* Cervantes, \* vigilantes, Happy Families, \* Ecclesiastes, etc.

**2.55** clappers, sappers, champers, Pampers®, crackers, daggers, staggers, tatters, Danvers, rambler, stragglers, anglers, Stranglers, antlers, Hannah's,

manners, planners, lasses, masses, ashes, Ashes, flashes, sashes, patches, scratches, \* maracas, molasses, \* eyelashes, \* carpetbaggers, etc.

**Billy, in one of his nice new sashes,  
Fell in the fire and was burnt to ashes.**

HARRY GRAHAM

**2.56** Jacobi, Appleby, canopy, Malachy, anarchy, Saturday, malady, parody, rhapsody, maggoty, Rafferty, carrot, faculty, atrophy, anchovy, apathy, Chatterley, latterly, Natalie, thankfully, tactfully, bashfully, gravelly, mannerly, palpably, affably, damnably, panoply, dastardly, gallantly, valiantly, randomly, handsomely, callously, tactlessly, anxiously, Hattersley, blackberry, Bradbury, Cadbury, Banbury, cranberry, Lansbury, hackery, quackery, Thackeray, Zachary, Calgary, battery, cattery, flattery, Slattery, factory, Calvary, calorie, gallery, Malory, salary, Valerie, saddlery, mammary, cannery, granary, stannary, tannery, brasserie, lingerie, Canterbury, Glastonbury, mandatory, lavatory, amatory, Daventry, gallantry, pageantry, cavalry, cannonry, canonry, alchemy, blasphemy, Laramie, balcony, Gascony, agony, Anthony, Antony, barony, Chamonix, scammony, Tammany, Saxony, calumny, abbacy, Battersea, fallacy, fantasy, bankruptcy, galaxy, Anglesey, allergy, \* philanthropy, misanthropy, lycanthropy, O'Flaherty, catastrophe, philately, diastole, unmannerly, substantially, financially, infallibly, haphazardly, apparently, phylactery, refractory, olfactory, menagerie, preparatory, declaratory, retaliatory, defamatory, declamatory, exclamatory, inflammatory, explanatory, reactionary, academy, anatomy, transparency, analogy, metallurgy, tetralogy, \* unilaterally, understandably, satisfactory, intercalary, haberdashery, self-explanatory, genealogy, mineralogy, \* unsatisfactory, etc.

**Oh, dear, what can the matter be?  
Three old ladies locked in the lavatory,  
They were there from Monday to Saturday,  
Nobody knew they were there.**

CHILDREN'S RHYME

2.57 plastically, panicky, raggedly, Cassidy, tragedy, sanctity, chastity, cavity, gravity, suavely, charity, clarity, parity, amity, sanity, vanity, laxity, travesty, sacristy, amnesty, majesty, salsify, \* rheumatically, smart-alecky, Macavity, depravity, concavity, fatality, morality, banality, mentality, centrality, reality, legality, vitality, finality, formality, normality, mortality, causality, plurality, locality, modality, sodality, totality, tonality, duality, frugality, brutality, neutrality, vulgarity, polarity, barbarity, disparity, hilarity, alacrity, calamity, profanity, urbanity, inanity, insanity, humanity, capacity, rapacity, sagacity, voracity, pugnacity, mendacity, veracity, edacity, vivacity, tenacity, loquacity, audacity, opacity, fugacity, \* nationality, rationality, practicality, abnormality, actuality, partiality, temporality, generality, bestiality, speciality, technicality, sensuality, sexuality, personality, verticality, geniality, liberality, literality, immorality, triviality, principality, physicality, whimsicality, illegality, criminality, immortality, informality, topicality, logicality, hospitality, cordiality, joviality, functionality, punctuality, mutuality, capillarity, regularity, circularity, similarity, singularity, insularity, solidarity, Solidarity, popularity, jocularly, Christianity, inhumanity, perspicacity, pertinacity, incapacity, \* irrationality, impracticality, impartiality, conventionality, potentiality, eventuality, materiality, ethereality, congeniality, conviviality, municipality, originality, illogicality, irregularity, subsidiarity, familiarity, dissimilarity, particularity, unpopularity, peculiarity, overcapacity, undercapacity, \* sentimentality, instrumentality, universality, horizontality, spirituality, \* confidentiality, homosexuality, artificiality, superficiality, individuality, territoriality, unfamiliarity, perpendicularity, \* heterosexuality

**O wearisome condition of humanity!**  
**Born under one law, to another bound;**  
**Vainly begot, and yet forbidden vanity;**  
**Created sick, commanded to be sound.**  
FULKE GREVILLE

2.58 shabbily, happily, scrappily, handily, chattily, nattily, scantily, angrily, family, cannily, flashily, radically, practically, tactically, frantically, drastically, classically, magically, tragically, rapidly, candidly, avidly, languidly, placidly, fancifully, actively, massively, passively, dazzlingly,

lavishly, savagely, Valkyrie, category, allegory, banditry, planetary, sanitary, transitory, gadgetry, tapestry, baptistry, ancestry, sanguinary, savagery, sashimi, satiny, captaincy, chaplaincy, cabbage, strategy, \* unhappily, uncannily, sporadically, dramatically, grammatically, fanatically, pragmatically, ecstatically, emphatically, erratically, dogmatically, traumatically, romantically, fantastically, sarcastically, theatrically, nostalgically, attractively, substantively, impassively, outstandingly, subcategory, insanitary, imaginary, \* sal volatile, satisfactorily, mathematically, democratically, thermostatically, systematically, diplomatically, automatically, unromantically, geographically, biographically, photographically, telepathically, interplanetary, \* enthusiastically, \* melodramatically, idiomatically, etc.

**2.59** thankfully, tactfully, bashfully, annually, manually, casually, actually, factually, gradually, strangury, January, actuary, sanctuary, statutory, salutary, \* contractually, etc.

**2.60** galloper, massacre, Málaga, Canada, Agutter, amateur, shamateur, baluster, Pavlova, Agatha, Gallagher, mandala, traveller, caroller, Pamela, bachelor, Angela, Flamborough, Canberra, Ankara, agora, swaggerer, batterer, chatterer, flatterer, amphora, gatherer, camera, hammerer, stammerer, wagoner, flattener, Kavanagh, Tavener, Taverner, canvasser, balancer, Lancashire, Staffordshire, aperture, tablature, tanager, calibre, calliper, Attica, trafficker, Africa, Anrika, brassica, Candida, lavender, calendar, calender, Lampeter, traditor, taffeta, catheter, janitor, ammeter, character, Alistair, barrister, banister, Bannister, canister, ancestor, Manchester, aquifer, Tabitha, algebra, Fatima, Latimer, maxima, patina, mariner, lamina, stamina, practiser, ravisher, vanquisher, packager, salvager, manager, scavenger, challenger, Salinger, Massinger, passenger, Slazenger, Papua, vacua, jaguar, Mantua, Padua, valuer, tabular, scapula, Dracula, macula, vascular, angular, glandular, spatula, blastula, valvular, annular, granular, \* ambassador, parabola, enameller, Diaspora, mandragora, Niagara, philanderer, cataphora, anaphora, in camera, Te Kanawa, Northamptonshire, entablature, Excalibur, sciatica, cohabiter, per capita, parameter, pentameter, hexameter, diameter, voltameter, capacitor, submariner, examiner, Gargantua, coadjutor, oracular, vernacular,

spectacular, rectangular, triangular, tarantula, campanula, \* Addis Ababa, manufacturer, incunabula, unspectacular, \* *deus ex machina*, cardiovascular

**2.61** Gambia, Zambia, flabbier, shabbier, happier, scrappier, tackier, wackier, Saskia, baggier, shaggier, faddier, handier, randier, chattier, fattier, nattier, rattier, tattier, scantier, Mafia, raffia, clavier, Xavier, Latvia, salvia, Anthea, dallier, rallier, Anglia, ganglia, barrier, carrier, farrier, harrier, Harrier, tarrier, Cambria, angrier, sangria, Andrea, kalmia, cannier, pannier, daphnia, cassia, gassier, glacier, fancier, Lancia, brassiere, snazzier, catchier, \* unhappier, Slovakia, souvlakia, *Finlandia*, agraphia, dysgraphia, espalier, ophthalmia, Britannia, Hispania, eclampsia, ataxia, apraxia, dystaxia, dyspraxia, estancia, financier, \* chocolatier, Alitalia, Alexandria, pre-eclampsia, \* Czechoslovakia, etc.

**2.62** canopied, parodied, atrophied, galleried, salaried

**2.63** balloted, patented, talented, rabbited, jacketed, blanketed, faceted, \* untalented, inhabited, cohabited, \* uninhabited, multifaceted

**2.64** mappable, palpable, placable, sackable, stackable, bankable, tractable, affable, fallible, arable, parable, sparable, flammable, scannable, damnable, taxable, cashable, catchable, matchable, frangible, tangible, manacle, Arundel, palatal, mackerel, admiral, lateral, natural, caramel, bacchanal, national, rational, factional, fractional, prandial, axial, mandible, cannibal, Hannibal, maniple, manciple, radical, practical, tactical, canticle, graphical, clavicle, classical, fascicle, magical, tragical, madrigal, capital, Capitol, marital, sagittal, fanciful, lacrimal, animal, maximal, paginal, Samuel, annual, manual, casual, actual, factual, tactual, gradual, valuable, Hasdrubal, chasuble, \* unflappable, impalpable, implacable, compatible, get-at-able, adaptable, contactable, intractable, infallible, inflammable, nonflammable, programmable, irascible, impassible, collapsible, nontaxable, unmatchable, detachable, intangible, collateral, bilateral, trilateral, Canaveral, bicameral, unnatural, diaconal, decagonal, heptagonal, pentagonal, hexagonal, diagonal, octagonal, irrational, transactional, preprandial, postprandial, coaxial, sabbatical, grammatical, fanatical, piratical, unpractical, impractical, fantastical, theatrical, botanical,

mechanical, tyrannical, pyramidal, premarital, extramarital, Emmanuel, biannual, contractual, invaluable, \* understandable, incompatible, un-get-at-able, equilateral, quadrilateral, multilateral, unilateral, unicameral, preternatural, supernatural, international, multinational, mathematical, ungrammatical, geographical, biographical, typographical, puritanical, neoclassical, \* ecclesiastical, \* archidiaconal, lexicographical, \* autobiographical

## Rhyme

*The rhymes in this book are based on the standard pronunciation of British English, that is, the way words are spoken in southern England by people who do not have a regional accent. Different rhymes are possible in other parts of the English-speaking world. In northern Britain, for example, words such as class, glass and grass rhyme with gas and lass rather than farce. And in the USA, missile rhymes with whistle, and fertile with turtle, as in the following rhyme:*

**The turtle lives 'twixt plated decks**

**Which practically conceal its sex.**

**I think it clever of the turtle**

**In such a fix to be so fertile.**

OGDEN NASH

**2.65** Absalom, Dagenham, Faversham, Amersham, cambium, allium, gallium, thallium, Valium®, capsicum, maximum, platinum, Sandringham, alyssum, stratagem, pabulum, \* chrysanthemum, potassium, \* mesembryanthemum

**2.66** Aragon, paragon, tarragon, Flanagan, mastodon, Clarendon, Sarandon, Chatterton, Atherton, Allerton, Appleton, Shackleton, Athelstan, marathon, Marathon, Callaghan, Hanrahan, Cameron, Lateran, dragoman, abdomen, Andaman, Bannerman, cattleman, Algernon, Andersen, Anderson, Patterson, Saracen, Mackeson, Amundsen, Adamson, Amazon, habergeon,

pathogen, allergen, halogen, androgen, Albion, Gambian, Zambian, champion, Campion, champion, Grampian, rampion, tampion, Andean, Scandian, Dantean, Kantian, bastion, Latvian, Pantheon, galleon, scallion, stallion, Anglian, ganglion, carrion, clarion, Darien, Marian, Marion, Cambrian, Bactrian, amnion, halcyon, Vatican, Anglican, African, Rattigan, harridan, Macedon, Chalcedon, Abingdon, Farringdon, Hamilton, badminton, Badminton, Babington, Addington, Paddington, Allington, Barrington, Carrington, Harrington, Accrington, lamington, Galveston, sacristan, antiphon, tallyman, Harriman, talisman, Addison, Madison, Grandison, Salvesen, Mathieson, Alison, malison, garrison, Harrison, Acheson, Atkinson, antigen, Papuan, Paduan, albumen, acumen, \* *Decameron*, Sanatogen®, Slovakian, Atlantean, Sebastian, battalion, rapsallion, medallion, Italian, Heraklion, Calabrian, Cantabrian, Lancastrian, Parnassian, Circassian, South African, Penhaligon, Mohammedan, Samaritan, Saskatchewan, caparison, comparison, gargantuan, \* Tetragrammaton, Trinidadian, Alexandrian, Zoroastrian, \* Czechoslovakian

**2.67** battalions, Italians, shenanigans, Samaritans, comparisons, etc.

**2.68** arrogant, afferent, adamant, sacrament, battlement, bafflement, harassment, assonant, ambient, sapient, valiant, transient, applicant, accident, habitant, palpitant, aspirant, aliment, blandishment, ravishment, banishment, management, abstinent, adjutant, adjuvant, ambulant, flatulent, \* extravagant, entanglement, abandonment, embarrassment, inhabitant, cohabitant, recalcitrant, aggrandizement, enfranchisement, establishment, Establishment, disparagement, mismanagement, contaminant, intransigent, coadjutant, coagulant, \* self-aggrandizement, disenfranchisement, \* anticoagulant

**2.69** arrogance, transference, sacraments, battlements, assonance, ambience, sapience, dalliance, transience, applicants, accidents, appetite, blandishments, abstinence, affluence, ambulance, flatulence, \* extravagance, mésalliance, inhabitants, inappetence, capacitance, recalcitrance, intransigence, etc.

**2.70** galloping, à la king, barracking, scaffolding, travelling, atheling, jabbering, scampering, tampering, hankering, battering, flattering, nattering, scattering, shattering, smattering, gathering, clamouring, hammering, stammering, Angmering, happening, maddening, fattening, ravening, rationing, canvassing, balancing, Mafeking, trafficking, panicking, practising, brandishing, ravishing, packaging, savaging, managing, scavenging, challenging, \* enamelling, meandering, unflattering, embarrassing, etc.

**2.71** Antrobus, abacus, hazardous, scandalous, tantalus, Tantalus, talentless, fathomless, cankerous, rancorous, clangorous, languorous, valorous, amorous, clamorous, glamorous, cancerous, Lazarus, rapturous, blasphemous, thalamus, cavernous, ravenous, backwardness, bashfulness, barrenness, callousness, Thaddeus, Marius, pancreas, aqueous, Cassius, gaseous, platypus, varicose, Tacitus, acetous, Angelus, Stanislas, animus, flabbiness, shabbiness, happiness, cattiness, chattiness, tattiness, gangrenous, vacuous, fatuous, garrulous, fabulous, calculus, valueless, annulus, \* Caratacus, Galapagos, analogous, asparagus, cantankerous, Pythagoras, Protagoras, unglamorous, ambassadress, diaphanous, left-handedness, right-handedness, Germanicus, Britannicus, calamitous, magnanimous, unanimous, unhappiness, gelatinous, attractiveness, miraculous, \* hypothalamus, pusillanimous, Circus Maximus, cartilaginous, oleaginous, Anaxagoras, mucilaginous, ignis fatuus, \* Ecclesiasticus, etc.

**2.72** flabbiest, shabbiest, happiest, scrappiest, tackiest, wackiest, baggiest, shaggiest, faddiest, handiest, randiest, chattiest, fattiest, nattiest, rattiest, tattiest, scantiest, angriest, canniest, gassiest, fanciest, snazziest, catchiest, \* unhappiest, etc.

**2.73** anarchist, masochist, dramatist, pragmatist, catalyst, analyst, panellist, Accurist®, mannerist, alchemist, agonist, Jansenist, allergist, pantheist, pacifist, amethyst, activist, satirist, animist, Calvinist, classicist, strategist, altruist, \* philanthropist, philatelist, tobacconist, antagonist, protagonist, metallurgist, evangelist, romanticist, somnambulist, \* sadomasochist, psychoanalyst, televangelist, genealogist, mineralogist, neoclassicist

**2.74** parapet, advocate, accurate, baronet, passionate, chariot, Harriet, lariat, Marriott, Marryat, patriot, halibut, aggregate, candidate, aspirate, adequate, animate, cabinet, laminate, graduate, Capulet, amulet, \* elaborate, inaccurate, diaconate, permanganate, compassionate, dispassionate, Plantagenet, Iscariot, compatriot, expatriate, inadequate, inanimate, Palatinate, postgraduate, ejaculate, immaculate, \* undergraduate, \* overelaborate

**2.75** Nazareth, azimuth

**2.76** palaces, radishes, cabbages, packages, bandages, savages, carriages, Claridge's, garages, languages, challenges, etc.

**2.77** faculties, blackberries, cranberries, calories, Stannaries, lavatories, fantasies, allergies, cavities, charities, tapestries, \* profanities, \* similarities, \* peculiarities, etc.

**2.78** admiralty, casualty, naturally, nationally, rationally, gradually, actually, factually, annually, manually, casually, lamentably, fashionably, amicably, charitably, admirably, accurately, passionately, adequately, maddeningly, amorously, glamorously, ravenously, Canterbury, Glastonbury, adversary, farriery, January, statuary, actuary, sanctuary, cabinetry, casuistry, sanctimony, antimony, alimony, palimony, acrimony, matrimony, patrimony, advocacy, accuracy, magistracy, adequacy, baronetcy, \* unnaturally, diagonally, irrationally, spectacularly, uncharitably, inaccurately, compassionately, dispassionately, inadequately, contractually, immaculately, comparatively, embarrassingly, disparagingly, magnanimously, unanimously, miraculously, constabulary, vocabulary, inadequacy, inaccuracy, \* supernaturally, internationally, unimaginably

**2.79** palatable, lamentable, admirable, fathomable, fashionable, malleable, fanciable, practicable, amicable, navigable, habitable, charitable, salvageable, marriageable, damageable, manageable, valuable, calculable, \* unpalatable, unfathomable, companionable, unfashionable, eradicable, impracticable, uncharitable, imaginable, unsalvageable, unmanageable,

invaluable, incalculable, \* ineradicable, indefatigable, uninhabitable,  
unimaginable

## -ah-

*The rhymes in this section have the ‘ah’ sound of half and larder as their main or final vowel sound*

**3.1** ah, are, baa, bah, bar, Barr, *barre*, Blois, bra, car, Carr, char, fa, far, Fra, gar, ha, haar, jar, la, lar, Loire, ma, mar, moire, noir, pa, pah, par, parr, Parr, pas, qua, R, Ra, Saar, Sarre, scar, schwa, shah, ska, spa, Spa, spar, star, Starr, ta, tar, tsar, yah, \* Dunbar, papa, catarrh, afar, Navarre, galah, hurrah, Accra, mama, hussar, bazaar, ajar, Qatar, ta-ta, Stranraer, aha, ha-ha, tra-la, foie gras, sang-froid, François, Armagh, Lehár, *bête noire*, Del Mar, ER, PR, debar, disbar, cigar, guitar, sitar, film noir, bizarre, OR, faux pas, beaux-arts, \* kasbah, grandpa, Caspar, fracas, tramcar, ashlar, fatwa, patois, Valois, chamois, Magyar, grandma, gaga, Dada, ha-ha, La-La, rah-rah, wah-wah, Zsa Zsa, railcar, agar, Degas, radar, daystar, Braemar, Tamar, quasar, feldspar, Redcar, Elgar, Telstar, Kevlar®, memoir, Renoir, earthstar, heel bar, streetcar, dinar, kiblah, Ingmar, sidecar, Weimar, nightjar, crossbar, stock car, boxcar, sol-fa, Colmar, bourgeois, crowbar, towbar, rollbar, costar, lodestar, Omagh, Omar, sonar, pulsar, toolbar, oompah, nougat, doodah, Utah, Pooh-Bah, hoo-ha, hoopla, boudoir, Dumas, \* rum baba, \* Calabar, Malabar, handlebar, grandpapa, advocaat, avatar, baklava, samovar, Kandahar, Yamaha, baccarat, abattoir, jacamar, Palomar, grandmama, Panama, Balthazar, caviar, Zanzibar, Hamilcar, iechyd da, Shangri-la, Cantuar., armoured car, R&R, Amen-Ra, langue de chat, entrechat, cha-cha-cha, la-di-da, Mardi Gras, cable car, steak tartare, *aide-mémoire*, APR, megastar, Hezbollah, repertoire, reservoir, SLR, Peckinpah, registrar, petit pois, escritoire, seminar, deodar, Nicobar, cinnabar, millibar, minibar, isobar, Myanmar, Bogotá, waratah, *objet d’art*, Bolivar, Lochinvar, commissar, touring car, Eurostar, motor car, Omaha, *au revoir*, under par, um and ah, cultivar, Buddh Gaya, coolabah, superstar, brouhaha, coup

d'état, rouge et noir, Cooch Behar, \* conservatoire, \* Leamington Spa, kala-azar, *ménage à trois*, *je ne sais quoi*, budgerigar, avoirdupois

**Man's heart expands to tinker with his car  
For this is Sunday morning, Fate's great bazaar.**  
LOUIS MACNEICE

**3.2** barb, carb, garb, Saab, sahib, \* nawab, Punjab, memsahib, \* bicarb, rhubarb

**3.3** arc, ark, Bach, bark, Braque, Clark, Clarke, clerk, dark, hark, Jacques, lark, marc, Marc, mark, Mark, marque, narc, nark, park, Park, plaque, quark, Sark, shark, snark, spark, Spark, stark, Stark, \* macaque, Kazakh, Lamarck, black mark, debark, embark, Iraq, remark, Remarque, Hyde Park, \* bank clerk, landmark, car park, aardvark, waymark, trademark, Petrarch, tetrarch, Denmark, benchmark, birthmark, earmark, skid mark, Widmark, Bismarck, hierarch, tyre mark, skylark, tidemark, Reichsmark, pockmark, ballpark, hallmark, Deutschmark, postmark, loan shark, mudlark, brushmark, woodlark, bookmark, footmark, Plutarch, \* matriarch, patriarch, telemark, meadowlark, Regent's Park, re-embark, in the dark, fingermark, disembark, Offenbach, oligarch, watermark, Joan of Arc, double-park, Cutty Sark

**3.4** arcs, Bach's, Berks, clerks, larks, Marks, Mark's, Marx, parks, Parkes, sharks, sparks, \* landmarks, benchmarks, stretchmarks, pockmarks, brushmarks, footmarks, etc.

**3.5** barked, marked, parked, \* unmarked, embarked, infarct, remarked, \* waymarked, earmarked, pockmarked, hallmarked, postmarked, bookmarked, \* disembarked, unremarked, double-parked, etc.

**3.6** arch, larch, march, March, parch, starch, \* frogmarch, cornstarch, routemarch, \* overarch

**3.7** arched, marched, parched, starched, \* unstarched, \* frogmarched, routemarched, \* overarched

**3.8** baaed, bard, barred, card, chard, charred, Dard, guard, hard, jarred, lard, marred, pard, Sade, sard, shard, scarred, sparred, starred, tarred, yard, Yard, \* charade, façade, saccade, estrade, debarred, disbarred, discard, regard, petard, retard, ill-starred, jihad, glissade, bombard, *en garde*, rock-hard, pomade, roulade, \* Jacquard, placard, scratchcard, vanguard, Ballard, mallard, Garrard, back yard, canard, Hansard, mansard, smart card, farmyard, barnyard, railcard, racecard, safeguard, graveyard, kaleyard, Maynard, Gerard, churchyard, rearguard, steelyard, Rickard, Liskeard, Fishguard, shipyard, brickyard, vineyard, Izzard, wild card, lifeguard, diehard, spikenard, fireguard, Lombard, Stoppard, Goddard, bollard, Lollard, Pollard, dockyard, stockyard, scorecard, courtyard, postcard, phonecard, Bogarde, coastguard, boatyard, boneyard, mudguard, junkyard, Coulthard, foulard, schoolyard, Cunard, \* battle-scarred, Abelard, avant-garde, Savoyard, Everard, esplanade, credit card, self-regard, birthday card, Kierkegaard, greetings card, leotard, zindabad, Isambard, interlard, timberyard, Hilliard, milliard, disregard, Scotland Yard, promenade, bodyguard, Communard, boulevard, \* Islamabad, \* Allahabad, Faisalabad, Hyderabad, camelopard, fanfaronade, Marquis de Sade, rodomontade

**No memory of having starred**

**Atones for later disregard,**

**Or keeps the end from being hard.**

ROBERT FROST

**3.9** barf, calf, chaff, graph, half, laugh, quaff, scarf, Scarfe, staff, strafe, \* carafe, behalf, giraffe, Clontarf, \* flagstaff, Metcalfe, headscarf, distaff, tipstaff, pikestaff, digraph, Falstaff, mooncalf, \* tachograph, Van de Graaff, barograph, paragraph, shadowgraph, Cenotaph, stenograph, epitaph, epigraph, telegraph, Dictograph®, pictograph, lithograph, spirograph, micrograph, seismograph, Chinagraph®, logograph, holograph, homograph, chronograph, monograph, polygraph, quarterstaff, autograph, photograph, phonograph, \* cardiograph, radiograph, ideograph, Mimeograph®, choreograph, \* encephalograph

**3.10** aft, barfed, chaffed, craft, daft, draft, draught, graft, haft, Kraft, laughed, quaffed, raft, shaft, staffed, waft, \* abaft, unstaffed, redraft,

engraft, \* handcraft, crankshaft, camshaft, aircraft, statecraft, spacecraft, stagecraft, fieldcraft, priestcraft, lift shaft, kingcraft, witchcraft, drive shaft, mine shaft, swordcraft, draught, updraught, woodcraft, bushcraft, \* handicraft, needlecraft, hovercraft, watercraft, overstaffed, photographed, overdraft, understaffed, Wollstonecraft

**3.11** blague, Prague, \* Camargue, Den Haag, \* Reichstag, \* Bundestag

**3.12** barge, charge, hajj, large, marg, marge, raj, sarge, Taj, targe, \* the Raj, recharge, enlarge, in charge, discharge, \* surcharge, discharge, \* turbocharge, countercharge, overlarge, overcharge, undercharge, supercharge

**3.13** plage, raj, \* the Raj, ménage, sondage, frottage, potage, montage, collage, corsage, \* barrage, garage, massage, dressage, mirage, triage, \* badinage, cabotage, sabotage, camouflage, arbitrage, décolletage, decoupage, reportage, persiflage, bricolage, bon voyage, entourage, curettage, fuselage, \* espionnage, photomontage, \* counterespionage

**3.14** Arles, Baal, Basle, Carl, Dahl, dhal, gnarl, Karl, kraal, marl, snarl, toile, \* Natal, corral, morale, Jamal, Kemal, banal, unsnarl, timbale, halal, Chantal, Vidal, chorale, Bhopal, locale, \* Transvaal, Stendahl, mistral, \* *femme fatale*, pastorale, Albemarle, rationale, Parsifal, Taj Mahal, Heyerdahl, Emmenthal, Provençal, Provençale, \* Neanderthal, Massif Central, Escorial, \* Internationale, *succès de scandale*, entente cordiale

**3.15** Arles, Charles, Karl's, snarls, etc.

**3.16** arm, balm, barm, calm, charm, farm, Guam, harm, ma'am, palm, psalm, qualm, smarm, \* madame, alarm, salaam, unarm, rearm, embalm, becalm, imam, disarm, forearm, \* yardarm, gendarme, napalm, wind farm, Islam, firearm, forearm, schoolmarm, \* Notre Dame, overarm, underarm, \* Dar es Salaam, Omar Khayyám

**3.17** armed, calmed, charmed, farmed, harmed, \* unarmed, unharmed, alarmed, rearmed, embalmed, becalmed, disarmed, forearmed

**3.18** alms, arms, Brahms, farms, Glamis, palms, Psalms, qualms, \* alarms, salaams, rearms, embalms, becalms, \* gendarmes, wind farms, firearms, etc.

**Ben Battle was a soldier bold,  
And used to war's alarms:  
But a canon-ball took off his legs,  
So he laid down his arms!**

THOMAS HOOD

**3.19** Arne, barn, darn, Hahn, Juan, khan, Khan, Marne, naan, Sian, tarn, yarn, \* Pathan, pavane, Amman, McMahan, Hassan, Kazan, Aswan, Antoine, Tehran, élan, Vientiane, Tzigane, Iran, Gibran, Sichuan, Dayan, Taiwan, Koran, Don Juan, Osman, Oran, Oman, Qumran, Cwmbran, lucarne, Sudan, Bhutan, \* astrakhan, Astrakhan, Abadan, Ramadan, Karajan, Kazakhstan, Pakistan, Dagestan, macedoine, Abidjan, Bantustan, Aga Khan, Rajasthan, Shah Jahan, Genghis Khan, Turkestan, Kyrgyzstan, Kurdistan, Isfahan, Christiaan, Lindisfarne, Hindustan, t'ai chi ch'uan, Omdurman, autobahn, Yucatán, Suleiman, Kublai Khan, \* Afghanistan, Uzbekistan, Turkmenistan, Tajikistan, Azerbaijan, Baluchistan

**3.20** blanch, Blanche, branch, ranch, stanch, tranche, \* carte blanche, \* avalanche

**3.21** darned, \* command, demand, remand, \* reprimand, countermand

**3.22** chance, dance, France, glance, lance, prance, stance, trance, Vance, aunts, chants, grants, plants, \* askance, Provence, advance, perchance, enhance, entrance, mischance, faïence, \* seance, freelance, off-chance, mumchance, nuance, \* happenstance, ambiance, Afrikaans, renaissance, Renaissance, circumstance, contredanse, \* *par excellence*, \* *pièce de résistance*

**O body swayed to music, O brightening glance,  
How can we know the dancer from the dance?**

W. B. YEATS

**3.23** aren't, aunt, can't, chant, grant, Grant, Nantes, plant, shan't, slant, \* supplant, aslant, transplant, détente, replant, implant, enchant, \* transplant, ashplant, plainchant, eggplant, implant, house plant, \* debutante, disenchant, commandant, confidante

**3.24** Barnes, barns, darns, naans, Sian's, tarns, yarns, \* Afrikaans, Genghis Khan's, etc.

**3.25** Arp, carp, harp, scarp, sharp, Sharpe, tarp, \* cardsharp, \* razor-sharp, Polycarp

**3.26** arse, baas, brass, class, farce, glass, grass, Mass, pass, sparse, \* surpass, Madras, stained glass, third-class, first-class, volte-face, outclass, \* impasse, smartarse, bypass, eyeglass, spyglass, wineglass, Snodgrass, knotgrass, hourglass, subclass, bluegrass, goosegrass, \* gravitas, Stallybrass, galloglass, sparrowgrass, masterclass, second-class, Plexiglas®, working-class, middle-class, Khyber Pass, fibreglass, isinglass, overpass, underpass, upper-class, underclass, superclass, supergrass, *coup de grâce*, \* snake in the grass

**3.27** ask, bask, basque, Basque, cask, casque, flask, mask, masque, task, \* unmask, \* Monégasque, overtask, multitask

**The trivial round, the common task,  
Would furnish all we ought to ask.**

JOHN KEBLE

**3.28** asked, basked, masked, \* unmasked, unasked, etc.

**3.29** clasp, gasp, grasp, hasp, rasp, \* unclasp

**3.30** arsed, blast, cast, caste, classed, fast, grassed, karst, last, mast, passed, past, vast, \* surpassed, aghast, avast, contrast, half-mast, recast, repast, miscast, dismast, outclassed, outlast, \* rat-arsed, sandblast, mainmast, webcast, steadfast, Belfast, wormcast, precast, bypassed, flypast, typecast, contrast, topmast, forecast, broadcast, sportscast, foremast, outcast, downcast, stonecast, holdfast, roughcast, Buckfast, newscast, \* flabbergast,

narrowcast, hard and fast, Prendergast, telecast, simulcast, mizzenmast, Gormenghast, counterblast, overcast, opencast, unsurpassed, colourfast, \* Elastoplast®

**Love in a palace is perhaps at last  
More grievous torment than a hermit's fast.**  
JOHN KEATS

**3.31** harsh, marsh, \* moustache, panache, *démarche*, gouache, \* Titchmarsh

**3.32** art, Bart, Barthes, cart, chart, dart, fart, hart, Hart, Harte, heart, kart, mart, part, Scart, smart, start, tart, \* apart, spare part, Descartes, restart, depart, impart, stop-start, outsmart, \* rampart, handcart, Cathcart, Earhart, redstart, Bernhardt, teacart, restart, sweetheart, Britart, kick-start, Reinhardt, op art, dogcart, Lockhart, forepart, mouthpart, Hobart, go-kart, Bogart, Mozart, flow chart, dustcart, upstart, pushcart, Stuttgart, \* applecart, à la carte, heart-to-heart, counterpart, D'Oyly Carte, Bonaparte, underpart, Bundesrat, Gujarat, \* state-of-the-art

**Words may be false and full of art,  
Sighs are the natural language of the heart.**  
THOMAS SHADWELL

**3.33** arts, Bart's, carts, charts, clarts, darts, farts, hearts, Herts, karts, parts, smarts, starts, tarts, \* ramparts, handcarts, sweethearts, foreparts, mouthparts, Mozart's, \* underparts, etc.

**3.34** bath, Bath, Ba'th, garth, Garth, hearth, lath, path, \* birdbath, eyebath, warpath, towpath, Hogarth, bloodbath, mudbath, footpath, \* aftermath

**3.35** calve, carve, grave, Graves, halve, Slav, starve, suave, varve, \* Algarve, Gustave, Zouave, \* Yugoslav

**3.36** calves, halves, scarves, \* headscarves, mooncalves

**3.37** bars, cars, jars, Lars, Mars, parse, SARS, scars, stars, vase, \* hussars, bazaars, Shiraz, three Rs, cigars, guitars, \* memoirs, Renoir's, co-stars,

Gauloise, \* handlebars, grandpapa's, seminars, vichyssoise, \* salade niçoise, etc.

**Have you heard it's in the stars,  
Next July we collide with Mars?**  
COLE PORTER

**4.1** Barbie®, Darby, Derby, harpy, \* kohlrabi, Punjabi, Mugabe, okapi, \* Hammurabi, Abu Dhabi

**4.2** khaki, larky, narky, parky, sake, Saki, sarky, sparky, Starkey, \* malarkey, menarche, Iraqi, \* hierarchy, squirearchy, autarky, \* Nagasaki, Kawasaki, Yamasaki, teriyaki, matriarchy, patriarchy, oligarchy, sukiyaki

**4.3** cardie, hardy, Hardie, Hardy, lardy, Mahdi, mardy, tardy, Yardie, arty, clarty, hearty, party, Smartie, smarty, crafty, draughty, auntie, nasty, \* Bacardi®, Lombardi, Coolgardie, chapati, karate, Frascati, Astarte, coati, \* foolhardy, \* Maserati, charterparty, arty-farty, digerati, glitterati, literati, Moriarty, Gujarati, arty-crafty, \* Laurel and Hardy, illuminati

**And he chirped and sang, and skipped about, and laughed with  
laughter hearty –  
He was wonderfully active for so very stout a party.**

W. S. GILBERT

**4.4** ave, Garvey, Harvey, jarvey, larvae, Ravi, \* Gaddafi, agave, peccavi, Mojave, McCarthy, \* Rikki-Tikki-Tavi

**4.5** Ali, Bali, barley, Carly, charlie, Charlie, Dali, Farley, gnarly, Harley, Kali, Mali, Marley, parley, Raleigh, snarly, sharply, Barclay, Berkeley, clerkly, darkly, sparkly, starkly, hardly, Yardley, Hartley, partly, smartly, ghastly, lastly, vastly, suavely, calmly, Darnley, parsley, sparsely, Barnsley, harshly, archly, largely, Marie, sari, starry, tarry, raspberry, \* tamale, Svengali, Diwali, finale, bizarrely, Somali, safari, Polari, Ferrari, Harare, Vasari, Campari®, Qatari, Cagliari, curare, Scutari, Malawi, Mascagni, \* Muhammad Ali, Ras Tafari, Kalahari, calamari, Stradivari, Mata Hari, Carbonari, charivari, etc.

**4.6** army, balmy, barmy, palmy, smarmy, swami, Arnie, barney, Barney, blarney, Carney, rani, sarnie, Varney, \* salami, pastrami, gourami, tsunami, Afghani, Galvani, Armani, Killarney, Giovanni, Omani, McCartney, \* origami, Mantovani, maharani, Rafsanjani, frangipani, Pakistani, Mastroianni, biryani, Hindustani, Modigliani, \* Azerbaijani, chilli con carne, \* debar me, harm me, etc.

**4.7** brassy, classy, Darcy, Farsi, glassy, grassy, Nazi, chancy, khazi, quasi, Stasi, Swazi, malmsey, marshy, Archie, starchy, bhaji, \* Nastase, Benghazi, Givenchy, Karachi, hibachi, \* Ashkenazi, Ashkenazy, kamikaze, Esterházy, mariachi, Liberace, Fibonacci, argy-bargy

**4.8** arbour, barber, Barber, Barbour®, harbour, Saba, carper, Harper, scarper, sharper, gasper, grasper, \* macabre, Ann Arbor, Pearl Harbor, rum baba, \* Ali Baba, etc.

**4.9** Barker, darker, Farquhar, marker, markka, parka, Parker, starker, Tarka, asker, masker, Aga®, laager, lager, raga, saga, \* Osaka, moussaka, Lusaka, \* backmarker, waymarker, \* Titicaca, nosy parker, Aga saga, \* Hamilcar Barca, \* nark her, ask her, etc.

**It is no time for mirth and laughter,  
The cold, grey dawn of the morning after.**  
GEORGE ADE

**4.10** ardour, Bader, cadre, carder, Garda, harder, Lada®, larder, RADA, Pravda, slander, barter, charter, carter, Carter, darter, data, garter, Garter, martyr, sartor, smarter, Sparta, starter, strata, tartar, Tartar, after, dafter, grafter, laughter, rafter, chanter, Granta, grantor, planter, blaster, caster, castor, Castor, faster, master, pastor, plaster, \* Haggadah, Granada, lambada, armada, cicada, retarder, Nevada, commander, Jakarta, toccata, sonata, substrata, cassata, passata, cantata, self-starter, Inkatha, Siddhartha, frittata, errata, stigmata, Renata, nonstarter, pro rata, thereafter, whereafter, hereafter, Vedanta, headmaster, disaster, old master, \* sought-after, bandmaster, grandmaster, taskmaster, paymaster, webmaster, ringmaster, quizmaster, choirmaster, forecaster, broadcaster, scoutmaster, housemaster,

postmaster, toastmaster, newscaster, schoolmaster, \* enchilada, Eid-ul-Adha, *intifada*, promenader, Torquemada, Alexander, Magna Carta, alma mater, Stabat Mater, chipolata, protomartyr, thereafter, hereinafter, alabaster, harbour master, stationmaster, ghetto blaster, burgomaster, concertmaster, quartermaster, \* piña colada, inamorata, *La Traviata*, desiderata, *persona grata*, \* *persona non grata*, \* taramasalata, Río de la Plata, \* medulla oblongata, \* guard her, outsmart her, etc.

**See-saw, Margery Daw,**

**Jacky shall have a new master;**

**Jacky shall have but a penny a day,**

**Because he can't work any faster.**

NURSERY RHYME

**4.11** laugher, staffer, carver, Carver, fava, guava, Java, larva, lava, laver, Arthur, Martha, farther, father, lather, rather, \* Mustapha, cadaver, palaver, cassava, MacArthur, \* grandfather, stepfather, godfather, forefather, \* balaclava, Balaklava, Bratislava, Costa Brava, \* bath her, starve her, etc.

**4.12** Carla, gala, Mahler, parlour, snarler, sampler, sparkler, chandler, Chandler, Clara, Lara, Sara, Tara, Zara, Barbara, Sandra, Chartres, Sartre, genre, Farquhar, \* cabbala, masala, Kampala, La Scala, Marsala, impala, koala, Uppsala, Sahara, Carrara, Ferrara, Tamara, cascara, mascara, tiara, O'Hara, O'Mara, macabre, Cassandra, Sinatra, Montmartre, Sumatra, Le Havre, Chihuahua, Campagna, \* Guatemala, McNamara, capybara, carbonara, Che Guevara, Connemara, candelabra, Alexandra, Okinawa, Kurosawa, \* Guadalajara, double entendre, \* Emilia-Romagna, etc.

**4.13** amah, armour, Balmer, Brahma, calmer, charmer, dharma, drama, farmer, Kama, karma, lama, llama, Palmer, Parma, Rama, Schama, bwana, Dana, darner, garner, Garner, Ghana, Lana, Marner, nana, Wagner, gardener, Gardner, Lardner, pardner, partner, \* embalmer, Osama, cabana, sultana, banana, *mañana*, Svetlana, nirvana, Tijuana, Guiana, Guyana, liana, gymkhana, piranha, Tirana, iguana, Fontana, Montana, Botswana, \* snake charmer, \* Atacama, panorama, Dalai Lama, melodrama, Cinerama®, diorama, cyclorama, psychodrama, docudrama, Yokohama, Tatiana,

Mariana, Africana, Afrikaner, marijuana, Santayana, Pax Romana, Mahayana, ikebana, Indiana, Lipizzaner, Weimaraner, Silas Marner, Rosh Hashanah, vox humana, Gloriana, rusticana, Juliana, Ljubljana, \* Australiana, Americana, Shakespeareana, Louisiana, Victoriana, Edwardiana, \* Vasco da Gama, *Fata Morgana*, Bophuthatswana, \* Carmina Burana, \* ipecacuanha, \* harm her, disarm her, etc.

**There was a young lady of Parma,  
Whose conduct grew calmer and calmer.**

EDWARD LEAR

**4.14** Lhasa, passer, sparser, answer, chancer, dancer, lancer, prancer, Gaza, parser, plaza, harsher, Marsha, pasha, Berkshire, archer, Archer, marcher, starcher, rancher, pasture, charger, larger, rajah, slàinte, \* Kinshasa, advancer, enhancer, departure, recharger, enlarger, discharger, \* maharajah, turbocharger, supercharger, \* tabula rasa, \* entrance her, charge her, etc.

**4.15** charlock, Charnock, \* Kilmarnock

**4.16** Harpic®, bardic, artic, Partick, arctic, Arctic, yardstick, Narvik, Slavic, garlic, Harlech, Hardwick, karmic, arsenic, carsick, heartsick, Tajik, \* anarchic, hierarchic, monarchic, Sephardic, cathartic, subarctic, Antarctic, lethargic, \* subantarctic

**4.17** harboured, larboard, starboard, scarpered, guarded, charted, chartered, martyred, parted, started, drafted, shafted, granted, slanted, bastard, blasted, plastered, Dartford, Hartford, Hertford, Harvard, fathered, armoured, garnered, answered, \* unguarded, regarded, retarded, bombarded, uncharted, unchartered, hardhearted, half-hearted, faint-hearted, departed, imparted, big-hearted, kind-hearted, light-hearted, softhearted, warm-hearted, stouthearted, downhearted, wholehearted, enchanted, unanswered, \* unregarded, disregarded, tenderhearted, heavy-hearted, brokenhearted, disenchanting, flabbergasted, etc.

**4.18** garbage, yardage, vantage, Carthage, carnage, cartridge, partridge, Partridge, \* advantage, \* disadvantage

**4.19** barbel, garble, marble, Schnabel, carpal, carpel, Marple, sample, sparkle, rascal, gargle, startle, stratal, artful, harmful, carvel, larval, Havel, marvel, Marvell, Cherwell, narwhal, Carmel, carnal, charnel, darnel, Parnell, Hartnell, castle, parcel, tarsal, chancel, Basel, marshal, Marshall, martial, Martial, partial, \* ensemble, example, debacle, monarchical, catarrhal, impartial, court-martial, \* sandcastle, Hardcastle, Newcastle, Boscastle, Oldcastle, \* metacarpal, matriarchal, patriarchal, metatarsal

**I'm the king of the castle,  
Get down, you dirty rascal.**  
CHILDREN'S RHYME

**4.20** garbled, marbled, sampled, startled, Arnold, marshalled, \* court-martialled, \* unexampled, etc.

**4.21** marbles, Sharples, samples, castles, parcels, etc.

**4.22** Markham, stardom, datum, stratum, Harlem, slalom, Arnhem, Barnum, Farnham, \* substratum, erratum, postpartum, alarum, \* superstardom, superstratum, candelabrum, \* desideratum, \* park 'em, guard 'em, etc.

**4.23** Larkin, parkin, sharkskin, calfskin, bargain, marten, martin, Martin, Marvin, marlin, Stalin, Darwen, Darwin, Tarquin, Brahmin, margin, \* Gagarin, \* markin', starrin', etc.

**4.24** carbon, sharpen, Aachen, darken, hearken, kraken, argon, jargon, Arden, Baden, garden, harden, lardon, pardon, Marsden, Aten, Barton, carton, hearten, smarten, Spartan, tartan, Parton, Grafton, Carlton, Charlton, Marston, Charleston, carven, Javan, Marlon, Amen, barman, Brahman, Carmen, Jarman, Rahman, Scarman, marksman, craftsman, draughtsman, guardsman, arson, Carson, fasten, parson, sarsen, Clarkson, Tarzan, Martian, harshen, stanchion, Farjeon, \* Petrarchan, Dumbarton, dishearten, Caernarfon, Carmarthen, Macfarlane, Saharan, Sumatran, unfasten, infarction, \* Volkswagen, \* hydrocarbon, Interlaken, Copenhagen, Covent Garden, Coloradan, Akhenaten, kindergarden, Sydney Carton, Dolly Parton, Aldermaston, Wilhelmshaven, Guatemalan, Tutankhamen

**The kiss of the sun for pardon,  
The song of the birds for mirth,  
One is nearer God's heart in a garden  
Than anywhere else on earth.**

DOROTHY FRANCES GURNEY

**4.25** sharpened, darkened, hardened, pardoned, garland, Garland, parkland, Cartland, marshland, almond, fastened, \* disheartened, unfastened, etc.

**4.26** bargains, martins, Darwin's, margins, \* Doc Martens®, etc.

**4.27** ardent, guardant, garment, parchment, argent, sergeant, Sargent, \* retardant, disbarment, escarpment, bombardment, commandment, apartment, compartment, department, enchantment, advancement, enhancement, enlargement, \* disenchantment, overgarment, undergarment, self-advancement

**4.28** parlance, garments, sergeants, \* commandments, apartments, compartments, departments, \* overgarments, undergarments, etc.

**4.29** carping, harping, grasping, rasping, barking, Barking, larking, marking, parking, asking, basking, masking, guarding, Harding, darting, farting, karting, parting, smarting, starting, drafting, grafting, shafting, chanting, planting, blasting, casting, fasting, lasting, laughing, staffing, calving, carving, starving, farthing, Carling, darling, Darling, marling, snarling, starling, marbling, sampling, darkling, sparkling, starveling, barring, marring, scarring, sparring, starring, arming, calming, charming, farming, harming, darning, classing, passing, parsing, dancing, glancing, lancing, prancing, arching, marching, parching, starching, branching, ranching, barging, charging, \* embarking, unmasking, discarding, regarding, bombarding, commanding, demanding, departing, transplanting, enchanting, contrasting, alarming, embalming, disarming, surpassing, advancing, entrancing, recharging, enlarging, discharging, \* skylarking, safeguarding, broadcasting, woodcarving, co-starring, bypassing, \* multitasking, undemanding, everlasting, photographing, penny-farthing, overarching, overcharging, etc.

**4.30** markings, castings, carvings, farthings, starlings, heartstrings, etc.

**4.31** Sardis, Tardis, Jarvis, parvis, marquess, marquis, Frances, Francis, \* quo vadis, Polaris, catharsis, \* aurora borealis

**4.32** carpus, carcass, Marcus, Argus, Cardus, stratus, braless, Carlos, parlous, starless, artless, chartless, heartless, charmless, harmless, classless, grassless, slanderous, harness, sharpness, darkness, Harkness, starkness, hardness, smartness, tartness, fastness, vastness, calmness, harshness, tarsus, Tarsus, \* Hipparchus, regardless, enchantress, disastrous, \* steadfastness, \* metacarpus, streptocarpus, Aristarchus, apparatus, altostratus, nimbostratus, cirrostratus, Nostradamus, *gaudeamus*, metatarsus, \* posse comitatus, \* coitus reservatus, \* mark us, harm us, etc.

**4.33** harpist, artist, Chartist, harvest, tsarist, palmist, psalmist, classist, Marxist, \* guitarist, alarmist

**4.34** sharpest, darkest, starkest, hardest, darnedest, smartest, daftest, fastest, farthest, calmest, harnessed, sparsest, harshest, etc.

**4.35** sharpish, smartish, garfish, starfish, garnish, tarnish, varnish, \* schoolmarmish

**4.36** garnished, tarnished, varnished, \* untarnished, unvarnished

**4.37** Tarbert, Charlotte, harlot, Margaret, marmot, \* incarnate, \* reincarnate

**4.38** carpet, armpit, market, basket, casket, target, Parfitt, scarlet, starlet, starlit, varlet, Bartlett, martlet, tartlet, halfwit, Barnet, garnet, Garnett, lancet, *Lancet*, \* upmarket, Alf Garnett, downmarket, \* Haymarket, Newmarket, breadbasket, \* hypermarket, Common Market, supermarket, \* park it, start it, etc.

**An ape's an ape, a varlet's a varlet,  
Though they be clad in silk or scarlet.**

SAYING

**4.39** Yarmouth, Dartmouth, \* Great Yarmouth

**4.40** darbies, harpies, parties, Smarties®, Barclays, armies, Nazis, \* Pilates, Benares, \* *primus inter pares*, etc.

**4.41** barbers, Flanders, garters, rafters, casters, masters, Masters, Mahler's, Chalmers, farmers, classes, glasses, passes, answers, chances, glances, marshes, arches, archers, Archers, marches, Marches, branches, \* Bahamas, pyjamas, sultanas, \* forefathers, eyeglasses, sunglasses, \* Alexander's, etc.

**Men seldom make passes**

**At girls who wear glasses.**

DOROTHY PARKER

**4.42** Barnaby, Carnaby, Carnegie, Arcady, bastardy, Flaherty, Tarporley, rascally, masterly, artfully, fatherly, partially, laughably, ardently, guardedly, artlessly, heartlessly, Barbary, raspberry, Shaftesbury, artery, Tartary, mastery, carvery, chandlery, armoury, chancery, archery, Marjorie, harmony, argosy, pharmacy, garlicky, suavity, sparsity, varsity, heartily, craftily, nastily, farcically, markedly, startlingly, charmingly, marquetry, parquetry, basketry, carpentry, artistry, palmistry, larceny, \* grandfatherly, impartially, remarkably, half-heartedly, light-heartedly, wholeheartedly, disastrously, self-mastery, gendarmerie, chinoiserie, disharmony, foolhardily, lethargically, alarmingly, disarmingly, \* camaraderie, Devanagari, intervarsity, etc.

**4.43** Hanukkah, yarmulke, chancellor, Barbara, Scarborough, yarborough, Marlborough, Farnborough, slanderer, barterer, charterer, plasterer, armourer, Marmara, sharpener, bargainer, gardener, Gardiner, hardener, pardoner, almoner, fastener, Hertfordshire, armature, arbiter, Pargiter, carpenter, harvester, harnesser, Derbyshire, varnisher, harbinger, arguer, \* Antarctica

**4.44** clarkia, hardier, Nadia, heartier, craftier, draughtier, nastier, Parthia, aria, maria, barmier, Chania, Narnia, classier, Marcia, tarsier, chancier, starchier, \* La Guardia, gaillardia, Somalia, Titania, intarsia, bilharzia,

Abkhazia, \* tachycardia, pericardia, Yugoslavia, passacaglia, Christiania, Kristiania, Oceania, Anastasia, etc.

**4.45** Castleford, afterward, carpeted, marketed, targeted, harvested, \* uncarpeted

**4.46** Castleford's, afterwards

**4.47** laughable, farmable, passable, chargeable, Barnstaple, barnacle, masterful, pastoral, arsenal, Arsenal, article, particle, farcical, Parsifal, carnival, cardinal, marginal, \* remarkable, impassable, rechargeable, anarchical, hierarchical, \* unremarkable, unsurpassable, pericardial, myocardial

**4.48** barnacled, Archibald, articulated

**4.49** martyrdom, marjoram, cardamom, \* pericardium, myocardium, \* started 'em, answer 'em, etc.

**4.50** Harpenden, charlatan, Palmerston, Parthenon, Farquharson, Sanderson, guardian, Graafian, Barthian, Parthian, Charmian, Marmion, Marylebone, barbican, Barbican, cardigan, Cardigan, ptarmigan, Arlington, Darlington, harvestman, partisan, Parkinson, \* Mozartian, Falstaffian, Hogarthian, Somalian, Zimbabwean

**4.51** parliament, armament, argument, rearmament, disarmament

**4.52** harbouring, scarpering, bartering, answering, sharpening, darkening, gardening, hardening, heartening, fastening, carpeting, marketing, garnishing, varnishing, \* telemarketing, etc.

**4.53** Barnabas, Spartacus, marvellous, fatherless, partnerless, barbarous, slanderous, Tartarus, artfulness, artlessness, heartlessness, arquebus, Artemas, hardiness, tardiness, heartiness, craftiness, nastiness, arduous, \* kind-heartedness, light-heartedness, foolhardiness, etc.

**4.54** arsonist, pharmacist, Dadaist, Stalinist, Darwinist, narcissist, \* Neo-Darwinist

**4.55** hardest, heartiest, craftiest, draughtiest, nastiest, barmiest, classiest, chanciest, starchiest, etc.

**4.56** marginally, arguably, chancellery, arbitrary, parsimony

**4.57** answerable, pardonable, marketable, arguable, \* unanswerable, unpardonable, unmarketable, unarguable

## -air-

*The rhymes in this section have the ‘air’ sound of hair and barely as their main or final vowel sound.*

5.1 air, Ayr, bare, bear, Blair, blare, br’er, care, chair, Cher, Claire, Clare, dare, e’er, ere, Eyre, fair, fare, fayre, flair, flare, glair, glare, hair, hare, heir, Herr, Khmer, lair, mare, mayor, ne’er, pair, pare, pear, *père*, prayer, quare, rare, scare, share, snare, spare, square, stair, stare, swear, tare, tear, their, there, they’re, ware, wear, where, yeah, \* compare, Astaire, affair, unfair, aware, unswear, meunière, Daguerre, Basse-Terre, Sancerre, parterre, éclair, Jane Eyre, elsewhere, whene’er, where’er, Pierre, prepare, repair, impair, despair, midair, Kildare, Hilaire, declare, Sinclair, beware, ensnare, misère, Niger, Voltaire, forbear, forswear, howe’er, coheir, au pair, go spare, O’Hare, Lothair, \* ampere, fanfare, flatware, Rambert, hardware, glassware, armchair, haircare, air fare, shareware, daycare, Mayfair, threadbare, hectare, welfare, neckwear, headsquare, set square, menswear, deckchair, Edgware, workfare, workwear, fieldfare, freeware, wheelchair, skincare, slipware, knitwear, swimwear, tinware, childcare, nightwear, nightmare, timeshare, highchair, compère, confrère, software, forebear, warfare, horsehair, foursquare, sportswear, corsair, ploughshare, Flaubert, mohair, nowhere, stoneware, Robespierre, bugbear, funfair, somewhere, footwear, pushchair, groupware, Gruyère, \* Camembert, Aberdare, camel hair, cafetiere, savoir-faire, aftercare, jardinière, wear and tear, fair and square, maidenhair, tableware, pied-à-terre, Fred Astaire, Delaware, de la Mare, debonair, questionnaire, laissez faire, derrière, premiere, teddy bear, Medicare, secretaire, everywhere, anywhere, Burke and Hare, earthenware, legionnaire, silverware, kitchenware, billionaire, millionaire, trillionaire, rivière, disrepair, Finisterre, chinaware, ironware, nom de guerre, Molière, solitaire, doctrinaire, commissaire, rocking chair, hollowware, corsetière,

overbear, polar bear, Baudelaire, open-air, *au contraire*, thoroughfare, Tupperware®, underwear, unaware, ovenware, \* chemin de fer, concessionaire, the worse for wear, commissionaire, Apollinaire, couturière, \* chargé d'affaires, devil-may-care, Folies-Bergère, Vanity Fair, surface-to-air, ready-to-wear, \* multimillionaire, Weston-super-Mare, son et lumière

**What is this life if, full of care,  
We have no time to stand and stare.**

W. H. DAVIES

5.2 aired, Baird, bared, cared, dared, fared, flared, glared, laird, paired, pared, scared, shared, snared, squared, stared, \* compared, prepared, repaired, impaired, despaired, declared, ensnared, \* dark-haired, fair-haired, grey-haired, red-haired, long-haired, short-haired, \* unprepared, unrepaired, unimpaired, undeclared

5.3 auberge, \* concierge

5.4 bairn, cairn, Nairn, \* Auvergne, \* Fairbairn, Pitcairn

5.5 airs, Ayers, bears, cares, chairs, Claire's, dares, flares, hairs, pairs, pears, prayers, spares, stairs, theirs, wares, \* compares, upstairs, affairs, backstairs, repairs, downstairs, \* Carstairs, hectares, deckchairs, nightmares, \* legionnaire's, unawares, etc.

**Hush! Hush! Whisper who dares!  
Christopher Robin is saying his prayers.**

A. A. MILNE

6.1 Verdi, barely, Fairlie, fairly, rarely, sparely, squarely, scarcely, airy, Carey, chary, Clary, dairy, fairy, hairy, lairy, Mary, nary, prairie, scary, vary, wary, Airdrie, carefree, \* unfairly, contrary, unwary, canary, \* Monteverdi, cassowary, Salieri, Alighieri, airy-fairy, Tipperary, Inveraray, Miserere, Nyerere, *condottiere*, \* *carabiniere*, *arrivederci*, \* Dante Alighieri, etc.

6.2 airer, bearer, carer, Clara, Eire, fairer, parer, rarer, Sarah, scarer, sharer, starer, swearer, tearer, wearer, Ayrshire, \* caldera, Sierra, preparer, repairer,

declarer, \* macebearer, talebearer, wayfarer, seafarer, swordbearer, pallbearer, torchbearer, cupbearer, \* de Valera, demerara, Riviera, cordillera, \* dare her, scare her, etc.

**6.3** varied, \* unvaried

**6.4** careful, prayerful, mayoral

**6.5** arum, Fareham, harem, Sarum, Wareham, heirdom, \* harum-scarum, \* wear 'em, shared 'em, etc.

**6.6** hairpin, bearskin, Erin, \* carin', wearin', etc.

**6.7** Ayrton, Aaron, Charon, airman, chairman

**6.8** parent, \* transparent, impairment, ensnarement, \* grandparent, step-parent, godparent

**6.9** parents, \* transparence, impairments, forbearance, \* grandparents, step-parents, godparents

**6.10** airing, baring, bearing, blaring, caring, daring, fairing, glaring, pairing, paring, raring, sharing, sparing, staring, swearing, tearing, Waring, wearing, \* comparing, unsparing, hard-wearing, preparing, repairing, despairing, forbearing, ball bearing, \* cheeseparings, seafaring, childbearing, time-sharing, \* overbearing, etc.

**Like whatever they say has no bearing,  
It's so scary in a house that allows no swearing  
To see him walking around with his headphones blaring.**

EMINEM

**6.11** airless, careless, hairless, bareness, fairness, \* Carreras, unfairness, awareness, \* self-awareness, \* scare us, prepare us, etc.

**6.12** bearish, fairish, garish, squarish, \* nightmarish

**6.13** rarebit, bear pit, \* swear it, tear it, etc.

**6.14** Aries, dairies, fairies, prairies, varies, \* Canaries, etc.

**6.15** carefully, carelessly, rarity, scarcity, airily, warily, daringly, glaringly, sparingly, garishly, \* unbearably, transparency, overbearingly, etc.

**6.16** airier, area, hairier, scarier, warier, \* Bulgaria, Bavaria, malaria, aquaria, Samaria, herbaria, filaria, solaria, \* Carpentaria, Berengaria, cineraria, Gran Canaria, oceanaria, urticaria, planetaria, araucaria, \* calceolaria, etc.

**6.17** bearable, tearable, wearable, aerial, Ariel, \* unbearable, unwearable, repairable, malarial, bursarial, filarial, \* unrepairable, adversarial, secretarial, actuarial, estuarial, \* antimalarial

**6.18** barium, \* aquarium, samarium, herbarium, vivarium, solarium, rosarium, sudarium, \* honorarium, oceanarium, planetarium, sanitarium, dolphinarium

**6.19** Arian, Arien, Aryan, Darien, dairyman, \* Bulgarian, vulgarian, Hungarian, Bavarian, valerian, Valerian, agrarian, Aquarian, grammarian, barbarian, sectarian, Caesarean, Nigerien, riparian, librarian, Voltairean, Ontarian, Rotarian, ovarian, fruitarian, Sumerian, \* Sabbatarian, libertarian, Rastafarian, prelapsarian, nonsectarian, Sagittarian, vegetarian, Trinitarian, proletarian, Unitarian, antiquarian, centenarian, seminarian, millenarian, Gibraltarian, \* infralapsarian, supralapsarian, parliamentarian, abecedarian, egalitarian, totalitarian, humanitarian, utilitarian, authoritarian, veterinarian, sexagenarian, octogenarian, nonagenarian, premillenarian, disciplinarian, \* establishmentarian, \* latitudinarian, valetudinarian, septuagenarian

**6.20** variant, \* invariant

**6.21** parenting, dairying, varying, \* unvarying, etc.

**6.22** parentless, carefulness, carelessness, Arius, carious, Darius, Marius, various, airiness, chariness, wariness, \* Aquarius, calcareous, burglarious, precarious, vicarious, gregarious, nefarious, hilarious, denarius, \* Sagittarius, multifarious, Stradivarius, etc.

**6.23** secretariat, proletariat, commissariat

**6.24** variable, \* invariable

## -ay-

*The rhymes in this section have the 'ay' sound of same and waiting as their main or final vowel sound.*

7.1 a, A, ay, bay, brae, bray, cay, Chay, Che, clay, day, dray, eh, fay, Fay, fey, flay, fray, gay, Gay, Gray, grey, hay, hey, J, jay, Jay, K, Kay, Kray, lay, lei, ley, may, May, nay, née, neigh, pay, play, pray, prey, ray, Ray, re, Re, say, slay, sleigh, spay, Spey, splay, spray, stay, stray, sway, Tay, they, trait, tray, trey, vlei, way, weigh, whey, yea

### **Beautiful Railway Bridge of the Silv'ry Tay!**

**Alas, I am very sorry to say**

**That ninety lives have been taken away**

**On the last Sabbath day of 1879.**

WILLIAM MCGONAGALL

7.2 today, jeté, convey, allay, Malay, aley, unlay, array, astray, affray, away, aweigh, René, assay, unsay, strathspey, Cathay, pince-nez, dragée, Shar Pei, parfait, halfway, Niamey, Marseilles, daresay, AA, waylay, gainsay, FA, LA, MA, purvey, survey, Earl Grey, per se, BA, PA, prepay, repay, replay, decay, piquet, midday, inveigh, belay, delay, relay, display, misplay, inlay, mislay, betray, distraight, defray, midway, dismay, Taipei, Bombay, Torbay, Corday, portray, outstay, outplay, foul play, downplay, outweigh, obey, okay, Tokay, *au fait, au lait*, olé, noway, oyez, O'Shea, José, feng shui, hooray, bouquet, UK, du Pré, Dounreay, touché, \* auto-da-fé, Morgan le Fay, cabriolet, Dorian Gray, out-of-the-way, Appian Way, bioassay, YMCA, Botany Bay, Fotheringay, *café au lait*, ukiyo-e

7.3 frappé, latte, maté, pâté, satay, Dante, backstay, jackstay, café, Pathé, ballet, Calais, chalet, Hallé, palais, valet, barré, laptray, ashtray, tramway, gangway, hatchway, Manet, assay, chassé, glacé, passé, cachet, sachet, sashay, flambé, parquet, *manqué*, margay, ave, Soave, vale, Arblay, Franglais, mare, moiré, soiree, chambré, André, entrée, Yahweh, parkway, partway, pathway, archway, lamé, carnet, blasé, airplay, hairspray, airway, fairway, stairway, heyday, mayday, May Day, payday, mainstay, gameplay, Maigret, gateway, Safeway, railway, épée, reggae, levee, Pelé, melee, endplay, Nestlé, beret, X-ray, segue, headway, Medway, essay, workday, birthday, Thursday, survey, wordplay, ciré, clearway, hearsay, plié, piqué, bidet, vide, weekday, relay, replay, screenplay, respray, Tigré, freeway, leeway, seaway, speedway, lycée, plissé, Bizet, frisé, cliché, guichet, DJ, sickbay, Biscay, risqué, filet, gilet, Millais, Millet, inlay, stingray, in-tray, slipway, ridgeway, Friday, child's play, pipeclay, byway, highway, tideway, driveway, Steinway®, washday, bobsleigh, foray, moray, Conway, Monet, Roget, sorbet, forte, forestay, foreplay, swordplay, horseplay, Fauré, doorway, Norway, walkway, Broadway, Galway, hallway, causeway, gourmet, bourrée, curé, purée, outlay, out-tray, croquet, nosegay, sauté, roadway, rosé, crochet, Loveday, someday, Monday, sundae, Sunday, gunplay, subway, runway, buffet, footway, Douai, roué, coupé, toupee, noontday, Tuesday, doomsday, cuvée, duvet, bouclé, soufflé, outré, soothsay, Suchet, \* andante, Le Carré, attaché, écarté, Pasquale, cor anglais, Zimbabwe, Mallarmé, macramé, fiancé, fiancée, vivace, recherché, awayday, *al dente*, expressway, Desirée, appliqué, Enrique, Kol Nidrei, décolleté, consommé, Dubonnet®, cloisonné, de jure, cum laude, *démodé*, Obote, exposé, Le Touquet, *il Duce*, retroussé, \* cybercafé, *marron glacé*, papier-mâché, Alicante, diamanté, Tio Pepe®, *nota bene*, action replay, Champs Elysées, bichon frise, superhighway, Don Quixote, paso doble

**I've lived a life that's full, I've travelled each and ev'ry highway**

**And more, much more than this. I did it my way.**

PAUL ANKA

7.4 St Tropez, canapé, latter-day, Saturday, Faraday, Santa Fe, Rabelais, Mandalay, Charolais, cabaret, Thackeray, Ballantrae, Hathaway, Galloway, caraway, Massenet, Fabergé, Chabrier, alleyway, Haringey, carriageway,

passageway, Poitiers, matinée, San Jose, cassoulet, Castlereagh, faraway, Chardonnay, castaway, Cartier, tearaway, day-to-day, breakaway, takeaway, straightaway, take-home pay, yesterday, present-day, Wednesday, Chevrolet, getaway, well away, Nescafé®, métier, Perrier®, denier, vérité, Eriskay, everyday, émigré, anyway, Hemingway, negligee, *crème brûlée*, résumé, workaday, steerageway, seize the day, Greenaway, Pinochet, DNA, ETA, PTA, CIA, disobey, interlay, interplay, disarray, giveaway, fricassee, *inter se*, ricochet, virelay, Milky Way, light of day, flyaway, hideaway, bridleway, IRA, Monterey, Holloway, Hogmanay, fromage frais, dossier, holiday, Doris Day, protégé, protégée, popinjay, Stornoway, waterway, Fourier, tourniquet, roundelay, overpay, overstay, overlay, overplay, go away, stowaway, throwaway, soakaway, foldaway, motorway, Beaujolais, Beaumarchais, sobriquet, Hudson Bay, underpay, Muscadet, underlay, underclay, underplay, cutaway, colourway, runaway, sommelier, USA, crudités, \* alackaday, companionway, Sabatier, espalier, Chevalier, Lavoisier, Courvoisier®, boulevardier, Grand Marnier®, Prince Rainier, red-letter day, atelier, Montpellier, Tortelier, hotelier, Olivier, habitué, Escoffier, Montgolfier, Du Maurier, couturier, communiqué, \* Le Corbusier

7.5 Abe, babe, \* McCabe, \* astrolabe

**'Twas brillig, and the slithy toves  
Did gyre and gimble in the wabe;  
All mimsy were the borogoves  
And the mome raths outgrabe.**  
LEWIS CARROLL

7.6 ache, bake, Blake, brake, break, cake, crake, drake, Drake, fake, flake, hake, Jake, lake, make, quake, rake, sake, shake, sheikh, slake, snake, spake, stake, steak, strake, take, wake, \* opaque, awake, unmake, forsake, partake, retake, remake, betake, mistake, \* clambake, backache, pancake, handbrake, mandrake, handshake, heartache, heartbreak, daybreak, jailbreak, namesake, headache, sheldrake, wordbreak, earthquake, earache, teacake, seedcake, beefcake, cream cake, cheesecake, beefsteak, sweepstake, remake, keepsake, fish cake, intake, windbreak, firebreak, rock cake, hot cake, stocktake, shortcake, cornflake, corncrake, outtake,

outbreak, Hoylake, oatcake, snowflake, sunbake, cupcake, uptake, grubstake, muckrake, fruitcake, toothache, moonquake, \* rattlesnake, bellyache, griddlecake, give-and-take, kittiwake, wide awake, overtake, stomachache, undertake

7.7 baked, braked, caked, faked, flaked, quaked, raked, slaked, staked, \* unbaked, unslaked, half-baked, \* sunbaked

7.8 aid, aide, bade, bayed, blade, braid, brayed, clade, fade, flayed, frayed, glade, grade, jade, Jade, lade, laid, made, maid, neighed, paid, played, prayed, preyed, raid, shade, Slade, spade, spayed, splayed, staid, stayed, strayed, suede, swayed, they'd, trade, wade, Wade, weighed, \* forbade, unpaid, brocade, pervade, surveyed, conveyed, arrayed, parade, abrade, upbraid, upgrade, afraid, unweighed, persuade, pomade, unmade, cascade, handmade, man-made, arcade, waylaid, well-paid, Belgrade, self-made, well-made, first aid, prepaid, repaid, relaid, replayed, remade, decayed, brigade, evade, invade, delayed, displayed, inlaid, mislaid, degrade, betrayed, dismayed, grenade, Sinead, dissuade, tirade, blockade, cockade, stockade, portrayed, downgrade, obeyed, home-made, new-laid, crusade, \* Band Aid, ram raid, lampshade, barmaid, decade, mermaid, nursemaid, Teasmade®, switchblade, milkmaid, Whipsnade, Live Aid, limeade, bridesmaid, eyeshade, nightshade, comrade, Noraid, housemaid, sunshade, \* cavalcade, accolade, Adelaide, masquerade, balustrade, cannonade, barricade, marinade, palisade, marmalade, parlourmaid, carbonade, dairymaid, razor blade, make the grade, chambermaid, tailor-made, escapade, escalade, esplanade, serenade, lemonade, Medicaid, renegade, centigrade, ready-made, retrograde, Biggleswade, colonnade, stock-in-trade, orangeade, overpaid, motorcade, overlaid, Rollerblade®, overplayed, underpaid, underlaid, underplayed, unafraid, custom-made, undismayed, Lucozade®, fusillade, \* nurserymaid, harlequinade, etc.

**A man must serve his time to every trade**

**Save censure – critics all are ready made.**

LORD BYRON

**7.9** aids, AIDS, blades, grades, maids, raids, shades, spades, trades, \* mermaids, nursemaids, bridesmaids, comrades, \* accolades, barricades, palisades, escapades, Everglades, etc.

**7.10** chafe, safe, strafe, waif, \* unsafe, vouchsafe

**7.11** Craig, Hague, Haig, plague, vague, \* The Hague, Mallaig, renege

**Don't be vague, ask for Haig.**

ADVERTISING SLOGAN

**7.12** age, cage, gage, gauge, mage, page, Paige, phage, rage, sage, stage, swage, wage, \* front page, upstage, assuage, rampage, backstage, restage, encage, engage, enrage, presage, offstage, downstage, Osage, \* rampage, rain gauge, space age, birdcage, greengage, teenage, ribcage, tyre gauge, Bronze Age, outrage, road rage, Stone Age, school-age, \* macrophage, saxifrage, disengage, Iron Age, overage, underage, multistage

**7.13** aged, caged, gauged, paged, raged, staged, \* uncaged, unwaged, assuaged, engaged, enraged, \* teenaged, school-aged, etc.

**7.14** beige, greige, \* manège, Liège, cortege

**7.15** ail, ale, bail, bale, Braille, dale, Dale, fail, flail, frail, Gael, Gail, gale, Grail, hail, hale, Hale, jail, kale, mail, male, nail, pail, pale, quail, Quayle, rail, sail, sale, Sale, scale, shale, snail, stale, Swale, tail, tale, they'll, Thrale, trail, vale, veil, wail, wale, whale, Yale, \* percale, McPhail, avail, unveil, assail, exhale, curtail, descale, regale, impale, entail, prevail, inhale, derail, bewail, full-scale, \* wagtail, travail, fantail, rat's-tail, handrail, taffrail, blackmail, hangnail, abseil, gaffsail, Arndale, guardrail, Airedale, airmail, Swaledale, snail mail, facemail, staysail, mainsail, telltale, checkrail, bedrail, headrail, headsail, shirt-tail, sperm whale, seakale, Bleasdale, Ruisdael, detail, e-tail, retail, e-mail, female, treenail, greenmail, resale, Windscale, pigtail, ringtail, fishtail, spritsail, timescale, Drysdale, Clydesdale, hightail, Mondale, Rochdale, Lonsdale, bobtail, cocktail, foxtail, oxtail, hobnail, topsail, horsetail, doornail, foresail, mousetail, toenail, wholesale, dovetail, junk mail, thumbnail, \* tattletale,

Passchendaele, Abigail, galingale, martingale, farthingale, Armidale, fairy tale, Maida Vale, Skelmersdale, Wensleydale, Ebbw Vale, Richter scale, Chippendale, ginger ale, fingernail, bristletail, disentail, nightingale, Nightingale, cottontail, nonpareil, monorail, swallowtail, Calderdale, countervail, ponytail, Holy Grail, tooth and nail, \* Fort Lauderdale

**7.16** ailed, bailed, failed, flailed, hailed, jailed, mailed, nailed, quailed, railed, sailed, scaled, tailed, veiled, wailed, \* unveiled, assailed, curtailed, entailed, prevailed, derailed, bewailed, \* draggletailed, etc.

**7.17** ails, ales, Dales, fails, Gaels, Gail's, gales, nails, rails, sails, scales, sales, tales, veils, Wales, \* entrails, details, pigtails, cocktails, toenails, \* telesales, fingernails, Bloomingdale's, New South Wales, \* cat-o'-nine-tails, etc.

**7.18** aim, blame, came, claim, dame, Dame, fame, flame, frame, game, hame, lame, maim, name, same, shame, tame, Thame, \* acclaim, proclaim, aflame, reframe, rename, became, defame, declaim, reclaim, disclaim, exclaim, inflame, old flame, \* mainframe, surname, first name, quitclaim, nickname, endgame, selfsame, filename, doorframe, forename, \* maiden name, Christian name, window frame, what's-her-name, what's-his-name, counterclaim, overcame

**For when the One Great Scorer comes to mark against your name,  
He writes – not that you won or lost – but how you played the game.**  
GRANTLAND RICE.

**7.19** aimed, blamed, claimed, framed, maimed, named, shamed, \* untamed, acclaimed, proclaimed, unclaimed, unnamed, ashamed, renamed, reclaimed, exclaimed, inflamed, \* unashamed, etc.

**7.20** aims, claims, flames, games, James, names, \* Jesse James, Christian names, \* Olympic Games, etc.

**7.21** bane, brain, Braine, Cain, cane, chain, crane, Dane, deign, drain, Duane, fain, feign, Frayn, gain, grain, Jain, Jane, lain, lane, main, Maine, mane, pain, Paine, pane, Payne, plain, plane, rain, reign, rein, sane, Seine,

Shane, skein, slain, Spain, sprain, stain, strain, swain, ta'en, thane, thegn, train, twain, Twain, vain, vane, vein, wain, wane, Wayne, Zane, \* cocaine, McCain, again, mundane, attain, pertain, obtain, contain, sustain, profane, Dunblane, Maclean, complain, arraign, Lorraine, terrain, constrain, domain, Pomagne®, McShane, unchain, campaign, champagne, abstain, arcane, Bahrain, Mark Twain, Charmaine, Great Dane, maintain, urbane, Germaine, germane, deplane, detrain, retrain, chicane, disdain, regain, detain, retain, Sinn Fein, Elaine, Spillane, emplane, explain, Igraine, ingrain, entrain, distraint, restrain, refrain, demesne, remain, inane, insane, vicereine, Cockaigne, Fonteyn, moraine, Coltrane, John Wayne, ordain, chow mein, Coleraine, romaine, Hussein, Ukraine, humane, \* ratsbane, plantain, crackbrain, Gawain, airplane, pearmain, sailplane, tailplane, lamebrain, haywain, henbane, Beltane, membrane, vervain, birdbrain, fleabane, ethane, methane, seaplane, migraine, chilblain, midbrain, biplane, triplane, hindbrain, eyestrain, dogbane, octane, warplane, forebrain, propane, grosgrain, wholegrain, ptomaine, bloodstain, wolfsbane, butane, \* appertain, ascertain, halothane, chatelain, chatelaine, Tamerlane, aquaplane, scatterbrain, Alamein, Aquitaine, Charlemagne, aeroplane, entertain, Cellophane®, weather vane, featherbrain, preordain, Cleo Laine, windowpane, inhumane, Michael Caine, gyroplane, hydroplane, right as rain, monoplane, foreordain, urethane, counterpane, counterstain, down the drain, Novocaine®, overlain, underlain, hurricane, Dunsinane, sugar cane, Tubal-cain, suzerain, \* Citizen Kane, legerdemain, varicose vein, \* polyurethane

**The rain in Spain stays mainly in the plain.**

ALAN JAY LERNER

7.22 caned, chained, deigned, drained, feigned, gained, pained, rained, reigned, sprained, stained, strained, trained, veined, \* obtained, contained, sustained, unstained, complained, untrained, constrained, unstrained, unchained, detained, retained, ingrained, restrained, remained, ordained, close-grained, \* crackbrained, harebrained, bird-brained, tear-stained, bloodstained, \* ascertained, scatterbrained, entertained, self-contained, preordained, foreordained, unconstrained, unexplained, unrestrained, etc.

**7.23** change, grange, mange, range, strange, \* arrange, free-range, derange, estrange, exchange, long-range, short-range, short-change, \* part exchange, prearrange, rearrange, disarrange, interchange, chop and change, stock exchange

**do you think that i would change  
my present freedom to range  
for a castle or moated grange**  
DON MARQUIS

**7.24** changed, ranged, \* arranged, unchanged, deranged, estranged, exchanged, \* prearranged, rearranged, etc.

**7.25** ain't, faint, feint, mayn't, paint, plaint, quaint, saint, taint, \* attain, complaint, constraint, acquaint, repaint, distraint, restraint, \* greasepaint, warpaint, \* self-restraint, reacquaint, overpaint, unconstraint, unrestraint

**7.26** Baines, brains, chains, Danes, drains, gains, Haynes, Jane's, Keynes, mains, pains, plains, rains, reins, Staines, stains, trains, veins, Wayne's, \* pertains, obtains, Elaine's, remains, \* chilblains, bloodstains, \* afterpains, windowpanes, etc.

**7.27** ape, cape, Cape, crepe, drape, gape, grape, jape, nape, rape, scrape, shape, tape, \* agape, reshape, escape, \* landscape, nametape, seascape, shipshape, misshape, moonscape, cloudscape, \* masking tape, Sellotape®, ticker tape, out of shape

**7.28** apes, drapes, gapes, grapes, scrapes, shapes, traipse, \* reshapes, escapes, sour grapes, \* jackanapes, etc.

**7.29** aped, draped, gaped, raped, scraped, shaped, taped, \* pear-shaped, wedge-shaped, V-shaped, U-shaped, etc.

**7.30** ace, base, bass, brace, case, chase, dace, face, grace, Grace, lace, mace, Mace®, pace, place, plaice, race, space, Thrace, trace, Wace, \* abase, apace, unlace, debase, encase, deface, efface, replace, displace, misplace, enlace, embrace, disgrace, retrace, grimace, outpace, outface, \* fanbase,

backspace, crankcase, blackface, landrace, airspace, staircase, wheyface, paleface, mainbrace, scapegrace, tailrace, workplace, birthplace, headcase, headrace, wheelbase, seedcase, briefcase, slipcase, millrace, fireplace, typecase, typeface, braaivleis, watchcase, chalkface, showcase, notecase, boldface, coalface, showplace, nutcase, Lovelace, someplace, bookcase, suitcase, shoelace, bootlace, \* carapace, Samothrace, marketplace, aerospace, database, waste of space, paper chase, face-to-face, steeplechase, breathing space, interspace, interface, interlace, in-your-face, pillowcase, cyberspace, hyperspace, hiding place, wild-goose chase, contrabass, commonplace, Boniface, lower-case, poker face, outer space, upper-case, pull a face

**The rabbit has a charming face**

**Its private life is a disgrace.**

ANONYMOUS

**7.31** based, baste, chased, chaste, haste, laced, mayst, paced, paste, placed, raced, spaced, taste, traced, waist, waste, \* unlaced, unplaced, lambaste, straight-faced, strait-laced, debased, encased, distaste, defaced, replaced, displaced, misplaced, enlaced, embraced, disgraced, posthaste, \* barefaced, shamefaced, shore-based, foretaste, po-faced, toothpaste, \* pantywaist, aftertaste, baby-faced, interlaced, poker-faced, cut and paste, etc.

**7.32** ate, bait, bate, crate, date, eight, fate, fête, freight, gait, gate, grate, great, hate, Kate, late, mate, pate, plate, prate, rate, sate, skate, slate, spate, state, straight, strait, Tate, Thwaite, trait, wait, Waite, weight

**I get too hungry for dinner at eight.**

**I like the theatre, but never come late.**

**I never bother with people I hate.**

**That's why the lady is a tramp.**

LORENZ HART

**7.33** abate, placate, truncate, update, upstate, collate, conflate, narrate, uprate, frustrate, await, pulsate, palpate, backdate, translate, castrate, stagnate, aerate, vacate, spectate, estate, gestate, fellate, third-rate, first-rate,

create, predate, restate, reflate, debate, negate, sedate, dictate, misstate, elate, relate, deflate, inflate, berate, filtrate, equate, cremate, innate, fixate, blind date, dilate, gyrate, irate, vibrate, migrate, hydrate, prostrate, orate, ornate, outdate, locate, postdate, notate, rotate, prorated, donate, pupate, mutate, Kuwait, \* alienate, seventy-eight, peregrinate, interrelate, oxygenate, orientate, \* deteriorate, ameliorate, deoxygenate, disorientate

**7.34** Ramsgate, mandate, flatmate, palmate, magnate, Margate, classmate, tartrate, jailbait, tailgate, nameplate, chainplate, faceplate, makeweight, Braithwaite, playmate, stalemate, dentate, testate, stellate, endplate, breastplate, template, checkmate, helpmate, messmate, sensate, workmate, birth rate, rebate, cheapskate, team-mate, Lydgate, Wingate, lych gate, dictate, ingrate, citrate, filtrate, shipmate, inmate, whitebait, ice-skate, Highgate, Reigate, hydrate, nitrate, titrate, flyweight, lightweight, primate, lock gate, prostate, phosphate, hotplate, prostrate, cognate, chlorate, quorate, portrait, groundbait, housemate, probate, Colgate®, tollgate, ovate, soul mate, floodgate, Vulgate, update, sulphate, substrate, bookplate, footplate, Newgate, sluiceway, schoolmate, roommate, \* incarnate, intestate, insensate, apostate, iniquate, self-portrait, inchoate, \* carbohydrate

**7.35** masturbate, advocate, allocate, arrogate, Harrogate, abrogate, annotate, aggravate, flagellate, lacerate, macerate, saturate, adumbrate, Bassenthwaite, bantamweight, palliate, abdicate, masticate, fabricate, castigate, navigate, aggregate, abnegate, candidate, antedate, validate, palpitate, gravitate, acetate, agitate, captivate, activate, salivate, vacillate, aspirate, calibrate, magistrate, animate, Latinize, marinate, laminate, fascinate, vaccinate, machinate, paginate, transmigrate, graduate, actuate, amputate, tabulate, adulate, calculate, strangulate, granulate, \* exacerbate, extrapolate, collaborate, elaborate, evaporate, exasperate, exaggerate, amalgamate, diaconate, permanganate, Italianate, retaliate, repatriate, expatriate, substantiate, emancipate, eradicate, elasticate, prevaricate, prefabricate, invalidate, decapitate, capacitate, deactivate, reactivate, inactivate, reanimate, concatenate, procrastinate, decaffeinate, desalinate, contaminate, delaminate, assassinate, invaginate, evacuate, infatuate, evaluate, confabulate, perambulate, somnambulate, ejaculate, recalculate,

miscalculate, emasculate, coagulate, triangulate, encapsulate, congratulate,  
\* transubstantiate, conubstantiate, circumstantiate, circumnavigate,  
incapacitate, decontaminate

**7.36** carbonate, arbitrate, \* bicarbonate, incarcerate, \* polycarbonate

**7.37** paperweight, alienate, tête-à-tête, radiate, eighty-eight, glaciare, satiate,  
caliphate, \* irradiate, emaciate, expatiate, ingratiare

**7.38** reprobate, expurgate, derogate, devastate, excavate, enervate, renovate,  
decollate, escalate, tessellate, separate, decorate, federate, perorate,  
generate, venerate, second-rate, demonstrate, remonstrate, welterweight,  
featherweight, detonate, emanate, resonate, welfare state, extirpate, expiate,  
twenty-eight, dedicate, medicate, predicate, defecate, replicate, explicate,  
deprecate, metricate, extricate, desiccate, vesicate, delegate, relegate,  
segregate, meditate, levitate, hesitate, vegetate, elevate, depilate, ventilate,  
legislate, celebrate, desecrate, execrate, emigrate, denigrate, penetrate,  
heavyweight, estimate, guesstimate, decimate, designate, sell-by date,  
Menai Strait, exculpate, educate, exudate, menstruate, peculate, speculate,  
emulate, regulate, \* interrogate, de-escalate, electroplate, redecorate,  
confederate, expectorate, coelenterate, asseverate, accelerate, decelerate,  
commemorate, degenerate, regenerate, potentiate, authenticate, domesticate,  
investigate, desegregate, premeditate, necessitate, disseminate, inseminate,  
attenuate, extenuate, perpetuate, effectuate, accentuate, eventuate,  
deregulate, \* supererogate, differentiate, overestimate, underestimate

**7.39** percolate, perforate, personate, thirty-eight, permeate, germinate,  
terminate, perpetrate, circulate, \* intercalate, interpolate, reverberate,  
impersonate, regurgitate, exterminate

**7.40** demarcate, mediate, deviate, re-create, reinstate, dehydrate, elongate,  
relocate, neonate, \* ameliorate, alleviate, abbreviate, inebriate, appreciate,  
depreciate

**7.41** syncope, dislocate, Bishopsgate, inundate, interstate, innervate,  
innovate, immolate, River Plate, liberate, iterate, micturate, illustrate,  
winterweight, middleweight, cyclamate, impregnate, fifty-eight, sixty-eight,

vitiate, dissipate, indicate, syndicate, vindicate, silicate, triplicate, implicate, litigate, mitigate, instigate, irrigate, Billingsgate, liquidate, militate, irritate, imitate, titivate, titillate, scintillate, integrate, immigrate, intimate, inculcate, situate, incubate, stipulate, simulate, stimulate, insulate, \* episcopate, equivocate, reciprocate, deliberate, invigorate, alliterate, obliterate, transliterate, reiterate, proliferate, vociferate, exhilarate, incinerate, eviscerate, refrigerate, commiserate, tergiversate, affiliate, humiliate, conciliate, delineate, asphyxiate, officiate, propitiate, initiate, anticipate, participate, pontificate, intimidate, precipitate, habilitate, facilitate, debilitate, felicitate, assimilate, invigilate, equilibrate, reintegrate, disintegrate, administrate, legitimate, eliminate, recriminate, incriminate, discriminate, originate, habituate, insinuate, manipulate, articulate, gesticulate, matriculate, acidulate, capitulate, dissimulate, \* reinvigorate, disaffiliate, rehabilitate, recapitulate

**7.42** bifurcate, divagate, violate, isolate, hibernate, hyphenate, ideate, ninety-eight, \* annihilate

**7.43** altercate, collocate, coruscate, propagate, corrugate, objurgate, promulgate, commentate, correlate, copperplate, contemplate, operate, moderate, tolerate, concentrate, Postlethwaite, consummate, alternate, compensate, obviate, constipate, complicate, confiscate, obligate, congregate, cogitate, solid-state, oscillate, consecrate, pollinate, dominate, nominate, obfuscate, conjugate, copulate, populate, flocculate, osculate, modulate, postulate, ovulate, \* homologate, accommodate, corroborate, cooperate, preponderate, agglomerate, conglomerate, exonerate, prognosticate, intoxicate, consolidate, deconsecrate, approximate, abominate, predominate, denominate, indoctrinate, hydrogenate, depopulate, repopulate, inoculate, absquatulate, expostulate, \* overcompensate, discombobulate

**7.44** altercate, Watergate, automate, alternate, forty-eight, nauseate, formicate, fornicate, orchestrate, chlorinate, formulate, \* incorporate, subordinate, coordinate, reformulate, inaugurate

**7.45** fluoridate, fluorinate, urinate, \* infuriate, luxuriate

**7.46** out-of-date, counterweight

**7.47** roller-skate, potentate, overstate, overate, overrate, overweight, procreate, roseate, motivate, \* appropriate, expropriate, negotiate, associate, dissociate, \* misappropriate, renegotiate, disassociate

**7.48** suffocate, surrogate, up-to-date, understatement, numberplate, ulcerate, underrate, underweight, summerweight, hundredweight, sultanate, rusticate, supplicate, cultivate, sublimate, culminate, fulminate, fluctuate, punctuate, subjugate, undulate, pullulate, ululate, suppurate, \* adulterate, calumniate, denunciate, enunciate, resuscitate

**7.49** superstate, cruiserweight, glutamate, lubricate, duplicate, fumigate, Unigate, mutilate, ruminant, use-by date, cumulate, \* recuperate, vituperate, enumerate, remunerate, rejuvenate, repudiate, excruciate, adjudicate, centuplicate, reduplicate, quintuplicate, quadruplicate, communicate, elucidate, agglutinate, illuminate, hallucinate, accumulate, \* excommunicate, \* intercommunicate

**7.50** Bates, crates, dates, Fates, gates, Greats, Kate's, mates, plates, rates, skates, States, straits, weights, Yeats, \* flatmates, playmates, inmates, ice skates, nitrates, phosphates, soul mates, floodgates, \* awaits, pet hates, Bill Gates, dire straits, vibrates, mutates, \* paperweights, roller skates, \* United States, etc.

**7.51** faith, saithe, wraith, \* Galbraith

**7.52** bathe, lathe, scathe, spathe, swathe, \* enswathe, \* sunbathe

**7.53** bathed, swathed, \* unscathed, enswathed, \* sunbathed

**7.54** brave, cave, crave, Dave, fave, gave, grave, knave, Maeve, nave, pave, rave, save, shave, slave, stave, they've, waive, wave, \* concave, forgave, behave, enslave, deprave, engrave, outbrave, \* landgrave, margrave, brainwave, enclave, exclave, Redgrave, heat wave, crimewave, conclave, Palgrave, spokeshave, \* rant and rave, aftershave, archtrave, misbehave, microwave, tidal wave, biconcave, autoclave

**'Tis the star-spangled banner; O long may it wave  
O'er the land of the free, and the home of the brave.**

FRANCIS SCOTT KEY

7.55 caves, craves, Dave's, graves, Graves, knaves, raves, saves, shaves, slaves, staves, waves, \* airwaves, Bygraves, \* misbehaves, microwaves, etc.

7.56 baize, bays, blaze, braise, braze, chaise, craze, days, daze, faze, frays, gaze, glaze, graze, Hayes, haze, Jeyes, Kay's, laze, maize, May's, maze, Naze, neighs, phase, phrase, praise, raise, rays, raze, stays, strays, ways, \* Gervaise, allays, malaise, ablaze, emblaze, appraise, upraise, amaze, self-praise, liaise, decays, deglaze, rephrase, erase, dispraise, bouquets, \* ashtrays, catchphrase, stargaze, pathways, railways, Strangeways, X-rays, endways, breadthways, lengthways, edgeways, essays, weekdays, leastways, clichés, widthways, byways, highways, sideways, longways, crossways, mores, always, Mondays, Sundays, fundraise, toupees, schooldays, duvets, \* canapés, paraphrase, passageways, castaways, Marseillaise, waifs and strays, Béarnaise, mayonnaise, reappraise, hollandaise, Bolognese, polonaise, holidays, waterways, cornerways, nowadays, overglaze, overgraze, stowaways, underglaze, colourways, multiphase, etc.

**Nothing so soon the drooping spirits can raise  
As praises from the men, whom all men praise.**

ABRAHAM COWLEY

7.57 blazed, braised, crazed, dazed, fazed, gazed, glazed, grazed, lazed, phrased, praised, raised, \* unfazed, appraised, amazed, liaised, rephrased, erased, \* reappraised, overgrazed, double-glazed, etc.

8.1 baby, maybe, Catesby, Naseby, crepy, grapey, kepi, scrapie, achy, flaky, quaky, reiki, shaky, snaky, Craigie, plaguy, Adie, Brady, lady, Sadie, shady, eighty, Haiti, Katie, matey, slaty, weighty, safety, frailty, dainty, hasty, pasty, tasty, cave, cavy, Davy, gravy, navy, wavy, bailey, Bailey, ceilidh, daily, Daley, gaily, Haley, Hayley, Kayleigh, Rayleigh, scaly, shaly, ably, shapely,

vaguely, Madeley, lately, stately, faintly, saintly, bravely, gravely, gamely, lamely, namely, tamely, mainly, plainly, vainly, paisley, Paisley, Ainsley, strangely, debris, Aintree, Braintree, pastry, clayey, Amy, gamey, Jamie, Mamie, pay me, samey, brainy, Cheney, grainy, Janie, rainy, veiny, zany, ha'penny, Basie, Casey, Gracie, lacy, pace, pacey, precis, racy, spacey, Spacey, Stacy, Tracy, crazy, daisy, hazy, lazy, Maisie, mazy, Strachey, cagey, stagey, mangy, rangy, \* Carnegie, milady, O'Grady, Kuwaiti, agave, shillelagh, Disraeli, Israeli, sedately, innately, ungainly, inanely, insanely, humanely, Pompeii, Bahraini, Delaney, Khomeini, Eugénie, shove-ha'penny, O'Casey, Scorsese, \* crybaby, bushbaby, headachy, landlady, \* wakey-wakey, capercaillie, ukulele, Agnus Dei, cockamamie, Allegheny, Museveni, Sulawesi, calabrese, Bel Paese, upsy-daisy, Buthelezi, prima facie, \* Rikki-Tikki-Tavi, etc.

**Our honeymoon started so blithely and gaily  
But dreams I was dreaming were suddenly wrecked  
For she broke my front tooth with her father's shillelagh  
Which wasn't what I had been led to expect.**

NOËL COWARD

**8.2** Bayer, Freya, gayer, Heyer, Mayer, kea, layer, payer, player, prayer, sayer, sprayer, stayer, weigher, \* obeyer, conveyor, Malaya, assayer, Marbella, mens rea, purveyor, surveyor, delayer, betrayer, \* taxpayer, ratepayer, bricklayer, minelayer, soothsayer, \* Eritrea, tennis player, record player, Himalaya, \* pay her, betray her, etc.

**8.3** caber, labour, neighbour, sabre, tabor, Weber, chamber, caper, draper, Draper, gaper, paper, scraper, shaper, taper, tapir, vapour, \* belabour, repaper, escaper, \* gas chamber, bedchamber, sandpaper, glasspaper, wastepaper, endpaper, flypaper, skyscraper, wallpaper, notepaper, touchpaper, newspaper, \* antechamber, \* rape her, shape her, etc.

**8.4** acre, baker, Baker, breaker, Dacre, faker, fakir, Laker, maker, nacre, Quaker, raker, shaker, staker, taker, waker, agar, Hagar, Jaeger, Vega, \* Jamaica, partaker, cloaca, Zuleika, bodega, Ortega, \* backbreaker, matchmaker, heartbreaker, caretaker, safe-breaker, haymaker, rainmaker,

pacemaker, dressmaker, peacemaker, piss-taker, film-maker, kingmaker, tiebreaker, strikebreaker, icebreaker, wiseacre, clockmaker, lossmaker, watchmaker, jawbreaker, lawbreaker, housebreaker, toymaker, homemaker, boneshaker, muckraker, bookmaker, moonraker, shoemaker, toolmaker, \* Chandrasekhar, bellyacher, merrymaker, circuit breaker, mischief-maker, wicket-taker, widow-maker, Wanamaker, boilermaker, undertaker, troublemaker, moneymaker, Studebaker, Noriega, rutabaga, \* cabinet-maker, holiday-maker, \* take her, wake her, etc.

**What is a woman that you forsake her,  
And the hearth-fire and the home-acre,  
To go with the old grey Widow-maker?**  
RUDYARD KIPLING

**8.5** Ada, Adur, aider, grader, Nader, raider, Seder, trader, Veda, wader, cater, Chater, crater, data, freighter, gaiter, grater, greater, hater, later, mater, Mehta, pater, plater, raita, skater, slater, Slater, straighter, tater, traitor, waiter, taster, waster, \* parader, upgrader, persuader, Darth Vader, Grenada, first-aider, evader, invader, Criseyde, crusader, attainder, remainder, collator, narrator, peseta, translator, spectator, testator, Mercator, creator, debater, Decatur, dictator, equator, vibrator, curator, rotator, \* tailgater, ice-skater, dumbwaiter, shirtwaister, \* masquerader, serenader, travelator, alma mater, gladiator, trafficator, applicator, alligator, navigator, agitator, activator, aspirator, calibrator, animator, valuator, tabulator, calculator, arbitrator, radiator, aviator, excavator, renovator, escalator, separator, decorator, generator, demonstrator, detonator, resonator, elevator, depilator, epilator, ventilator, legislator, respirator, denigrator, estimator, educator, speculator, regulator, percolator, terminator, perpetrator, mediator, innovator, liberator, illustrator, indicator, instigator, liquidator, imitator, infiltrator, imprimatur, incubator, simulator, insulator, biodata, propagator, commentator, operator, moderator, oscillator, nominator, commutator, procurator, alternator, fornicator, orchestrator, formulator, roller-skater, Rotavator®, procreator, cultivator, numerator, lubricator, duplicator, \* collaborator, eradicator, prevaricator, deactivator, procrastinator, perambulator, interrogator, accelerator, investigator, impersonator, exterminator, incinerator, refrigerator, initiator, facilitator, defibrillator,

invigilator, administrator, originator, articulator, denominator, coordinator, inaugurator, negotiator, resuscitator, adjudicator, communicator, accumulator, \* vasodilator, bronchodilator, totalizator, \* circumnavigator, \* obeyed her, hate her, etc.

**8.6** chafer, safer, wafer, Ava, braver, caver, craver, favour, flavour, graver, haver, Laver, paver, quaver, raver, saver, savour, shaver, slaver, waiver, waver, bather, \* UEFA, cadaver, disfavour, engraver, \* cockchafer, life-saver, sunbather, \* semiquaver, clishmaclaver, \* demisemiquaver, \* hemidemisemiquaver, \* gave her, save her, etc.

**Fair Atalanta, as a favour,  
Took the boar's head her hero gave her;**  
JOHN GAY

**8.7** bailor, baler, hailer, jailer, Leila, mailer, Mailer, nailer, Naylor, paler, sailor, scalar, scaler, staler, tailor, Taylor, trailer, wailer, whaler, abler, stabler, stapler, Daimler, paviour, saviour, Saviour, dahlia, failure, \* Akela, Michaela, inhaler, shillelagh, bewailer, loud-hailer, Kumbh Mela, Chichewa, behaviour, derailleur, \* blackmailer, abseiler, retailer, wassailer, boardsailor, wholesaler, \* Venezuela, Muzorewa, misbehaviour, \* fail her, regale her, etc.

**8.8** framer, gamer, Kramer, tamer, Aylmer, Cana, caner, drainer, gainer, Gaynor, plainer, planar, planer, Rayner, scena, stainer, strainer, trainer, vainer, \* proclaimer, defamer, reclaimer, disclaimer, container, sustainer, complainer, campaigner, abstainer, arcana, Marlene, maintainer, detainer, retainer, explainer, restrainer, no-brainer, \* cordwainer, \* lion-tamer, Magdalena, entertainer, \* blame her, train her, etc.

**8.9** acer, baser, bracer, chaser, facer, lacer, pacer, placer, racer, spacer, tracer, Ailsa, blazer, Fraser, gazer, Glaser, glazer, grazer, laser, maser, praiser, raiser, razor, Taser®, azure, Asia, Brasher, fascia, geisha, nature, gauger, major, Major, pager, stager, wager, changer, danger, Grainger, manger, ranger, stranger, \* defacer, embracer, chalaza, appraiser, eraser, erasure, embrasure, Caucasia, Laurasia, Eurasia, acacia, Galatia, Dalmatia, ex gratia,

Hypatia, Croatia, rosacea, denature, Alsager, old stager, arranger, endanger, exchanger, hydrangea, \* Spätlese, Auslese, stargazer, trailblazer, hell-raiser, fundraiser, teenager, bushranger, \* steeplechaser, Australasia, Appalachia, candidature, legislature, sergeant major, Ursa Major, trumpet major, autochanger, moneychanger, \* Maria Theresa, \* trace her, enrage her, etc.

**Poor World (said I) what wilt thou do**

**To entertain this starry stranger?**

**Is this the best thou canst bestow?**

**A cold, and not too cleanly, manger?**

RICHARD CRASHAW

**8.10** laic, Gaelic, Salic, hayrick, basic, brainsick, trainsick, \* Altaic, archaic, Hebraic, voltaic, mosaic, prosaic, Judaic, nucleic, Arcadic, aphasic, dysphasic, \* Aramaic, Ptolemaic, algebraic, Pharisaic, formulaic, \* ribonucleic, \* deoxyribonucleic

**The emmet is an ant (archaic),**

**The ant is just a pest (prosaic).**

OGDEN NASH

**8.11** radix, spadix, calyx, matrix, basics, \* mosaics, testatrix, creatrix, \* generatrix, aviatrix, dominatrix

**8.12** naked, tailskid, aphid, David, aged, \* Camp David

**8.13** laboured, capered, papered, aided, braided, faded, jaded, shaded, catered, dated, fated, gated, mated, plated, rated, sated, stated, waited, fainted, painted, sainted, tainted, tasted, waisted, wasted, favoured, flavoured, savoured, sacred, hatred, Hayward, Haywood, wayward, Aylward, wagered, \* upbraided, upgraded, persuaded, unaided, unshaded, invaded, degraded, placated, truncated, updated, undated, unstated, frustrated, translated, serrated, X-rated, created, belated, elated, related, deflated, inflated, cremated, striated, outdated, located, unpainted, untainted, acquainted, hand-painted, untasted, high-waisted, ill-favoured, unflavoured, ill-natured, good-natured, \* aggravated, castellated, saturated, antiquated, animated, laminated, vaccinated, calculated, variegated,

glaciated, satiated, expurgated, mentholated, separated, decorated, dedicated, desiccated, elevated, celebrated, estimated, decimated, educated, regulated, perforated, herniated, dehydrated, elongated, relocated, syncopated, liberated, illustrated, dissipated, mitigated, irritated, titillated, pixilated, integrated, simulated, stimulated, violated, isolated, hyphenated, corrugated, long-awaited, consummated, constipated, complicated, consecrated, populated, overrated, overstated, unabated, suffocated, understated, untranslated, cultivated, unrelated, unacquainted, lubricated, fumigated, mutilated, \* unsaturated, exaggerated, substantiated, emancipated, eradicated, elasticated, dilapidated, decapitated, contaminated, unvaccinated, infatuated, emaciated, unexpurgated, premeditated, uneducated, unregulated, unperforated, exhilarated, refrigerated, opinionated, affiliated, humiliated, sophisticated, unmitigated, corroborated, unconsummated, uncomplicated, unconsecrated, self-pollinated, incorporated, adulterated, uncultivated, communicated, illuminated, accumulated, \* unsubstantiated, uncontaminated, superannuated, differentiated, unpremeditated, unappreciated, unaffiliated, unsophisticated, uncorroborated, overpopulated, underpopulated, uncoordinated, unadulterated, \* polyunsaturated, monounsaturated, undifferentiated, etc.

## Limericks

*A limerick is a humorous five-line verse with a characteristic rhyming pattern, as shown in these examples:*

**There was a young lady named Bright,  
Whose speed was far faster than light;  
She set out one day  
In a relative way  
And returned on the previous night.**  
ARTHUR BULLER

**An Anglican curate in want  
Of a second-hand portable font  
Will exchange for the same**

**A photo (with frame)  
Of the Bishop-Elect of Vermont.  
RONALD KNOX**

*It is allegedly so called because the line ‘Will you come up to Limerick?’ (referring to the place of that name in Ireland) was formerly used as a refrain for similar nonsense verses.*

**8.14** breakage, wastage, weighbridge, Weybridge, Cambridge, Bainbridge, drainage

**8.15** Baal, Mayall, Abel, able, Babel, cable, fable, gable, label, Mabel, sable, stable, table, maple, papal, staple, Gaitskell, bagel, Hegel, plagal, Schlegel, cradle, ladle, fatal, natal, ratel, playful, wakeful, fateful, grateful, hateful, tasteful, wasteful, faithful, baleful, shameful, baneful, gainful, painful, graceful, changeful, Flavell, naval, navel, Wavell, April, sacral, wastrel, Bakewell, anal, basal, staysail, mainsail, hazel, Hazel, nasal, phrasal, facial, glacial, racial, spatial, Rachel, angel, \* betrayal, defrayal, portrayal, unable, unstable, Clark Gable, relabel, enable, disable, cloacal, inveigle, finagle, prenatal, hiatal, nonfatal, postnatal, ungrateful, distasteful, unfaithful, disdainful, disgraceful, decanal, appraisal, abbatial, palatial, preglacial, biracial, nonracial, postglacial, archangel, \* worktable, turntable, timetable, witch hazel, \* antenatal, perinatal, neonatal, reappraisal, interracial, multiracial, \* maxillofacial

**8.16** abled, cabled, fabled, labelled, stapled, cradled, \* unlabelled, enabled, disabled, etc.

**8.17** gables, labels, tables, Naples, staples, Rachel’s, angels, etc.

**8.18** paynim, \* verbatim, \* restrain him, hate him, etc.

**8.19** Graham, Grahame, begum, sheikhdom, saintdom, datum, Tatum, Latham, Nahum, Salem, Abram, sacrum, eightsome, Hailsham, \* vade mecum, petrolatum, ultimatium, simulacrum, \* pay ’em, fail ’em, etc.

**8.20** weigh-in, Sabin, tailspin, Aitken, snakeskin, Fagin, Palin, \* Onegin, \* riboflavin, \* shapin', misbehavin', etc.

**8.21** crayon, rayon, capon, bacon, Bacon, shaken, taken, waken, pagan, Reagan, Aden, Aidan, Blaydon, Braden, Gaydon, Haydon, laden, Leyden, maiden, Clayton, Dayton, Deighton, Drayton, greaten, Layton, Paton, Peyton, phaeton, Satan, straighten, straiten, Paignton, Maidstone, Avon, craven, graven, haven, raven, shaven, Nathan, Galen, apron, matron, patron, Bremen, cayman, Cayman, Damon, drayman, Eamon, Hayman, layman, Lehmann, baseman, statesman, tradesman, dalesman, salesman, gamesman, plainsman, Canaan, basin, caisson, chasten, Grayson, hasten, Jason, mason, Mason, Jameson, blazon, brazen, raisin, Asian, suasion, Cajun, Trajan, \* Malayan, Ghanaian, Linnean, Pompeian, misshapen, awaken, Jamaican, forsaken, unshaken, partaken, mistaken, Nijmegen, unshaven, O'Faolain, Marquesan, liaison, emblazon, occasion, pervasion, abrasion, persuasion, evasion, invasion, equation, dissuasion, Caucasian, Eurasian, contagion, \* handmaiden, Newhaven, handbasin, Freemason, washbasin, stonemason, \* Galilean, Eritrean, Himalayan, reawaken, godforsaken, overtaken, unmistakable, Copenhagen, overladen, Milford Haven, Venezuelan, diapason, dermabrasion, Australasian, \* Kyrie eleison

**8.22** Asian, Haitian, nation, station, Thracian

**8.23** probation, gradation, collation, Galatian, conflation, Horatian, narration, serration, natation, lactation, plantation, salvation, stagflation, translation, castration, Dalmatian, stagnation, damnation, taxation, Alsatian, carnation, tarnation, starvation, aeration, vacation, claymation, temptation, gestation, cessation, vexation, sensation, purgation, flirtation, creation, Creation, deflation, reflation, predation, sedation, cetacean, dictation, legation, negation, elation, relation, inflation, filtration, cremation, fixation, striation, libation, citation, dilation, gyration, vibration, migration, titration, privation, oblation, prostration, oration, formation, causation, duration, foundation, Croatian, location, vocation, rogation, flotation, notation, potation, quotation, rotation, ovation, donation, truncation, crustacean, gustation, slumpflation, frustration, summation, pulsation, pupation, mutation, Eustachian

**Praise with elation,  
Praise every morning,  
God's re-creation  
Of the new day.**

ELEANOR FARJEON

**8.24** approbation, masturbation, avocation, advocacy, allocation, translocation, arrogation, abrogation, annotation, lamentation, fragmentation, aggravation, appellation, Appalachian, cancellation, flagellation, aberration, adoration, laceration, maceration, adumbration, affirmation, acclamation, adaptation, transplantation, affectation, attestation, annexation, palliation, abdication, mastication, application, fabrication, castigation, navigation, allegation, aggregation, abnegation, validation, habitation, capitation, palpitation, gravitation, sanitation, agitation, captivation, activation, salivation, vacillation, aspiration, transpiration, admiration, calibration, animation, marination, lamination, fascination, vaccination, machination, pagination, assignation, affixation, transmigration, transportation, malformation, transformation, blaxploitation, graduation, actuation, valuation, amputation, salutation, transmutation, tabulation, calculation, strangulation, adulation, granulation, maturation, saturation, adjuration, accusation, \* exacerbation, extrapolation, collaboration, elaboration, evaporation, exasperation, exaggeration, amalgamation, retaliation, repatriation, expatriation, substantiation, emancipation, eradication, elastication, reapplication, prevarication, prefabrication, dilapidation, invalidation, cohabitation, decapitation, deactivation, reactivation, inactivation, concatenation, procrastination, decaffeination, desalination, contamination, examination, assassination, imagination, evacuation, infatuation, devaluation, evaluation, confabulation, perambulation, ejaculation, recalculation, emasculation, coagulation, triangulation, encapsulation, congratulation, \* transubstantiation, consubstantiation, astronavigation, circumnavigation, incapacitation, self-examination, decontamination, cross-examination, superannuation, tintinnabulation, self-congratulation

**8.25** carbonation, arbitration, \* incarceration

**8.26** variation, variegation

**8.27** radiation, aviation, glaciation, satiation, \* irradiation, emaciation, ingratiating, expatriation

**8.28** reprobation, extirpation, defecation, evocation, revocation, embrocation, expurgation, derogation, degradation, exultation, presentation, devastation, excavation, enervation, renovation, preservation, reservation, decollation, escalation, revelation, Revelation, crenellation, desolation, tessellation, exhalation, preparation, reparation, separation, desperation, respiration, decoration, federation, restoration, Restoration, exploration, declaration, peroration, generation, veneration, demonstration, remonstrance, defamation, deformation, reformation, Reformation, declamation, reclamation, exclamation, detonation, explanation, emanation, expectation, segmentation, expiation, recreation, dedication, medication, replication, explication, deprecation, metrication, extrication, desiccation, delegation, relegation, segregation, trepidation, depredation, meditation, levitation, equitation, recitation, excitation, hesitation, vegetation, elevation, derivation, deprivation, depilation, ventilation, legislation, expiration, celebration, cerebration, desecration, execration, penetration, fenestration, registration, emigration, denigration, estimation, decimation, destination, declination, designation, resignation, exportation, exhortation, exaltation, exploitation, sexploitation, menstruation, education, exudation, deputation, reputation, refutation, speculation, speculation, regulation, emulation, exhumation, mensuration, \* interrogation, de-escalation, redecoration, confederation, expectoration, asseveration, acceleration, deceleration, commemoration, degeneration, regeneration, premeditation, authentication, domestication, investigation, desegregation, premeditation, necessitation, defenestration, predestination, dissemination, insemination, perpetuation, effectuation, accentuation, attenuation, extenuation, coeducation, deregulation, \* supererogation, biodegradation, Counter-Reformation, differentiation, reinvestigation, hyperventilation, overestimation, underestimation, higher education, further education

**8.29** perturbation, percolation, perforation, personation, fermentation, permeation, perspiration, perpetration, germination, termination,

permutation, sternutation, circulation, \* interpolation, intercalation, reverberation, impersonation, interpretation, regurgitation, determination, extermination, \* reinterpretation, predetermination

**8.30** realization, theorization, \* idealization

**8.31** relocation, denotation, defalcation, recantation, relaxation, debarkation, demarcation, retardation, emendation, delectation, detestation, sequestration, mediation, deviation, re-creation, dehydration, elongation, deportation, denudation, \* remediation, alleviation, abbreviation, inebriation, appreciation, depreciation

**8.32** syncopation, invocation, dislocation, inculcation, inundation, dissertation, innovation, installation, inhalation, immolation, liberation, iteration, illustration, information, disclamation, inflammation, intonation, incantation, mistranslation, implantation, incarnation, indentation, pigmentation, impregnation, indexation, dispensation, dissipation, indication, syndication, vindication, triplication, implication, imprecation, litigation, mitigation, instigation, irrigation, liquidation, invitation, irritation, imitation, limitation, visitation, titivation, distillation, scintillation, titillation, inspiration, integration, immigration, infiltration, ministrations, intimation, divination, inclination, indignation, importation, situation, incubation, disputation, tribulation, stipulation, stridulation, simulation, stimulation, insulation, \* equivocation, reciprocation, deliberation, invigoration, consideration, alliteration, obliteration, reiteration, proliferation, exhilaration, incineration, evisceration, commiseration, refrigeration, affiliation, humiliation, conciliation, delineation, asphyxiation, propitiation, officiation, initiation, anticipation, participation, sophistication, pontification, intimidation, precipitation, facilitation, debilitation, felicitation, horripilation, defibrillation, assimilation, invigilation, equilibration, reintegration, disintegration, administration, legitimation, elimination, recrimination, incrimination, discrimination, origination, habituation, continuation, insinuation, manipulation, matriculation, articulation, gesticulation, capitulation, dissimulation, configuration, \* reinvigoration, nonproliferation, disaffiliation, reconciliation, contraindication, self-certification,

rehabilitation, prestidigitation, individuation, disambiguation, no-win situation, recapitulation

**8.33** bifurcation, divagation, dilatation, violation, isolation, hibernation, hyphenation, ideation, \* annihilation

**8.34** conurbation, altercation, provocation, convocation, collocation, obfuscation, coruscation, propagation, corrugation, promulgation, connotation, consultation, confrontation, conservation, observation, constellation, consolation, contemplation, operation, moderation, alteration, botheration, toleration, conflagration, concentration, confirmation, proclamation, consummation, alternation, consternation, profanation, coronation, conversation, commendation, ostentation, protestation, condemnation, compensation, condensation, obviation, constipation, complication, confiscation, obligation, congregation, oxidation, cogitation, forestation, compilation, correlation, oscillation, consecration, combination, pollination, domination, nomination, conformation, occupation, conjugation, copulation, population, osculation, modulation, postulation, ovulation, procuration, conjuration, confutation, commutation, computation, \* homologation, accommodation, corroboration, cooperation, agglomeration, conglomeration, exoneration, prognostication, intoxication, consolidation, afforestation, deforestation, reforestation, deconsecration, approximation, recombination, indoctrination, abomination, predomination, denomination, preoccupation, depopulation, repopulation, inoculation, demodulation, expostulation, \* noncooperation, overcompensation, reafforestation, autocorrelation, overpopulation

**8.35** altercation, auscultation, corporation, alteration, automation, alternation, augmentation, claudication, formication, fornication, orchestration, ordination, chlorination, Aurignacian, formulation, \* incorporation, excoriation, subordination, coordination, amortization, reformulation, inauguration, \* insubordination

**8.36** fluoridation, poor relation, urination, fluorination, \* infuriation

**8.37** fomentation, molestation, procreation, foliation, spoliation, motivation, prolongation, \* defoliation, despoliation, exfoliation, appropriation, expropriation, association, dissociation, negotiation, \* radiolocation, misappropriation, disassociation, renegotiation

**8.38** suffocation, coloration, ulceration, rustication, publication, supplication, cultivation, sublimation, culmination, fulmination, fluctuation, punctuation, subjugation, undulation, pustulation, suppuration, fulguration, susurration, \* adulteration, calumniation, Annunciation, pronunciation, enunciation, denunciation, renunciation, resuscitation, \* mispronunciation

**8.39** nucleation, duplication, lubrication, fumigation, jubilation, mutilation, ruination, rumination, dubitation, ululation, cumulation, lucubration, \* recuperation, vituperation, enumeration, remuneration, rejuvenation, repudiation, adjudication, reduplication, centuplication, communication, elucidation, agglutination, illumination, hallucination, accumulation, \* excommunication, \* telecommunication, intercommunication

**8.40** transfiguration, transliteration, alimentation, manifestation, gratification, ratification, stratification, amplification, clarification, ramification, magnification, classification, standardization, dramatization, glamorization, pasteurization, canonization, magnetization, maximization, anglicization, \* syllabification, beatification, declassification, demagnetization, italicization

**8.41** aftersensation, argumentation, carbonization, harmonization

**8.42** alienation, deification, reification, pale imitation, vaporization, stabilization, \* destabilization, containerization

**8.43** self-preservation, self-immolation, echolocation, recommendation, sedimentation, regimentation, representation, edification, rectification, verification, gentrification, specification, peregrination, self-pollination, self-mutilation, centralization, generalization, specialization, tenderization, memorization, pressurization, mechanization, westernization, sensitization, sterilization, ghettoization, self-education, centrifugation, \* experimentation, misrepresentation, identification, exemplification,

electrification, indemnification, intensification, decentralization, extemporization, depressurization, desensitization, collectivization

**8.44** tergiversation, certification, versification, verbalization, urbanization, mercerization, fertilization, \* desertification, diversification, internalization, externalization, commercialization, suburbanization, self-fertilization, cross-fertilization, deterioration

**8.45** reincarnation, prepublication, schematization, legalization, equalization, penalization, etherization, demonization, \* amelioration

**8.46** disapprobation, disinformation, misinformation, disembarkation, implementation, instrumentation, interrelation, misapplication, prettification, mystification, vilification, simplification, vitrification, signification, Disneyfication, dissimilation, disinclination, improvisation, crystallization, signalization, winterization, Islamization, synchronization, Christianization, digitization, civilization, victimization, minimization, mythicization, visualization, immunization, miscalculation, \* solidification, acidification, humidification, demystification, revivification, initialization, familiarization, legitimization, politicization, \* dehumidification, oversimplification

**8.47** hyperinflation, hydrogenation, nitrification, privatization, idolization, finalization, itemization, ionization, lionization, hybridization, \* acclimatization, revitalization, de-ionization

**8.48** complementation, documentation, modification, quantification, jollification, mollification, qualification, ossification, falsification, oxygenation, cross-pollination, novelization, moralization, mongrelization, modernization, colonization, solemnization, oxidization, fossilization, optimization, \* disqualification, transmogrification, personification, detoxification, democratization, demoralization, prioritization, homogenization

**8.49** orientation, fortification, mortification, glorification, purification, falsification, formalization, normalization, authorization, organization,

bowdlerization, \* disorientation, immortalization, reorganization, disorganization

**8.50** codification, notification, globalization, localization, vocalization, motorization, polarization, mobilization, \* deodorization, depolarization, demobilization, immobilization

**8.51** yuppification, justification, nullification, uglification, mummification, multiplication, vulgarization, pulverization, customization, vulcanization, \* emulsification

**8.52** beautification, unification, brutalization, neutralization, unionization, humanization, utilization, unitization, \* reunification, dehumanization, computerization

**8.53** alphabetization, naturalization, caramelization, nationalization, rationalization, cannibalization, capitalization, categorization, characterization, decimalization, secularization, regularization, personalization, circularization, serialization, regionalization, liberalization, fictionalization, systematization, digitalization, criminalization, militarization, miniaturization, hospitalization, popularization, \* denationalization, pedestrianization, Americanization, depersonalization, materialization, demineralization, legitimatization, decriminalization, demilitarization, industrialization, demutualization

**8.54** wakened, straightened, straitened, Leyland, Wayland, Lakeland, Maitland, mainland, Raymond, chastened, hastened, stationed, \* awakened, emblazoned, etc.

**8.55** Asians, Haitians, nations, stations, Thracians, \* Galatians, serrations, Dalmatians, damnations, Alsatians, carnations, temptations, relations, cremations, gyrations, vibrations, privations, foundations, quotations, crustaceans, \* Lamentations, cancellations, aberrations, lacerations, aspirations, calculations, salutations, conurbations, connotations, operations, alterations, innovations, indentations, indications, implications, invitations, tribulations, stipulations, complications, obligations, oscillations, combinations, nominations, \* examinations, congratulations,

United Nations, communications, illuminations, hallucinations, \* telecommunications, etc.

**There's a great text in Galatians**  
**Once you trip on it, entails**  
**Twenty-nine distinct damnations,**  
**One sure, if another fails.**  
ROBERT BROWNING

**8.56** mayn't, vacant, blatant, latent, patent, flagrant, fragrant, vagrant, claimant, payment, raiment, statement, pavement, ailment, bailment, basement, casement, placement, nascent, patient, ancient, agent, \* abeyant, assailant, inhalant, prepayment, repayment, defrayment, nonpayment, escapement, abatement, restatement, misstatement, enslavement, curtailment, derailment, entailment, attainment, containment, arraignment, ordainment, abasement, debasement, encasement, replacement, emplacement, displacement, misplacement, outplacement, amazement, engagement, arrangement, derangement, complainant, complacent, adjacent, renascent, obeisant, complaisant, impatient, reagent, \* inpatient, outpatient, newsagent, \* overpayment, underpayment, reinstatement, overstatement, understatement, ascertainment, entertainment, edutainment, infotainment, self-abasement, self-effacement, disengagement, prearrangement, rearrangement, liquefacient, stupefacient, \* abortifacient

**8.57** cadence, patents, valence, fragrance, vagrants, claimants, payments, statements, ailments, nascence, patience, patients, agents, \* abeyance, purveyance, conveyance, acquaintance, surveillance, assailants, engagements, arrangements, renaissance, Renaissance, renascence, obeisance, complaisance, impatience, \* newsagents, \* reacquaintance, entertainments, etc.

**8.58** baying, fraying, greying, laying, Maying, neighing, paying, playing, praying, saying, spraying, staying, swaying, weighing, \* conveying, surveying, decaying, delaying, betraying, nonpaying, nonplaying, \* taxpaying, bricklaying, crocheting, etc.

**Then while time serves, and we are but decaying;  
Come, my Corinna, come, let's go a-Maying.**

ROBERT HERRICK

**8.59** gaping, scraping, shaping, aching, baking, breaking, faking, making, quaking, raking, shaking, taking, waking, plaguing, \* escaping, partaking, mistaking, renegeing, \* backbreaking, matchmaking, heartbreaking, painstaking, haymaking, lacemaking, breathtaking, dressmaking, earthshaking, peacemaking, piss-taking, strikebreaking, winemaking, stocktaking, lossmaking, housebreaking, homemaking, lovemaking, shoemaking, \* bellyaching, merrymaking, undertaking, moneymaking, etc.

**And the wheel's kick and the wind's song and the white sail's shaking,  
And a grey mist on the sea's face and a grey dawn breaking.**

JOHN MASEFIELD

**8.60** aiding, fading, grading, lading, raiding, shading, trading, baiting, dating, grating, hating, mating, plating, rating, skating, slating, waiting, weighting, fainting, painting, tainting, basting, pasting, tasting, wasting, \* unfading, pervading, parading, persuading, cascading, degrading, crusading, updating, frustrating, pulsating, translating, spectating, debating, relating, gyrating, rotating, donating, repainting, \* ice-skating, wine-tasting, \* aggravating, lacerating, captivating, fascinating, calculating, devastating, enervating, decorating, resonating, medicating, hesitating, emigrating, penetrating, circulating, liberating, vindicating, irritating, titillating, scintillating, stimulating, insulating, isolating, hibernating, operating, concentrating, cogitating, copulating, ovulating, alternating, nauseating, roller-skating, motivating, suffocating, supplicating, culminating, fluctuating, undulating, lubricating, duplicating, \* exasperating, self-deprecating, unhesitating, exhilarating, participating, debilitating, incriminating, discriminating, accommodating, intoxicating, subordinating, infuriating, negotiating, excruciating, communicating, illuminating, etc.

**8.61** chafing, caving, craving, paving, raving, saving, shaving, slaving, waving, plaything, bathing, scathing, swathing, \* behaving, engraving, \* time-saving, sunbathing, \* labour-saving, misbehaving, etc.

**8.62** ailing, failing, grayling, Hayling, mailing, nailing, paling, railing, sailing, trailing, veiling, wailing, whaling, cabling, stabling, stapling, cradling, ladling, shaveling, changeling, dayspring, mainspring, lacewing, \* unailing, availing, unveiling, prevailing, bewailing, \* blackmailing, abseiling, retailing, e-mailing, boardsailing, \* parasailing, unavailing, etc.

**8.63** aiming, blaming, flaming, framing, gaming, maiming, naming, shaming, taming, caning, draining, feigning, gaining, raining, reigning, staining, training, waning, \* defaming, reclaiming, exclaiming, pertaining, complaining, campaigning, abstaining, retraining, explaining, remaining, \* entertaining, self-sustaining, uncomplaining, etc.

**8.64** bracing, casing, facing, lacing, pacing, placing, racing, spacing, tracing, blazing, gazing, glazing, grazing, phasing, phrasing, praising, raising, ageing, gauging, paging, raging, staging, changing, ranging, \* replacing, embracing, amazing, self-raising, rampaging, engaging, arranging, unchanging, \* stargazing, trailblazing, hell-raising, \* self-effacing, steeplechasing, interfacing, etc.

**There on golden sunsets blazing,  
Every evening found him gazing,  
Singing, 'Orb! you're quite amazing!'**

EDWARD LEAR

**8.65** sayings, scrapings, makings, ratings, paintings, Hastings, playthings, mailings, railings, \* wine-tastings, \* undertakings, etc.

**8.66** dais, Thaïs, aphis, Avis, Davis, Mavis, Bayliss, Amis, basis, stasis, \* clematis, physalis, oasis, Oasis®, \* rara avis, digitalis, \* *semper fidelis*

**8.67** magus, Magus, Tagus, vagus, Vegas, flatus, status, stratus, Dreyfus, rayless, talus, shapeless, dateless, stateless, weightless, tasteless, faithless, nailless, tailless, aimless, blameless, nameless, shameless, brainless, painless, stainless, baseless, faceless, graceless, placeless, ageless, changeless, glabrous, scabrous, waitress, famous, Seamus, shamus, squamous, anus, greyness, heinous, Janus, vagueness, greatness, lateness, straightness, faintness, quaintness, safeness, braveness, paleness, staleness,

lameness, sameness, tameness, strangeness, gracious, spacious, \* Andreas, Piraeus, Emmaus, Linnaeus, Priapus, Las Vegas, meatus, hiatus, quietus, Pharsalus, mandamus, Uranus, Marquesas, capacious, rapacious, sagacious, fallacious, salacious, ungracious, pugnacious, mendacious, veracious, vexatious, herbaceous, flirtatious, curvaceous, sebaceous, edacious, predacious, Cretaceous, vivacious, tenacious, Ignatius, voracious, loquacious, audacious, mordacious, bodacious, rosaceous, fugacious, contagious, courageous, rampageous, outrageous, umbrageous, \* San Andreas, Menelaus, apparatus, altostratus, nimbostratus, cirrostratus, ignoramus, farinaceous, efficacious, ericaceous, perspicacious, pertinacious, liliaceous, disputatious, ostentatious, contumacious, advantageous, \* inefficacious, disadvantageous, \* Coriolanus, \* plague us, blame us, etc.

**8.68** papist, rapist, sadist, playlist, racist, bassist, ageist, \* escapist, \* landscapist

**8.69** gayest, mayest, greatest, latest, straightest, faintest, safest, bravest, gravest, palest, stalest, stablest, tamest, plainest, vainest, basest, strangest, etc.

**8.70** greyish, rakish, crayfish, knavish, slavish, palish, Hamish, Danish, \* old-maidish

**8.71** playlet, platelet, bracelet, \* affidavit, \* fail it, save it, etc.

**8.72** ha'p'orth, Hayworth

**8.73** dative, native, plaintive, \* creative, pervasive, abrasive, persuasive, evasive, invasive, \* innovative, contemplative, noninvasive

**8.74** babies, rabies, scabies, Hades, ladies, eighties, frailties, Baileys®, dailies, pastries, Amies, daisies, \* Mercedes, Euphrates, Israelis, oases, etc.

**They cannot scare me with their empty spaces  
Between stars – on stars where no human race is.  
ROBERT FROST**

**8.75** players, Sayers, labours, chambers, Chambers, capers, papers, vapours, bakers, breakers, Quakers, shakers, Shakers, takers, traders, waders, taters, flavours, Havers, quavers, sailors, trainers, aces, braces, graces, Graces, laces, places, races, spaces, traces, aitches, ages, pages, stages, wages, dangers, strangers, \* spectators, campaigners, \* fundraisers, teenagers, \* Himalayas, etc.

**8.76** Lazenby, neighbourly, fatally, painterly, playfully, gratefully, tastefully, faithfully, gainfully, painfully, gracefully, nasally, facially, racially, favourably, vacantly, blatantly, flagrantly, patiently, matronly, aimlessly, shamelessly, painlessly, famously, graciously, Avebury, Aylesbury, Sainsbury, apery, creperie, drapery, japery, papery, bakery, fakery, vagary, Avery, knavery, quavery, savory, savoury, slavery, raillery, apiary, aviary, Amory, tracery, masonry, blazonry, stationary, stationery, Naomi, papacy, vacancy, valency, flagrancy, vagrancy, agency, gaiety, laity, deity, shakily, daintily, hastily, crazily, lazily, basically, plaintively, scathingly, papistry, \* ungratefully, unfaithfully, disdainfully, disgracefully, unfavourably, insatiably, belatedly, good-naturedly, impatiently, mistakenly, voraciously, audaciously, courageously, outrageously, placatory, gyratory, vibratory, migratory, unsavoury, proslavery, chicanery, Freemasonry, probationary, deflationary, inflationary, complacency, ashamedly, restrainedly, prosaically, persuasively, evasively, amazingly, \* unmistakably, ostentatiously, approbatory, ambulatory, adulatory, accusatory, revelatory, dedicatory, deprecatory, celebratory, commendatory, condemnatory, compensatory, antislavery, spontaneity, unashamedly, unrestrainedly, uncomplainingly, \* congratulatory, anticipatory, participatory, hallucinatory, \* justificatory, improvisatory, simultaneity, etc.

**8.77** labeller, labourer, Gainsborough, paperer, caterer, waverer, straightener, stationer, Baedeker, Cambridgeshire, \* probationer, vacationer, conveyancer

**8.78** labia, Swabia, Napier, rapier, flakier, shakier, Nadia, shadier, stadia, weightier, daintier, hastier, tastier, Flavia, Xavier, dahlia, lamia, brainier, crania, mania, rainier, zanier, glacier, racier, brazier, crazier, Frasier, glazier, grazier, hazier, lazier, fascia, mangier, \* Arabia, Walachia, Arcadia, Batavia,

Belgravia, Moldavia, Octavia, Moravia, azalea, Westphalia, regalia, Australia, Albania, Tasmania, Titania, Mount Rainier, Romania, aphasia, Malaysia, fantasia, dysphasia, gymnasia, Caucasia, \* Bessarabia, Scandinavia, Lupercalia, *inter alia*, bacchanalia, Saturnalia, genitalia, penetralia, marginalia, kitchenalia, echolalia, coprolalia, macadamia, miscellanea, Pomerania, Anglomania, kleptomania, necromania, egomania, nymphomania, dipsomania, hypermania, hypomania, pyromania, monomania, collectanea, Oceania, Aquitania, Mauretania, Mauritania, Ruritania, Lusitania, Transylvania, Pennsylvania, Lithuania, Anastasia, Australasia, euthanasia, Appalachia, \* Saudi Arabia, paraphernalia, Mesopotamia, epithalamia, megalomania, bibliomania, balletomania, erotomania, etc.

**Oh, life is a glorious cycle of song,  
A medley of extemporanea;  
And love is a thing that can never go wrong;  
And I am Marie of Roumania.**

DOROTHY PARKER

**8.79** payable, playable, capable, breakable, gradable, datable, ratable, paintable, tastable, mailable, salable, saleable, scalable, favourable, blamable, tamable, traceable, satiable, changeable, flavourful, labial, brachial, radial, Balliol, Gabriel, atrial, patial, cranial, glacial, laical, apical, \* unplayable, incapable, escapable, unbreakable, unshakable, mistakable, persuadable, degradable, translatable, debatable, inflatable, available, assailable, unsalable, unsaleable, unfavourable, unnamable, untamable, reclaimable, attainable, obtainable, sustainable, maintainable, explainable, untraceable, replaceable, insatiable, unchangeable, exchangeable, behavioural, occasional, sensational, relational, vocational, bilabial, biradial, preglacial, postglacial, \* inescapable, unmistakable, untranslatable, microwavable, unavailable, unassailable, irreclaimable, unattainable, unobtainable, unsustainable, unexplainable, ineffaceable, irreplaceable, interchangeable, transformational, navigational, aspirational, recreational, educational, inspirational, situational, confrontational, operational, conversational, Congregational, occupational, motivational, lackadaisical, \*

denominational, \* biodegradable, representational, nonoperational, organizational, co-educational, \* nondenominational, \* interdenominational

**8.80** Caterham, flavoursome, radium, stadium, atrium, natrium, cranium, \* palladium, Palladium, vanadium, geranium, germanium, titanium, uranium, gymnasium, contagium, \* Verulamium, Herculaneum, \* epithalamium

**8.81** Stapleton, Phaethon, Jacobson, railwayman, Fabian, gabion, Swabian, Hadean, radian, avian, Flavian, Shavian, alien, Adrian, Hadrian, Damian, Samian, Gratian, Haitian, Thracian, Davison, Jamieson, Davidson, \* Arabian, Walachian, Palladian, Canadian, Grenadian, Barbadian, Arcadian, circadian, Orcadian, Batavian, Moldavian, Octavian, Moravian, mammalian, Westphalian, Hegelian, Pygmalion, Australian, Deucalion, Bahamian, Albanian, Tasmanian, Iranian, Jordanian, Romanian, Ukrainian, Malaysian, Vespasian, Caucasian, pelagian, Pelagian, \* Trinidadian, Scandinavian, bacchanalian, prothalamion, Pomeranian, subterranean, Panamanian, Mauritanian, Ruritanian, Transylvanian, Pennsylvanian, Lithuanian, Rabelaisian, Australasian, Athanasian, Appalachian, \* Episcopalian, tatterdemalion, Mesopotamian, Mediterranean

**8.82** gradient, radiant, salient, \* liquefacient, stupefacient, \* abortifacient

**8.83** gradients, radiance, salience, maintenance, etc.

**8.84** labelling, layering, neighbouring, tapering, catering, favouring, flavouring, Havering, quavering, wavering, crayoning, \* unwavering, self-catering, awakening, conveyancing, etc.

**8.85** paperless, flavourless, vaporous, traitorous, dangerous, waywardness, playfulness, faithfulness, weightlessness, scabious, radius, Flavius, aqueous, caseous, gaseous, alias, shakiness, weightiness, daintiness, shapeliness, laziness, nakedness, \* Sibelius, extraneous, spontaneous, cutaneous, \* simultaneous, instantaneous, miscellaneous, subcutaneous, Athanasius, \* contemporaneous, extemporaneous, etc.

**8.86** flakiest, shakiest, shadiest, weightiest, daintiest, hastiest, tastiest, brainiest, rainiest, zaniest, raciast, craziest, haziast, laziest, mangiest, etc.

**8.87** ableist, fatalist, racialist, naturist, plagiarist, Satanist, atheist, \*  
behaviourist, salvationist, \* conservationist, isolationist, educationist

**8.88** favourable, amiable, \* unfavourable, inalienable

## -e-

*The rhymes in this section have the ‘e’ sound of pen and ready as their main or final vowel sound.*

**9.1** bleb, deb, ebb, neb, pleb, Seb, web, Webb, \* celeb, \* Maghreb, Zagreb, Caleb, cobweb, \* World Wide Web, Aurangzeb

**9.2** beck, check, cheque, Czech, Dec, deck, Eck, feck, fleck, heck, Lech, lek, neck, peck, rec, reck, sec, spec, speck, tech, trek, wreck, \* V-neck, recheck, Quebec, bedeck, hi-tech, spot-check, crosscheck, low-tech, \* Caltech, Aztec, Dalek, fartlek, parsec, háček, breakneck, paycheque, namecheck, henpeck, redneck, Purbeck, Birkbeck, Seebeck, rebeck, xebec, pinchbeck, shipwreck, Steinbeck, flyspeck, wryneck, cromlech, Warbeck, foredeck, kopeck, OPEC, codec, rollneck, sun deck, roughneck, Uzbek, Dubček, Lübeck, gooseneck, \* Zapotec, Janáček, Chiang Kai-shek, afterdeck, neck-and-neck, leatherneck, demi-sec, turtleneck, nervous wreck, discotheque, Beiderbecke, biotech, bottleneck, bodycheck, quarterdeck, halterneck, Eurocheque, polo neck, rubberneck, double-check, \* Melchizedek, Toulouse-Lautrec

**The boy stood on the burning deck**

**Whence all but he had fled;**

**The flame that lit the battle’s wreck**

**Shone round him o’er the dead.**

FELICIA HEMANS

**9.3** checks, cheques, decks, ex, Exe, flecks, flex, hex, kecks, lex, necks, pecks, pecs, Rex, sex, specs, specks, Tex, vex, wrecks, X, \* convex, perplex, annex, desex, rechecks, bedecks, \* Amex, annex, Artex®, Daleks,

apex, APEX, latex, Playtex®, Hedex®, Semtex, Tex-Mex, rednecks, Perspex®, vertex, reflex, Kleenex®, Tipp-Ex®, index, triplex, simplex, NIREX, Pyrex®, ibex, ilex, silex, Timex®, complex, Optrex®, cortex, Gore-Tex®, vortex, Durex®, Lurex®, kopecks, Rolex®, duplex, suplex, \* retroflex, circumflex, intersex, Middlesex, cybersex, biconvex, Copydex®, pontifex, multiplex, googolplex, Moulinex®, unisex, \* traveller's cheques, *Oedipus Rex*, etc.

**9.4** flexed, next, sexed, text, vexed, \* perplexed, annexed, \* pretext, context, subtext, \* teletext, hypertext, oversexed, undersexed

**9.5** Brecht, checked, decked, flecked, necked, pecked, sect, Sekt, specked, trekked, wrecked, \* prospect, suspect, protect, affect, perfect, collect, correct, connect, unchecked, project, object, subject, transect, V-necked, rechecked, respect, expect, inspect, bedecked, detect, defect, effect, infect, elect, select, deflect, reflect, inflect, neglect, erect, deject, eject, reject, inject, direct, bisect, dissect, trisect, spot-checked, crosschecked, \* aspect, Albrecht, abject, henpecked, defect, prefect, reject, shipwrecked, insect, prospect, collect, project, suspect, bull-necked, Utrecht, \* architect, retrospect, resurrect, recollect, self-respect, genuflect, circumspect, reconnect, reinfect, reelect, deselect, reselect, reinspect, redirect, introspect, disaffect, intellect, incorrect, disconnect, intersect, interject, disrespect, disinfect, vivisect, indirect, misdirect, dialect, side effect, rubbernecked, double-checked, \* aftereffect, idiolect, interconnect, hypercorrect, knock-on effect, overprotect

**Never will I give advice  
Till you please to ask me thrice;  
Which, if you in scorn reject,  
'Twill be just as I expect.**  
JONATHAN SWIFT

**9.6** etch, fetch, fletch, ketch, kvetch, lech, retch, sketch, stretch, vetch, wretch, \* outstretch, \* overstretch

**9.7** etched, fetched, retched, sketched, stretched, \* unstretched, far-fetched, outstretched, \* overstretched

**9.8** bed, bled, bread, bred, cred, dead, dread, ed, Ed, fed, Fed, fled, Fred, head, ked, lead, led, Med, Ned, pled, read, red, said, shed, shred, sled, sped, spread, stead, ted, Ted, thread, tread, wed, Z, zed, \* abed, ahead, undead, unread, unthread, unwed, unsaid, gainsaid, well-fed, well-read, well-bred, Enzed, embed, reread, see red, premed, instead, behead, misled, misread, ill-bred, inbred, sliced bread, drop dead, force-fed, outspread, co-ed, stone-dead, lowbred, \* Hampstead, Stansted, slaphead, blackhead, crackhead, smackhead, fathead, blacklead, Manfred, packthread, farmstead, masthead, Ahmed, air bed, airhead, stairhead, day bed, pay bed, braindead, Gateshead, deathbed, bedstead, breast-fed, egghead, deadhead, redhead, wellhead, bedspread, spearhead, seabed, reed bed, seedbed, beachhead, sweetbread, street cred, retread, sickbed, dickhead, thickhead, bighead, pithead, Spithead, pinhead, skinhead, bridgehead, crispbread, Whitbread, wingspread, childbed, biped, Minehead, Brideshead, widespread, hotbed, Ofsted, blockhead, Godhead, hothead, pothead, hogshead, bobsled, dogsled, crossbred, force-fed, forehead, warhead, shortbread, foresaid, Muirhead, purebred, Roundhead, cowshed, flowerbed, Stourhead, Go-Ped®, moped, roadstead, homestead, bonehead, sun bed, Plumstead, bulkhead, drumhead, bloodshed, woodshed, woolshed, spoonfed, proofread, toolshed, \* aforesaid, \* hammerhead, acidhead, arrowhead, Samoyed, maidenhead, Maidenhead, feather bed, letterhead, Leatherhead, petrolhead, centre spread, Ethelred, Birkenhead, Peterhead, streets ahead, sleepyhead, Beachy Head, river bed, figurehead, in the red, infrared, pitta bread, interbred, gingerbread, bottle-fed, Holyhead, Holinshed, quadruped, watershed, Portishead, fountainhead, sofa bed, go-ahead, overfed, overhead, soda bread, slugabed, underfed, dunderhead, knucklehead, shovelhead, muttonhead, thoroughbred, newlywed

**When I am dead, I hope it may be said:**

**‘His sins were scarlet, but his books were read.’**

HILAIRE BELLOC

**9.9** beds, dreads, Ed's, Fred's, heads, sheds, shreds, spreads, threads, treads, \* blackheads, eggheads, skinheads, warheads, flowerbeds, \* arrowheads, petrolheads, loggerheads, sofa beds, overheads, newlyweds, etc.

**9.10** chef, clef, deaf, def, eff, F, Geoff, Jeff, Neff, ref, \* stone-deaf, tone-deaf, \* ASLEF, Brezhnev, Kiev, Josef, \* RAF, treble clef, VHF, IVF, Nureyev, UNICEF, \* Diaghilev, Prokofiev

**9.11** cleft, deft, Dreft®, eft, heft, left, theft, weft, \* bereft

**9.12** beg, Clegg, egg, Eigg, Greg, Greig, keg, leg, Meg, peg, skeg, teg, \* unpeg, \* blackleg, JPEG, gate-leg, tent peg, nest egg, peg leg, redleg, dogleg, foreleg, clothes peg, nutmeg, bootleg, \* Scanderbeg, break a leg, Winnipeg, filibeg

**Fain would I kiss my Julia's dainty leg,  
Which is as white and hairless as an egg.**

ROBERT HERRICK

**9.13** begs, eggs, dregs, legs, Meg's, \* tent pegs, sheerlegs, forelegs, \* daddy-long-legs, etc.

**9.14** dredge, edge, fledge, hedge, kedge, ledge, pledge, Reg, sedge, sledge, veg, wedge, \* allege, on edge

**9.15** dredged, edged, fledged, hedged, pledged, wedged, \* alleged, unfledged, \* gilt-edged, \* double-edged, fully fledged

**9.16** bel, bell, Bell, belle, Brel, cel, cell, Del, dell, Dell, dwell, ell, fell, gel, hell, jell, knell, L, Mel, Nell, quell, sell, shell, smell, Snell, spell, swell, tell, well, yell, \* lapel, propel, compel, Raquel, Adele, Badel, Patel, unwell, Chanel, quenelle, gazelle, rappel, Ravel, Manuel, Danielle, mademoiselle, cartel, Martel, Carmel, Parnell, Marcel, farewell, Snaefell, pell-mell, Dalziel, respell, retell, presell, resell, rebel, repel, impel, dispel, misspell, expel, Miguel, Fidel, Estelle, befell, indwell, excel, Giselle, Michelle, morel, Morrell, Rochelle, Courtelle®, foretell, Scaffell, outsell, Noël, Nobel, boatel, hotel, motel, Moselle, Brunel, \* handbell, Maxwell, clamshell,

barbell, Cherwell, Harwell, Chartwell, harebell, stairwell, Bakewell, Thelwell, Tencel®, eggshell, speedwell, seashell, inkwell, Bridewell, Sizewell, Oftel, Fontwell, Cromwell, Boswell, bombshell, doorbell, Orwell, Caldwell, Cornwell, cowbell, groundswell, dumbbell, nutshell, bluebell, \* Annabel, asphodel, bagatelle, caravel, parallel, aquarelle, Camberwell, caramel, carousel, Appenzell, Gabrielle, chanterelle, ne'er-do-well, béchamel, razor shell, Jezebel, Becquerel, demoiselle, decibel, personnel, clientele, Tinkerbelle, Christabel, mirabelle, Isabel, citadel, Zinfandel, William Tell, kiss and tell, Philomel, pimpernel, villanelle, infidel, pipistrelle, wishing well, immortelle, fontanelle, tortoiseshell, cockleshell, bodyshell, Duracell®, go to hell, oversell, photocell, muscatel, Motherwell, undersell, \* eau de Javelle, crème caramel, crime passionnel, Aix-la-Chapelle, Mont-Saint-Michel, maître d'hôtel, *au naturel*

**The danger chiefly lies in acting well;**

**No crime's so great as daring to excel.**

CHARLES CHURCHILL

**9.17** elk, whelk

**9.18** belch, squelch

**9.19** geld, held, meld, quelled, swelled, weld, yelled, \* propelled, compelled, upheld, rebelled, repelled, dispelled, expelled, beheld, withheld, excelled, \* Danegeld, Ziegfeld, \* jet-propelled, single-celled, \* unparalleled, etc.

**9.20** elf, Guelph, pelf, self, shelf, \* herself, themselves, oneself, itself, himself, myself, yourself, ourself

**Man hands on misery to man.**

**It deepens like a coastal shelf.**

**Get out as early as you can,**

**And don't have any kids yourself.**

PHILIP LARKIN

**9.21** elm, helm, realm, \* Anselm, Wilhelm, \* overwhelm, underwhelm

9.22 help, kelp, whelp, yelp

9.23 belt, Celt, dealt, dwelt, felt, gelt, knelt, melt, pelt, Scheldt, smelt, spelt, svelte, veld, welt, \* unbelt, misspelt, \* fan belt, heartfelt, seat belt, green belt, life belt, Roosevelt, \* safety belt, Bible Belt, Weidenfeld, underfelt, \* conveyor belt, Magherafelt

9.24 health, stealth, wealth, twelfth, \* Commonwealth

9.25 delve, helve, shelve, twelve

9.26 delves, elves, helves, selves, shelves, twelves, \* themselves, yourselves, ourselves

9.27 bells, cells, Del's, dwells, Kwells®, Mel's, sells, shells, smells, tells, Welles, Wells, yells, \* lapels, Raquel's, farewells, Seychelles, rebels, excels, hotels, \* Dardanelles, infidels, Tunbridge Wells, Book of Kells, etc.

**'What is a church?' – Our honest sexton tells,  
'Tis a tall building, with a tower and bells.'**  
GEORGE CRABBE

9.28 Clem, crème, em, *femme*, gem, hem, M, phlegm, REM, Shem, stem, them, \* condemn, contemn, ahem, *ad rem*, a.m., FM, GM, p.m., PM, Yquem, Lib Dem, pro tem, suprême, \* brainstem, mayhem, xylem, Ofgem, phloem, modem, apophthegm, *La Bohème*, ATM, AGM, requiem, Bethlehem, Eminem, chernozem, diadem, IBM, \* *carpe diem*

9.29 hemp, Kemp, temp

9.30 dreamt, kempt, tempt, \* unkempt, attempt, contempt, undreamt, pre-empt, exempt

9.31 gems, Ems, hems, stems, Thames, etc.

9.32 Aisne, Ben, Benn, Bren, den, en, Den, fen, gen, glen, Glenn, Gwen, hen, ken, Ken, Len, men, N, pen, Penn, Rennes, Seine, Taine, ten, then,

wen, when, wren, Wren, yen, Zen, \* again, Loren, Ardennes, amen, cayenne, Chechen, *kaizen*, doyenne, Phnom Penh, UN, Duchenne, \* admen, playpen, stamen, apemen, cavemen, spacemen, chessmen, pressmen, peahen, he-men, pigpen, binmen, hymen, dolmen, con men, moorhen, nomen, snowmen, stuntmen, rumen, newsmen, \* pathogen, allergen, halogen, Adrienne, antigen, acumen, weathermen, regimen, excisemen, *mise en scène*, histogen, businessmen, Ogaden, born-again, Nurofen®, fountain pen, musclemen, Sun Yatsen, julienne, \* cameramen, newspapermen, angry young men, carcinogen, Valenciennes, equestrienne, comedienne, tragedienne, ibuprofen, *absit omen*, \* hallucinogen

### **Why are the needle and the pen**

#### **Thought incompatible by men?**

ESTHER LEWIS

**9.33** bench, blench, clench, Dench, drench, French, quench, stench, tench, trench, wench, wrench, \* retrench, entrench

**9.34** blenched, clenched, drenched, quenched, wrenched, \* unquenched, retrenched, entrenched, \* sundrenched

**9.35** bend, blend, Bridgend, end, fend, friend, lend, mend, penned, rend, send, spend, tend, trend, vend, wend, \* unbend, append, upend, suspend, unkennded, attend, subtend, contend, offend, amend, commend, ascend, transcend, tail end, Gravesend, depend, impend, dispend, misspend, expend, pretend, intend, distend, extend, defend, befriend, emend, descend, Ostend, portend, forfend, Southend, \* fag end, pen friend, girlfriend, weekend, pitchblende, bin end, stipend, godsend, hornblende, boyfriend, bookend, U-bend, \* parascend, apprehend, recommend, reprehend, bitter end, dividend, on the mend, comprehend, condescend, round the bend, overspend, underspend, \* superintend, overextend, misapprehend

### **Hopeless hope hopes on and meets no end,**

#### **Wastes without springs and homes without a friend.**

JOHN CLARE

**9.36** ginseng, Kaifeng, Boateng, \* Mafikeng, \* nasi goreng

**9.37** length, strength, \* wavelength, calf-length, knee-length

**9.38** henge, Penge, \* avenge, revenge, Stonehenge

**9.39** cense, dense, fence, flense, hence, pence, sense, Spence, tense, thence, whence, cents, dents, gents, scents, tents, vents, \* suspense, condense, offence, commence, laments, dispense, expense, pretence, intense, defence, events, ring-fence, immense, incense, Hortense, \* frankincense, recompense, recommence, self-defence, common sense

**Immodest words admit of no defence,  
For want of decency is want of sense.**

WENTWORTH DILLON

**9.40** fenced, tensed, \* against, condensed, unfenced, commenced, dispensed, ring-fenced, incensed, \* recompensed, recommenced

**9.41** bent, Brent, cent, dent, gent, Ghent, Gwent, Kent, leant, lent, Lent, meant, pent, rent, scent, sent, spent, stent, tent, Trent, vent, went, \* unbent, unspent, content, ferment, lament, unmeant, ascent, assent, per cent, consent, Tashkent, fragment, absent, accent, hellbent, segment, frequent, repent, misspent, indent, intent, extent, event, prevent, invent, relent, cement, descent, dissent, present, resent, forewent, forwent, torment, augment, foment, \* advent, Advent, ferment, indent, content, Broadbent, portent, torment, \* malcontent, Steradent®, heaven-sent, regiment, represent, circumvent, reinvent, represent, discontent, implement, nonevent, complement, compliment, document, ornament, orient, overspent, Stoke-on-Trent, underspent, underwent, supplement, \* experiment, misrepresent, reorient, disorient

**And sigh that one thing only has been lent  
To youth and age in common – discontent.**

MATTHEW ARNOLD

**9.42** nth, tenth

**9.43** Ben's, Benz, cleanse, Fens, gens, glens, Gwen's, hens, Ken's, lens, pens, TENS, Wrens, \* impatiens, Mercedes-Benz, vas deferens, \* *Homo sapiens*, \* delirium tremens, etc.

**9.44** cep, Depp, hep, pep, PEP, prep, rep, schlep, step, steppe, yep, \* unstep, Dieppe, \* quickstep, instep, sidestep, doorstep, footstep, goosestep, \* step-by-step, overstep

**9.45** ceps, crêpes, reps, Schweppes®, steps, Steppes, \* sidesteps, biceps, triceps, forceps, footsteps, \* quadriceps, etc.

**My mother groaned, my father wept.**

**Into the dangerous world I leapt.**

WILLIAM BLAKE

**9.46** crept, kept, leapt, sept, slept, stepped, swept, wept, \* adept, unstepped, unwept, unswept, accept, backswept, well-kept, yclept, inept, except, \* transept, percept, precept, windswept, sidestepped, concept, goosestepped, \* intercept, overslept, overstepped

**9.47** Bess, bless, cess, chess, cress, dress, guess, Hess, Hesse, Jess, less, mess, ness, press, S, stress, Tess, tress, yes, \* profess, confess, unless, caress, oppress, suppress, compress, aggress, progress, address, undress, assess, process, obsess, success, possess, chapess, bad press, transgress, largesse, heiress, mayoress, Caithness, Skegness, SS, peeress, Sheerness, PS, priestess, re-dress, depress, repress, impress, express, regress, distress, redress, liquesce, finesse, recess, excess, princess, digress, stop press, Loch Ness, duress, fluoresce, Foulness, hostess, noblesse, US, Jewess, \* abbess, abscess, access, headdress, excess, egress, Negress, recess, prioress, winepress, tigress, nightdress, goddess, compress, congress, Congress, laundress, prowess, countess, ogress, progress, process, sundress, \* battledress, baroness, acquiesce, marchioness, patroness, second-guess, shepherdess, effervesce, effloresce, letterpress, retrogress, SAS, NHS, deliquesce, SOS, murderess, bouillabaisse, decompress, readdress, deaconess, evanesce, reassess, prepossess, repossess, Inverness, dispossess, incandesce, minidress, intumesce, lioness, Lyonesse, pythoness,

convalesce, obsolesce, phosphoresce, prophetess, politesse, authoress, sorceress, watercress, trouser press, coalesce, opalesce, overdress, poetess, nonetheless, governess, Dungeness, stewardess, luminesce, \* nevertheless, manageress, couldn't-care-less, Shoeburyness

**9.48** desk, \* burlesque, grotesque, \* Kafkaesque, arabesque, statuesque, picaresque, picturesque, Romanesque, humoresque, Junoesque, Pythonesque

**9.49** best, blessed, blest, breast, Brest, chest, crest, dressed, fest, guessed, guest, hest, jest, lest, messed, nest, pest, pressed, quest, rest, stressed, test, vest, west, wrest, zest, \* attest, protest, contest, professed, confessed, molest, unblest, arrest, caressed, abreast, oppressed, suppressed, compressed, progressed, addressed, undressed, unstressed, unrest, obsessed, possessed, suggest, congest, NatWest, hard-pressed, Mae West, well-dressed, Trieste, retest, prestressed, egest, *id est*, detest, infest, invest, behest, celeste, depressed, repressed, impressed, distressed, bequest, liquesced, request, Midwest, ingest, divest, digest, George Best, northwest, southwest, \* gabfest, backrest, armrest, redbreast, headrest, retest, bitchfest, inquest, incest, digest, contest, songfest, conquest, house guest, protest, road test, goldcrest, processed, love nest, footrest, \* acquiesced, manifest, Sackville-West, palimpsest, paying guest, second-best, self-confessed, effervesced, self-possessed, readdressed, repossessed, reinvest, rinderpest, interest, disinfect, disinvest, chimney breast, coalesced, overdressed, undervest, unaddressed, underdressed, Sunday best, unimpressed, unexpressed, Bucharest, Budapest, \* Haverfordwest, *chanson de geste*, *Marie Celeste*, etc.

**One flew east and one flew west,  
And one flew over the cuckoo's nest.**

NURSERY RHYME

**9.50** crèche, flesh, fresh, mesh, nesh, thresh, \* afresh, crème fraîche, refresh, enmesh, \* horseflesh, gooseflesh, \* Marrakech, Bangladesh, Gilgamesh, synchromesh, \* Andhra Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh

**9.51** ate, bet, Brett, debt, fret, get, het, jet, let, Lett, met, net, pet, Rhett, set, sett, stet, sweat, threat, vet, wet, whet, yet, \* abet, forget, cadet, Chevette®, Colette, sublet, arête, barrette, Debrett, Annette, Jeanette, Nanette, cassette, upset, gazette, Capet, hackette, banquette, baguette, ladette, toilette, noisette, aigrette, layette, septet, sextet, curvet, Burnett, revet, preset, reset, Tibet, pipette, briquette, piquet, diskette, beget, quintet, nymphet, Yvette, Gillette, regret, vignette, Lynette, spinet, Wynette, beset, dinette, coquette, croquette, moquette, octet, nonet, offset, brochette, Claudette, quartet, corvette, Paulette, laundrette, lorgnette, courgette, georgette, Georgette, curette, Tourette, Odette, motet, rosette, duet, Phuket, roulette, brunette, Suzette, couchette, \* dragnet, handset, Fastnet, hairnet, headset, tea set, inlet, kismet, fishnet, quickset, thickset, film set, inset, twinset, typeset, mind-set, offset, onset, outset, subset, upset, sunset, \* alphabet, parapet, baronet, flannelette, avocet, Antoinette, satinet, clarinet, bassinet, statuette, marmoset, martinet, Lafayette, majorette, bayonet, maisonette, crêpe suzette, leatherette, epaulette, Letraset®, etiquette, netiquette, epithet, Exocet®, Bernadette, serviette, turbojet, cigarette, minaret, spinneret, Internet, intranet, winceyette, vinaigrette, kitchenette, silhouette, pirouette, minuet, cyberpet, scilicet, novelette, stockinet, overate, photoset, usherette, Mummerset, Somerset, suffragette, Juliet, oubliette, \* marionette, *eau de toilette*

**Lord God of Hosts, be with us yet,  
Lest we forget – lest we forget!**  
RUDYARD KIPLING

**9.52** bets, Brett's, debts, let's, Metz, pets, sweats, threats, \* cadets, Annette's, Donets, cassettes, courgettes, brunettes, \* salopettes, pantalettes, castanets, clarinets, majorettes, serviettes, cigarettes, suffragettes, etc.

**9.53** breadth, \* handbreadth

**9.54** Beth, breath, death, saith, Seth, \* Macbeth, \* shibboleth

**9.55** Beth's, deaths, meths, Seth's, etc.

**9.56** Bev, rev, \* maglev, Brezhnev, Kiev, \* Nureyev, \* Diaghilev, Prokofiev

9.57 fez, Kez, Les, says, \* des res, Montez, Cortez, oyez, \* Baez, Lopez, Gomez, \* Fernandez, Rodriguez

10.1 Debbie, plebby, webby, Selby, Denbigh, Denby, Tenby, peppy, preppy, Sheppey, kelpie, tempi, \* Giuseppe, Gillespie, Entebbe, \* cobwebby, \* Tio Pepe®

10.2 Becky, brekky, leccy, recce, techie, Nevski, pesky, eggy, leggy, Peggy, dengue, \* kromesky, Radetzky, \* Paderewski, Dostoevsky

10.3 eddy, Eddy, Freddy, heady, Neddy, ready, steady, teddy, Teddy, thready, bendy, trendy, Wendy, Bette, Betty, Getty, Hettie, jetty, petty, sweaty, yeti, empty, hefty, lefty, sheltie, Welty, plenty, twenty, chesty, testy, \* unsteady, unready, already, Allende, effendi, crescendi, spaghetti, confetti, machete, Andretti, Rossetti, aplenty, \* rough-and-ready, oven-ready, amoretti, Serengeti, Olivetti, Donizetti, cognoscenti, \* *modus vivendi*, *Deo volente*, *festina lente*

10.4 Effie, Delphi, bevvly, bevy, Chevy, heavy, levee, levy, envy, breathy, healthy, stealthy, wealthy, lengthy, \* Adelphi, top-heavy, unhealthy, \* Abernethy

**Drove my Chevy to the levee**

**But the levee was dry.**

DON MCLEAN

10.5 belly, Delhi, deli, Ellie, jelly, Kelly, Melly, Nellie, nelly, Shelley, shelly, smelly, telly, welly, pebbly, trebly, Wembley, freckly, deadly, Hedley, medley, Smedley, friendly, Tetley, wetly, deftly, Bentley, gently, deathly, cleanly, Henley, Bexley, densely, tensely, Lesley, Leslie, Presley, Wesley, fleshly, freshly, Bletchley, Sketchley, beret, berry, Berry, bury, Bury, cherry, Ceri, Derry, ferry, Gerry, jerry, Jerry, Kerry, merry, perry, Perry, sherry, terry, Terry, very, wherry, debris, Hendry, entry, gentry, sentry, vestry, Elstree, Geoffrey, belfry, every, Henry, Dewi, \* Grappelli, Clovelly, Corelli, Minnelli, Pwllheli, assembly, grotesquely, unfriendly, correctly, directly, intently, Llanelli, expressly, immensely, intensely, equerry, re-entry, \* Leadbelly, potbelly, car ferry, Queensferry, knobkerrie, Horseferry, ancestry,

\* tagliatelle, Schiaparelli, Gabrieli, self-assembly, Zeffirelli, yellow-belly, vermicelli, incorrectly, indirectly, Botticelli, Torricelli, underbelly, user-friendly, elderberry, beriberi, necessary, whortleberry, serviceberry, Roddenberry, Pondicherry, boysenberry, loganberry, huckleberry, Huckleberry, Londonderry, \* unnecessary, \* Machiavelli, etc.

**As o'er my latest book I pored,  
Enjoying it immensely,  
I suddenly exclaimed 'Good Lord!'  
And gripped the volume tensely.**

P. G. WODEHOUSE

**10.6** Clemmie, Emmy, jemmy, lemme, phlegmy, semi, Esme, any, Benny, blenny, Denny, Glennie, Jenny, Kenny, Lenny, many, penne, penny, Penny, Rennie, Stepney, Chesney, \* antennae, Kilkenny, \* spinning jenny, two-a-penny, \* Abergavenny, \* condemn me, etc.

**10.7** Bessie, Crécy, dressy, Jesse, Jessie, messy, Nessie, Plessey, Pepsi®, Dempsey, sexy, Betsy, tsetse, Chelsea, Elsie, Selsey, pressie, frenzy, fleshy, sketchy, stretchy, tetchy, squelchy, Frenchy, edgy, veggie, \* in esse, Mackenzie, \* catalepsy, narcolepsy, epilepsy, apoplexy, cataplexy, Montmorency, Bangladeshi, Comaneci

**10.8** Webber, Elba, Elbe, Melba, ember, member, leper, pepper, stepper, helper, yelper, temper, Vespa®, vesper, \* Lloyd Webber, September, remember, dismember, December, November, distemper, \* sidestepper, Culpeper, \* misremember, \* help her, etc.

**Thirty days hath September,  
April, June, and November.**

TRADITIONAL RHYME

**10.9** Becker, checker, Decca, decker, Dekker, Mecca, pecker, Secker, trekker, wrecker, Wesker, beggar, Gregor, mega, Edgar, Helga, \* Quebecker, Rebecca, exchequer, Francesca, McGregor, \* Baedeker, spellchecker, oxpecker, Voortrekker, woodpecker, Heidegger, bootlegger, \* double-decker, \* peck her, beg her, etc.

**10.10** bedder, Cheddar, Edda, header, Jedda, redder, shedder, shredder, spreader, tedder, threader, treader, elder, welder, Zelda, bender, blender, Brenda, fender, gender, Glenda, lender, mender, render, sender, slender, spender, Spender, splendour, tender, vendor, better, debtor, ETA, feta, fetter, getter, Greta, letter, setter, sweater, wetter, sceptre, tempter, hector, Hector, nectar, rector, sector, Spector, spectre, vector, EFTA, belter, delta, melter, Shelta, shelter, smelter, swelter, welter, centre, enter, renter, tenter, venter, Chester, cresta, ester, Esther, fester, Hester, jester, Leicester, Lester, Nesta, nester, pester, tester, Vesta, wester, zester, Webster, Dempster, Dexter, texter, Leominster, Leinster, \* Griselda, suspender, addenda, attender, contender, offender, surrender, ascender, agenda, transgender, weekender, East Ender, pretender, extender, defender, descender, engender, pudenda, Bethesda, abetter, unfetter, Valletta, Loretta, Gambetta, Lambretta®, pancetta, vendetta, begetter, biretta, Rosetta, bruschetta, acceptor, preceptor, receptor, prospector, protector, Protector, convector, collector, connector, projector, objector, respecter, inspector, detector, defector, elector, selector, reflector, erector, ejector, rejector, director, bisector, dissector, lamenter, assentor, placenta, magenta, re-enter, preventer, inventor, frequenter, precentor, presenter, tormentor, Rowenta, polenta, protester, Avesta, molester, arrester, fiesta, siesta, Sylvester, investor, celesta, sequester, semester, trimester, digester, nor'wester, northwester, sou'wester, southwester, \* homesteader, bartender, pacesetter, Leadbetter, trendsetter, typesetter, go-getter, bonesetter, newsletter, daycentre, Jobcentre, ancestor, \* van de Velde, parascender, hacienda, referenda, recommender, corrigenda, moneylender, carburettor, Henrietta, operetta, interceptor, helter-skelter, epicentre, empty-nester, Cirencester, polyester, \* sinfonietta, impedimenta, experimenter, \* send her, let her, etc.

**10.11** deafer, heifer, zephyr, clever, ever, never, sever, Trevor, delver, elver, selva, shelve, Denver, Jephthah, blether, feather, heather, Heather, leather, nether, tether, weather, wether, whether, \* forever, wherever, whenever, endeavour, whichever, whatever, however, whoever, whomever, together, \* Fairweather, bellwether, shoe leather, \* wheresoever, never-never, whensoever, Micheldever, whatsoever, howsoever, whosoever, whomsoever, hell for leather, altogether

**The glass is falling hour by hour, the glass will fall for ever,  
But if you break the bloody glass you won't hold up the weather.**

LOUIS MACNEICE

**10.12** Bella, cellar, Della, dweller, Ella, fella, fellah, feller, Heller, Keller, Mellor, Pella, seller, smeller, speller, Stella, stellar, teller, Weller, Puebla, trembler, Kepler, Templar, heckler, Spengler, meddler, medlar, peddler, pedlar, fettler, settler, gentler, wrestler, error, Ferrar, terror, Deborah, zebra, Petra, plectra, spectra, extra, Defra, Sèvres, Ezra, Quechua, Kenya, Lenya, tenure, \* propeller, McKellar, patella, novella, umbrella, lamella, candela, Mandela, Marcella, bestseller, reseller, repeller, impeller, dispeller, expeller, Estella, Fenella, Kinsella, paella, Viyella®, Nigella, foreteller, Floella, Louella, rubella, Prunella, assembler, exemplar, embezzler, belles-lettres, et cetera, Electra, \* tale-teller, cave-dweller, bierkeller, saltcellar, bookseller, knee-trembler, \* Arabella, Annabella, a cappella, panatella, tarantella, salmonella, varicella, cerebellar, legionella, Isabella, interstellar, Cinderella, villanella, citronella, Rockefeller, mozzarella, storyteller, *fin de siècle*, cause célèbre, *raison d'être*, Clytemnestra, \* Valpolicella, \* sell her, tell her, etc.

**10.13** Emma, Gemma, hemmer, lemma, stemma, tremor, smegma, Elmer, Selma, Thelma, Mesmer, henna, Jenna, Jenner, penna, senna, Senna, tenner, tenor, Edna, Etna, Gretna, Ventnor, Bremner, Cessna, \* ack-emma, pip-emma, dilemma, McKenna, Ravenna, antenna, Siena, sienna, Vienna, Gehenna, Morwenna, duenna, \* condemn her, etc.

**10.14** dresser, guesser, Hesse, lesser, lessor, stressor, Tessa, TESSA, flexor, sexer, vexer, Elsa, censer, censor, ENSA, fencer, Mensa, sensor, spencer, Spencer, Spenser, tensor, tensor, cleanser, leisure, measure, pleasure, treasure, Cheshire, Escher, flesher, fresher, pressure, thresher, censure, betcha, etcher, fetcher, fletcher, Fletcher, lecher, sketcher, stretcher, lecture, belcher, squelcher, bencher, denture, quencher, trencher, venture, gesture, texture, dredger, edger, hedger, ledger, pledger, \* suppressor, compressor, aggressor, addresser, professor, confessor, Vanessa, assessor, successor, possessor, depressor, repressor, Odessa, Alexa, condenser, Walesa, dispenser, extensor, Demelza, cadenza, credenza, displeasure, refresher, dementia, conjecture, adventure, backbencher, debenture, indenture,

frontbencher, St Leger, avenger, \* hairdresser, processor, indexer, prefecture, thirst-quencher, \* decompressor, reposessor, predecessor, Alka-Seltzer®, influenza, made-to-measure, countermeasure, acupuncture, architecture, peradventure, misadventure, Bonaventure, \* Nebuchadnezzar, \* microprocessor, \* assess her, refresh her, etc.

**Now hatred is by far the longest pleasure;  
Men love in haste, but they detest at leisure.**

LORD BYRON

**10.15** epic, Vedic, medic, Celtic, peptic, sceptic, septic, hectic, Delphic, Elphick, pelvic, ethic, Smethwick, relic, Berwick, cleric, Derek, derrick, Eric, ferric, Herrick, Merrick, redbrick, Cedric, Etrick, metric, Prestwick, Sedgewick, Fenwick, Chetnik, ethnic, Selznick, Beswick, Keswick, Belgic, \* alembic, prophetic, bathetic, pathetic, balletic, phonetic, acetic, ascetic, athletic, magnetic, Helvetic, hermetic, aesthetic, synthetic, emetic, mimetic, frenetic, genetic, kinetic, splenetic, pyretic, prosthetic, cosmetic, poetic, aseptic, dyspeptic, eupeptic, eclectic, dyslectic, authentic, domestic, majestic, malefic, benefic, angelic, Goidelic, enteric, mesmeric, hysteric, generic, chimeric, Homeric, numeric, symmetric, obstetric, electric, concentric, eccentric, Scalextric®, polemic, alchemic, pandemic, endemic, systemic, totemic, transgenic, Hellenic, irenic, eugenic, dyslexic, pyrexia, forensic, \* paramedic, alphabetic, apathetic, parenthetical, Masoretic, anaesthetic, arithmetic, empathetic, energetic, theoretic, sympathetic, synergetic, kinaesthetic, synaesthetic, diabetic, diuretic, cybernetic, dietetic, copacetic, cataleptic, analeptic, antiseptic, narcoleptic, epileptic, neuroleptic, Euro-sceptic, apopleptic, anorectic, dialectic, psychedelic, evangelic, stratospheric, atmospheric, exoteric, hemispheric, esoteric, climacteric, isomeric, tachometric, barometric, parametric, asymmetric, hexametric, telemetric, thermometric, geometric, kilometric, biometric, diametric, psychometric, isometric, dielectric, bisymmetric, optometric, chronometric, volumetric, photometric, ethnocentric, geocentric, egocentric, Eurocentric, academic, epidemic, pathogenic, allergenic, callisthenic, telegenic, oestrogenic, schizophrenic, cryogenic, psychogenic, oncogenic, autogenic, neurasthenic, photogenic, mutagenic, pyrotechnic, polytechnic, geodesic, anorexic, \* apologetic, \* peripatetic, antipathetic, unsympathetic,

diaphoretic, antimagnetic, ferromagnetic, photosynthetic, antiemetic, telekinetic, psychokinetic, antipyretic, alphanumeric, anthropometric, trigonometric, sociometric, hydroelectric, photoelectric, nonacademic, radiogenic, carcinogenic, mediagenic, \* electromagnetic, hallucinogenic

**10.16** medics, sceptics, ethics, relics, clerics, Derek's, Eric's, Hendrix, Essex, Wessex, \* appendix, phonetics, ascetics, athletics, magnetics, aesthetics, synthetics, emetics, genetics, kinetics, prosthetics, cosmetics, poetics, domestics, hysterics, obstetrics, electrics, directrix, polemics, eugenics, \* paramedics, anaesthetics, diabetics, diuretics, Callanetics, cybernetics, dietetics, homiletics, epileptics, Euro-sceptics, dialectics, atmospheric, biometrics, psychometrics, isometrics, academics, cryogenics, callisthenics, pyrotechnics, polytechnics, etc.

**10.17** tepid, eddied, steadied, splendid, fetid, emptied, levied, envied, bellied, gelid, jellied, buried, ferried, serried, jemmied, blessed, frenzied, wretched, \* intrepid, three-legged, long-legged, cross-legged, bow-legged, unenvied, potbellied, unburied, \* yellow-bellied, etc.

**10.18** leopard, peppered, shepherd, Shepard, headed, leaded, shredded, wedded, blended, ended, mended, tended, betted, bettered, fretted, lettered, fettered, sweated, tempted, sheltered, sweltered, centred, dented, entered, scented, festered, pestered, rested, tested, vested, Bedford, Redford, Deptford, Stretford, Telford, Wexford, Chelmsford, severed, method, tethered, weathered, Herod, Edward, westward, tenured, Leonard, Reynard, censored, leisured, measured, treasured, censured, Trenchard, ventured, \* remembered, unleaded, hard-headed, bareheaded, red-headed, clear-headed, three-headed, beheaded, bigheaded, pigheaded, light-headed, hot-headed, baldheaded, two-headed, attended, untended, amended, commended, unmended, ascended, pretended, intended, distended, extended, defended, befriended, descended, unfettered, unlettered, indebted, accepted, excepted, attempted, suspected, protected, affected, collected, corrected, connected, expected, detected, infected, elected, reflected, dejected, directed, dissected, undented, contented, fermented, lamented, consented, unscented, accented, self-centred, repented, invented, demented, augmented, attested, contested, untested, molested, congested, flat-chested, invested, requested,

sequestered, digested, eisteddfod, unsevered, untethered, northwestward, southwestward, uncensored, unmeasured, uncensored, \* level-headed, empty-headed, muddleheaded, recommended, unattended, unintended, undefended, undescended, apprehended, unaccepted, unattempted, disaffected, disconnected, unsuspected, unprotected, unaffected, uncollected, uncorrected, unconnected, unexpected, undetected, uninfected, unelected, unreflected, uninflected, undirected, regimented, represented, discontented, documented, ornamented, unfermented, unlamented, unaccented, unfrequented, redigested, single-breasted, unattested, uncontested, unmolested, double-breasted, uncongested, unrequested, undigested, \* unprecedented, unrepresented, undocumented, etc.

**A little still she strove, and much repented,  
And whispering 'I will ne'er consent' – consented.**  
LORD BYRON

**10.19** leopards, shepherds, Edwards, Leonard's, westwards, \* northwestwards, southwestwards, etc.

**10.20** wreckage, tentage, vestige, selvedge, Redbridge, Bembridge, Selfridge, ennage, Greenwich, message, presage, \* appendage, curettage, percentage, assemblage

**10.21** pebble, rebel, treble, Kemble, tremble, Keppel, sepal, Semple, temple, deckle, freckle, heckle, Jekyll, shekel, speckle, medal, meddle, pedal, peddle, reddle, treadle, Weddell, Grendel, Kendal, Lendl, Mendel, Pendle, Rendell, Wendell, fettle, Gretel, kettle, metal, mettle, nettle, petal, settle, septal, rectal, dental, gentle, lentil, mental, rental, festal, vestal, TEFL, helpful, dreadful, fretful, restful, healthful, Grenfell, stressful, vengeful, bevel, devil, level, Neville, revel, Bethel, Ethel, ethyl, methyl, Errol, beryl, Beryl, Cheryl, feral, ferrule, Meryl, peril, federal, tendril, petrel, petrol, spectral, central, ventral, kestrel, dextral, several, general, fennel, kennel, regnal, Cecil, Chessell, nestle, pestle, TESL, trestle, vessel, wrestle, Edsel, pretzel, quetzal, pencil, stencil, bezel, Denzil, special, \* assemble, dissemble, resemble, backpedal, prebendal, pudendal, unsettle, resettle, parental, placental, judgmental, unhelpful, forgetful, regretful,

respectful, neglectful, eventful, resentful, successful, revengeful, bedevil, split-level, dishevel, imperil, integral, campestral, ancestral, sylvestral, orchestral, commensal, utensil, embezzle, especial, potential, torrential, tangential, credential, sequential, essential, prudential, \* gunmetal, daredevil, she-devil, eyelevel, \* reassemble, disassemble, sacramental, transcendental, accidental, temperamental, sentimental, elemental, detrimental, regimental, departmental, interdental, instrumental, incidental, incremental, compartmental, Oriental, Occidental, continental, nonjudgmental, monumental, ornamental, fundamental, governmental, supplemental, disrespectful, uneventful, unsuccessful, deferential, preferential, referential, reverential, exponential, evidential, presidential, residential, penitential, existential, pestilential, differential, inferential, quintessential, inessential, influential, confidential, providential, consequential, nonessential, \* transcontinental, coincidental, experimental, environmental, nonaccidental, nongovernmental, unsentimental, subcontinental, nonresidential, experiential, inconsequential, \* Popocatépetl, interdepartmental, intercontinental, intergovernmental

**Tender-handed stroke a nettle,  
And it stings you for your pains;  
Grasp it like a man of mettle,  
And it soft as silk remains.**

AARON HILL

**10.22** freckled, heckled, metallated, nettled, settled, nestled, wrestled, Gerald, herald, \* assembled, unsettled, bedevilled, Fitzgerald, embezzled, etc.

**10.23** pebbles, Eccles, freckles, speckles, Engels, medals, pedals, nettles, petals, lentils, kennels, pencils, \* utensils, credentials, essentials, etc.

**10.24** Blenheim, denim, \* defend him, lent him, etc.

**10.25** Beckham, Peckham, Shechem, welcome, Wellcome, Egham, seldom, Streatham, septum, rectum, Eltham, Feltham, Trentham, Benthams, Pelham, vellum, emblem, peplum, bedlam, Meldrum, plectrum, spectrum, Denham, venom, Epsom, Wrexham, jetsam, Chesham, Gresham, Belgium, \*

unwelcome, addendum, agendum, pudendum, momentum, flagellum, post-bellum, exemplum, electrum, envenom, \* referendum, corrigendum, antebellum, cerebellum, interregnum, \* send 'em, wrecked 'em, etc.

**10.26** Pepin, tenpin, Elgin, cretin, pecten, pectin, Quentin, destine, elfin, Bevin, Kevin, Previn, Levin, Kelvin, Melvin, Welwyn, Devlin, Emlyn, gremlin, Kremlin, Erin, Perrin, Sherrin, eccrine, penguin, Edwin, Selwyn, Lenin, rennin, venom, pepsin, Yeltsin, resin, engine, \* Potemkin, San Quentin, progestin, clandestine, predestine, intestine, Helvellyn, Fluellen, Llewellyn, muezzin, \* gibberellin, antivenin, vasopressin, Taliesin, \* settin', dressin', etc.

**10.27** ebon, Melbourne, weapon, hempen, beckon, Brecon, Deccan, reckon, Mencken, Megan, deaden, leaden, redden, Seddon, Sneddon, Hebdon, Sheldon, Weldon, Brendan, Hendon, tendon, Dresden, Breton, jetton, threaten, Repton, lectern, Elton, Melton, Skelton, Benton, Denton, Fenton, Kenton, lentin, Trenton, Preston, western, Weston, sextan, sexton, deafen, Stéphane, Bevan, Devon, Evan, heaven, leaven, seven, Severn, Bethan, lengthen, strengthen, leathern, Ellen, felon, Helen, melon, Declan, heron, veteran, chevron, brethren, Kenyan, Kenyon, Emmen, Lemmon, lemon, Yemen, Helpmann, headman, Steadman, Feldman, bellman, Hellman, penman, chessman, desman, pressman, helmsman, freshman, Welshman, Frenchman, henchman, Brennan, Lennon, pennon, tenon, \* Tibetan, Avestan, Midwestern, eleven, McKellen, Magellan, rebellion, Trevelyan, \* muskmelon, \* Armageddon, pademelon, watermelon, philodendron, rhododendron, Agamemnon

**And bound on that journey you find your attorney (who started that morning from Devon);**

**He's a bit undersized, and you don't feel surprised when he tells you he's only eleven.**

W. S. GILBERT

**10.28** Essen, lessen, lesson, Wesson, Epon, Texan, Stetson®, Belsen, Nelson, Benson, ensign, Jensen, cession, freshen, session, section, flexion, gentian, mention, pension, tension, question, Belgian, \* half-nelson, full

nelson, profession, confession, oppression, suppression, compression, aggression, progression, procession, obsession, succession, concession, possession, transgression, accession, depression, Depression, repression, impression, expression, discretion, regression, precession, recession, secession, digression, perception, conception, deception, reception, inception, exception, preemption, redemption, exemption, protection, affection, perfection, confection, convection, collection, complexion, correction, connection, projection, subsection, objection, subjection, inspection, detection, defection, refection, infection, election, selection, deflection, reflection, inflection, erection, resection, dejection, ejection, rejection, injection, direction, bisection, dissection, cross-section, suspension, attention, contention, subvention, convention, ascension, Ascension, abstention, detention, pretension, retention, intention, distension, extension, prevention, invention, declension, dissension, dimension, Laurentian, Lawrentian, suggestion, congestion, ingestion, digestion, \* self-possession, self-expression, decompression, prepossession, repossession, intercession, dispossession, indiscretion, nonaggression, apperception, self-deception, preconception, interception, misconception, contraception, retrospection, self-protection, retroflexion, recollection, resurrection, Resurrection, self-selection, genuflection, circumspection, reconnection, reinfection, pre-election, re-election, deselection, reselection, redirection, predilection, introspection, imperfection, disaffection, insurrection, disconnection, intersection, interjection, disinfection, vivisection, by-election, apprehension, reprehension, circumvention, reinvention, inattention, intervention, hypertension, hypotension, contravention, comprehension, condescension, self-suggestion, indigestion, \* delicatessen, hypercorrection, misapprehension, incomprehension, nonintervention, autosuggestion, \* immunosuppression, antivivisection

**10.29** beckoned, fecund, reckoned, second, threatened, deafened, leavened, Cleland, Welland, headland, Shetland, wetland, Westland, errand, gerund, reverend, Reverend, Edmund, Redmond, Esmond, Desmond, lessened, freshened, mentioned, questioned, legend, \* split-second, unleavened, unmentioned, unquestioned, \* aforementioned, \* nanosecond, millisecond, microsecond, well-intentioned, undermentioned, etc.

**George the First was always reckoned  
Vile, but viler George the Second.**

WALTER SAVAGE LANDOR

**10.30** seconds, Shetlands, wetlands, errands, Edmonds, legends, \* Bury St Edmunds, etc.

**10.31** tenpins, Jenkins, Emlyn's, gremlins, penguins, Edwin's, \* intestines, etc.

**10.32** weapons, reckons, Megan's, tendons, Evans, heavens, sevens, melons, lemons, lessons, sessions, Sessions, sections, pensions, questions, \* elevens, good heavens, St Helens, rebellions, professions, processions, concessions, possessions, exceptions, connections, objections, reflections, conventions, abstentions, intentions, suggestions, etc.

**10.33** peccant, pedant, pendant, pendent, extant, sextant, errant, gerent, entrant, segment, vestment, clement, Clement, pennant, tenant, Tennant, pregnant, regnant, remnant, Besant, Cheshunt, crescent, peasant, pheasant, pleasant, present, sentient, trenchant, \* attendant, ascendant, transcendent, dependant, dependent, defendant, intendant, resplendent, descendant, expectant, repentant, contestant, appellant, propellant, flagellant, repellent, expellant, aberrant, deterrent, inherent, knight-errant, vicegerent, re-entrant, inclement, amendment, abetment, revetment, curettement, contentment, resentment, investment, assessment, commencement, refreshment, retrenchment, entrenchment, subtenant, lieutenant, confessant, suppressant, pearlescent, quiescent, depressant, excrescent, senescent, incessant, fluorescent, pubescent, putrescent, unpleasant, consentient, presentient, dissentient, insentient, \* independent, disinfectant, unrepentant, decongestant, interpellant, reinvestment, reassessment, sublieutenant, adolescent, acquiescent, effervescent, deliquescent, evanescent, prepubescent, recrudescant, incandescent, iridescent, convalescent, obsolescent, phosphorescent, coalescent, opalescent, juvenescent, luminescent, omnipresent, \* interdependent, overdependent, superintendent, antidepressant, preadolescent, \* immunosuppressant

**10.34** pedants, pendants, sentence, semblance, Terence, entrance, deference, preference, reference, reverence, Reverence, severance, vestments, penance, tenants, remnants, essence, peasants, pheasants, Pleasence, presence, presents, sentience, vengeance, \* attendance, attendants, transcendence, dependants, dependence, resplendence, acceptance, repentance, contestants, repellence, resemblance, aberrance, deterrence, remembrance, irreverence, amendments, quiescence, quintessence, excrescence, senescence, fluorescence, pubescence, putrescence, insentience, \* independence, nonattendance, adolescence, adolescents, acquiescence, effervescence, deliquescence, evanescence, prepubescence, recrudescence, inflorescence, incandescence, iridescence, convalescence, obsolescence, phosphorescence, coalescence, opalescence, juvenescence, luminescence, omnipresence, \* interdependence, overdependence, superintendence, antidepressants, preadolescence, etc.

**10.35** seventh, \* eleventh

**10.36** ebbing, webbing, Epping, stepping, helping, yelping, checking, decking, necking, pecking, trekking, begging, legging, pegging, bedding, dreading, heading, leading, Reading, Redding, shredding, spreading, treading, wedding, gelding, welding, bending, blending, ending, mending, pending, spending, tending, letting, netting, setting, wetting, tempting, betting, fretting, netting, setting, sweating, wetting, belting, felting, melting, pelting, smelting, tenting, venting, jesting, nesting, resting, testing, delving, dwelling, felling, selling, smelling, spelling, swelling, telling, yelling, trembling, heckling, meddling, peddling, settling, nestling, wrestling, fledgling, herring, headspring, wellspring, redwing, sweptwing, Fleming, hemming, lemming, stemming, helming, Denning, penning, Steyning, blessing, dressing, guessing, Lessing, pressing, flexing, vexing, fencing, Tenzing, threshing, etching, fetching, retching, sketching, stretching, belching, squelching, clenching, drenching, quenching, wrenching, dredging, edging, hedging, pledging, sledging, wedging, \* bedecking, spot-checking, beheading, unbending, attending, offending, unending, ascending, transcending, impending, pretending, intending, extending, defending, descending, abetting, forgetting, upsetting, besetting, excepting, prospecting, affecting, collecting, connecting, projecting, respecting,

expecting, fermenting, lamenting, consenting, repenting, eventing, relenting, dissenting, presenting, tormenting, protesting, molesting, arresting, suggesting, investing, requesting, compelling, reselling, misspelling, excelling, condemning, confessing, caressing, progressing, undressing, depressing, distressing, digressing, commencing, dispensing, refreshing, alleging, avenging, \* doorstepping, bootlegging, deadheading, subheading, heart-rending, mind-bending, trendsetting, filmsetting, typesetting, blood-letting, hairdressing, well-dressing, processing, \* double-checking, featherbedding, parascending, condescending, overspending, moneylending, thermosetting, stamp-collecting, self-respecting, intersecting, unsuspecting, unrelenting, unprotesting, storytelling, acquiescing, decompressing, prepossessing, repossessing, \* uncomprehending, interconnecting, unprepossessing, etc.

**10.37** helpings, leggings, headings, weddings, endings, settings, dwellings, spellings, herrings, lemmings, Jennings, blessings, etchings, etc.

**10.38** develop, envelop, \* redevelop

**10.39** Lesseps, \* develops, envelops, \* redevelops

**10.40** developed, enveloped, \* redeveloped, \* underdeveloped, undeveloped

**10.41** Geddes, Lettice, lettuce, Prentiss, testis, Memphis, crevice, Elvis, pelvis, Ellis, trellis, derris, Ferris, Nerys, Emrys, premise, Dennis, Ennis, Glenys, menace, tennis, Venice, sepsis, lexis, \* apprentice, Ben Nevis, Llanberis, Alexis, asepsis, \* *compos mentis*, antiseptis, \* Thomas à Kempis, *non compos mentis*, amanuensis, \* *in loco parentis*

**Better mention ‘The Merchant of Venice’**

**When her sweet pound o’ flesh you would menace.**

COLE PORTER

**10.42** trespass, preface, Hellas, jealous, zealous, helpless, feckless, necklace, reckless, legless, headless, endless, friendless, restless, selfless, breathless, deathless, stressless, sexless, senseless, ferrous, terrace, empress,

Esdras, temptress, sempstress, dextrous, generous, genus, redness, wetness, deftness, deafness, wellness, freshness, nexus, plexus, Texas, census, precious, \* horrendous, tremendous, stupendous, prospectus, conspectus, momentous, portentous, asbestos, Marcellus, relentless, defenceless, Mackerras, nonferrous, ungenerous, rebellious, correctness, directness, consensus, infectious, contentious, tendentious, sententious, pretentious, dissentious, licentious, \* overzealous, ambidextrous, overgenerous, solar plexus, Paracelsus, semiprecious, conscientious, unpretentious, \* expect us, refresh us, etc.

**10.43** tempest, trespassed, reddest, eldest, wettest, deafest, prefaced, breakfast, steadfast, gentlest, terraced, tensest, freshest, etc.

**10.44** leftist, dentist, cellist, check list, chemist, menaced, sexist, \* librettist, cornettist, apprenticed, \* clarinettist, irredentist, biochemist, \* heterosexual

**10.45** peckish, reddish, Lettish, fetish, pettish, Kentish, wreckfish, elfish, selfish, shellfish, hellish, relish, cherish, perish, blemish, Flemish, Rhenish, \* coquettish, unselfish, embellish, replenish

**10.46** relished, cherished, perished, blemished, \* embellished, unblemished, replenished, \* unembellished

**10.47** Egbert, Prescott, Prescott, legate, effort, Evert, Helot, prelate, zealot, template, desert

**10.48** cesspit, respite, debit, Tebbitt, Nesbit, Becket, Beckett, credit, edit, geddit, velvet, pellet, necklet, ferret, merit, emmet, helmet, pelmet, Bennett, genet, rennet, senate, sennet, tenet, bedsit, exit, Melchett, \* decrepit, subedit, accredit, discredit, coedit, demerit, inherit, herb bennet, \* disinherit, \* check it, said it, etc.

**If, with the literate, I am  
Impelled to try an epigram,  
I never seek to take the credit;  
We all assume that Oscar said it.**

DOROTHY PARKER

**10.49** Elspeth, Hesketh, Knebworth, Hepworth, Petworth, Exmouth, Emsworth, Letchworth, Kenneth

**10.50** festive, restive, pensive, \* perceptive, deceptive, receptive, pre-emptive, redemptive, perspective, prospective, protective, affective, collective, corrective, connective, objective, subjective, respective, detective, effective, defective, infective, invective, elective, selective, reflective, directive, attentive, retentive, preventive, inventive, incentive, suggestive, digestive, oppressive, aggressive, progressive, obsessive, successive, possessive, depressive, repressive, impressive, expressive, regressive, recessive, excessive, digressive, reflexive, offensive, expensive, intensive, extensive, defensive, \* contraceptive, unreceptive, retrospective, irrespective, ineffective, nonselective, unreflective, inattentive, disincentive, unimpressive, apprehensive, inoffensive, inexpensive, comprehensive, coextensive, \* overprotective, counteroffensive

**10.51** eddies, readies, teddies, Betty's, empties, lefties, twenties, testes, bevvies, heavies, jellies, wellies, berries, cherries, sentries, Jeffrey's, Jenny's, pennies, pressies, Menzies, etc.

**10.52** members, vespers, checkers, Chequers, beggars, elders, welders, betters, fetters, feathers, leathers, Bella's, Mellors, Sellers, hecklers, settlers, errors, terrors, tremors, Jenna's, tenors, dresses, guesses, Messrs, tresses, senses, sensors, pleasures, treasures, sketches, wretches, edges, hedges, \* Rebecca's, suspenders, offenders, *EastEnders*, directors, investors, expenses, adventures, *Avengers*, etc.

**10.53** Enderby, Wetherby, therapy, entropy, jeopardy, yesterday, melody, threnody, Wednesday, Hecate, Hegarty, Peggotty, deputy, penalty, specialty, seventy, beggarly, elderly, slenderly, tenderly, mentally, westerly, helpfully, dreadfully, Beverley, cleverly, Everly, centrally, severally, generally, Thessaly, leisurely, specially, terribly, preferably, memorably, sensibly, legibly, westwardly, secondly, separately, desperately, pleasantly, presently, heavenly, jealously, zealously, recklessly, breathlessly, peppery, peccary, beggary, Gregory, rectory, reverie, feathery, heathery, leathery, celery, Ellery, temporary, equerry, vespiary, bestiary, vestiary, breviary, emery,

memory, hennery, ventry, pessary, sensory, treasury, lechery, treachery, century, elderberry, heraldry, prebendary, secondary, legendary, repertory, predatory, prefatory, helotry, zealotry, desultory, pedantry, sedentary, errantry, peasantry, pleasantry, devilry, revelry, weaponry, heronry, lectionary, Jeremy, Bellamy, enemy, sesame, ebony, betony, tetany, empathy, Stephanie, Bethany, felony, Melanie, lemony, Yemeni, embassy, legacy, ecstasy, jealousy, prelacy, heresy, leprosy, Hennessey, tendency, clemency, tenancy, pregnancy, Pevensey, energy, lethargy, \* Penelope, synecdoche, telegraphy, telepathy, northwesterly, southwesterly, unhelpfully, regretfully, respectfully, resentfully, successfully, especially, potentially, essentially, impeccably, incredibly, regrettably, perceptibly, respectably, irreparably, ostensibly, illegibly, contentedly, expectantly, unpleasantly, horrendously, tremendously, relentlessly, extempore, *pro tempore*, grotesquery, peremptory, trajectory, refectory, directory, exemplary, contemporary, extemporaneous, incendiary, stipendiary, millenary, accessory, dispensary, knight-errantry, concessionary, discretionary, confectionery, mastectomy, vasectomy, lumpectomy, McMenemy, archenemy, chalcedony, Persephone, telephony, miscellany, anemone, Gethsemane, hegemony, intestacy, supremacy, discrepancy, ascendancy, dependency, expectancy, inclemency, \* chemotherapy, hypnotherapy, psychotherapy, hydrotherapy, transcendently, accidentally, temperamentally, sentimentally, departmentally, incidentally, incrementally, monumentally, fundamentally, disrespectfully, uneventfully, unsuccessfully, preferentially, influentially, confidentially, unforgettably, imperceptibly, unexpectedly, exdirectory, alimentary, parliamentary, testamentary, sedimentary, elementary, complementary, complimentary, documentary, supplementary, rudimentary, extrasensory, penitentiary, appendectomy, hysterectomy, tonsillectomy, open sesame, independency, \* electrotherapy, aromatherapy, un sentimentally, experimentally, coincidentally, environmentally, \* radiotherapy, physiotherapy, unparliamentary, uncomplimentary, plenipotentiary, etc.

**10.54** recipe, remedy, Kennedy, entity, brevity, levity, velvety, verity, equity, Equity, enmity, lenity, density, readily, steadily, heavily, healthily, stealthily, merrily, verily, Emily, Cecily, messily, sketchily, tetchily, medically, sceptically, ethically, chemically, technically, ethnically, splendidly,

pensively, temptingly, selfishly, pellitory, territory, secretary, cemetery, presbytery, dentistry, chemistry, registry, veterinary, seminary, destiny, Medici, effigy, elegy, \* heredity, identity, nonentity, longevity, fidelity, asperity, dexterity, severity, celerity, temerity, sincerity, prosperity, austerity, posterity, celebrity, integrity, inequity, unsteadily, primarily, prophetically, pathetically, phonetically, magnetically, hermetically, aesthetically, synthetically, frenetically, genetically, poetically, identically, authentically, majestically, angelically, hysterically, generically, numerically, symmetrically, electrically, eccentrically, nonsensically, confessedly, professedly, allegedly, deceptively, protectively, collectively, objectively, subjectively, respectively, effectively, attentively, oppressively, aggressively, progressively, successively, impressively, excessively, offensively, intensively, extensively, defensively, depressingly, distressingly, refreshingly, unselfishly, hereditary, telemetry, extremity, Yosemite, serenity, obscenity, solemnity, indemnity, necessity, convexity, perplexity, complexity, propensity, intensity, immensity, \* infidelity, insincerity, necessarily, voluntarily, ordinarily, momentarily, alphabetically, apathetically, parenthetically, arithmetically, energetically, theoretically, sympathetically, hypothetically, geometrically, diametrically, academically, retrospectively, apprehensively, inoffensively, comprehensively, unsuspectingly, overwhelmingly, undersecretary, biochemistry, \* unnecessarily, involuntarily, unsympathetically, apologetically, etc.

**10.55** deputy, helpfully, dreadfully, sexually, sensually, February, estuary, penury, \* unhelpfully, regretfully, respectfully, resentfully, successfully, perpetually, conceptually, effectually, eventually, \* disrespectfully, uneventfully, unsuccessfully, ineffectually, intellectually, etc.

**10.56** djellaba, sepulchre, seconder, Shetlander, predator, senator, metaphor, helluva, leveller, reveller, Deborah, emperor, Klemperer, tempera, tempura, plethora, genera, tessera, treasurer, lecturer, reckoner, Smetana, threatener, westerner, Eleanor, Helena, pensioner, questioner, trespasser, Leicestershire, Bedfordshire, premature, sepulture, replica, erica, Erica, Seneca, Jessica, Cressida, reseda, presbyter, creditor, editor, heritor, genitor, Exeter, register, Pettifer, Jennifer, Hegira, enema, Bessemer, eczema, retina, Elinor, perisher, temperature, messenger, Schlesinger, rescuer, Hecuba, nebula, fecula,

secular, regular, scheduler, cellular, \* developer, telegrapher, et cetera, ephemera, confectioner, remembrancer, nomenclature, angelica, America, subeditor, competitor, inheritor, non sequitur, progenitor, deregister, umbellifer, expenditure, investiture, divestiture, progeniture, executor, molecular, Benbecula, Vulpecula, irregular, \* ready-reckoner, primogenitor, Quadragesima, Sexagesima, Quinquagesima, primogeniture, \* Septuagesima,

**10.57** peskier, readier, steadier, trendier, pettier, sweatier, emptier, heavier, healthier, wealthier, smellier, deadlier, friendlier, burier, Ferrier, merrier, terrier, premier, denier, Chechnya, dressier, messier, sexier, sketchier, \* compendia, Ossetia, poinsettia, unhealthier, Saint Helier, sommelier, hotelier, millennia, dyspepsia, eupepsia, alexia, dyslexia, pyrexia, Valencia, \* *in absentia*, Philadelphia, psychedelia, anorexia, \* intelligentsia, etc.

**10.58** shepherded, heralded, heavenward, debited, credited, edited, merited, exited, registered, Hereford, Beresford, Hereward, \* unheralded, untenanted, unedited, unmerited, unregistered

**10.59** heavenwards, Hereward's

**It is not that I am not sensible  
To merits in themselves ostensible.**  
LORD BYRON

**10.60** beddable, credible, edible, spreadable, bendable, mendable, sendable, spendable, vendible, gettable, wettable, rentable, vegetable, effable, sellable, terrible, reparable, separable, preferable, memorable, equable, tenable, pregnable, guessable, flexible, sensible, legible, spectacle, pentacle, tentacle, temporal, federal, pectoral, femoral, general, textural, sectional, bestial, burial, Meriel, Tenniel, medical, pedicle, sceptical, testicle, ethical, helical, pellicle, clerical, spherical, metrical, ventricle, chemical, technical, vesicle, lexical, skeletal, genital, vegetal, pedestal, plentiful, aestival, festival, cerebral, decimal, retinal, sentinel, seminal, Lemuel, menstrual, sexual, sensual, textual, \* impeccable, incredible, inedible, commendable, dependable, expendable, extendable, defendable, forgettable, regrettable,

perceptible, susceptible, acceptable, contemptible, perfectible, collectable, respectable, detectable, delectable, electable, injectable, lamentable, preventable, presentable, contestable, arrestable, comestible, suggestible, detestable, digestible, ineffable, unsellable, indelible, irreparable, inseparable, unmemorable, inequable, untenable, impregnable, impressionable, addressable, accessible, expressible, inflexible, dispensable, defensible, insensible, ostensible, unquenchable, receptacle, electoral, ephemeral, outgeneral, conjectural, professional, confessional, congressional, processional, obsessional, recessionary, exceptional, directional, conventional, intentional, celestial, terrestrial, bimestrial, perennial, centennial, millennial, quinquennial, decennial, biennial, triennial, quadrennial, heretical, poetical, conventicle, identical, unethical, hysterical, chimerical, numerical, symmetrical, obstetrical, calendrical, electrical, polemical, arsenical, nontechnical, nonsensical, congenital, centesimal, millesimal, intestinal, trigeminal, premenstrual, transsexual, asexual, bisexual, consensual, perpetual, conceptual, perceptual, aspectual, effectual, eventual, contextual, \* unforgettable, imperceptible, unacceptable, undetectable, unelectable, unpreventable, incontestable, indigestible, inaccessible, irrepressible, inexpressible, reprehensible, indispensable, indefensible, comprehensible, architectural, unprofessional, unexceptional, three-dimensional, unconventional, unintentional, two-dimensional, premillennial, quincennial, bicentennial, tricentennial, postmillennial, alphabetical, antithetical, arithmetical, theoretical, hypothetical, evangelical, anticlerical, hemispherical, asymmetrical, geometrical, biometrical, diametrical, academical, agrochemical, petrochemical, biochemical, photochemical, ecumenical, hexadecimal, duodecimal, homosexual, ineffectual, intellectual, \* incomprehensible, semiprofessional, omnidirectional, unidirectional, extraterrestrial, infinitesimal, gastrointestinal, heterosexual

**So please grip this fact with your cerebral tentacle**

**The doll and its maker are never identical.**

ARTHUR CONAN DOYLE

**10.61** spectacled, tentacled, emerald, Reginald, \* bespectacled

**10.62** Venables, spectacles, tentacles, chemicals, decimals, etc.

**10.63** Debenham, Cheltenham, venturesome, meddlesome, mettlesome, speculum, pendulum, \* compendium, millennium

**10.64** decagon, heptagon, pentagon, Pentagon, hexagon, Tenterdon, Benenden, Pemberton, Chesterton, Everton, Sheraton, Templeton, Pendleton, Edmonton, Edgbaston, Featherstone, veteran, Telamon, Betjeman, trencherman, gentleman, Perelman, Lebanon, Henderson, Jefferson, Emerson, Edmondson, Mendelssohn, lesbian, Thespian, Delphian, hessian, Helicon, pelican, pemmican, lexicon, Mexican, Heligan, Crediton, skeleton, Benetton, Ecclestone, Eddington, Teddington, Hetherington, Ellington, wellington, Wellington, Remington, Lexington, Kensington, Eddystone, ferryman, Edison, medicine, jettison, benison, venison, Tennyson, Ericsson, netizen, denizen, Methuen, \* dodecagon, progestogen, Gulbenkian, Ossetian, rebellion, Cromwellian, Boswellian, Orwellian, Portmeirion, pedestrian, equestrian, Dickensian, American, pantehnicon, \* Christadelphian, Philadelphian, un-American, endoskeleton, exoskeleton, \* Machiavellian

**Oh, a wondrous bird is the pelican!**  
**His bill will hold more than his belican.**  
**He can take in his beak**  
**Enough food for a week**  
**But I'm damned if I see how the helican.**  
DIXON LANIER MERRITT

**10.65** Westmorland, reverend, Reverend, jettisoned

**10.66** Netherlands, Reverend's

**10.67** decadent, redolent, prevalent, excellent, deferent, efferent, referent, reverent, eloquent, betterment, testament, temperament, tenement, measurement, settlement, devilment, resonant, sentient, prescient, exeunt, mendicant, desiccant, elegant, evident, precedent, president, resident, penitent, hesitant, elephant, relevant, pestilent, celebrant, emigrant, pediment, sediment, sentiment, element, merriment, decrement, excrement,

Egremont, detriment, regiment, revenant, eminent, reticent, negligent, exigent, effluent, petulant, tegument, \* malevolent, benevolent, expectorant, irreverent, accelerant, Old Testament, New Testament, development, resettlement, dishevelment, embezzlement, consentient, presentient, dissentient, insentient, inelegant, self-evident, nonresident, impenitent, irrelevant, impediment, presentiment, experiment, embellishment, replenishment, pre-eminent, maleficent, beneficent, intelligent, integument, \* redevelopment, unintelligent

**10.68** decadence, redolence, prevalence, excellence, temperance, deference, preference, reference, reverence, Reverence, severance, eloquence, measurements, resonance, sentience, prescience, mendicants, elegance, evidence, precedence, residence, residents, penitence, hesitance, elephants, relevance, pestilence, emigrants, sentiments, elements, eminence, reticence, negligence, effluence, petulance, \* malevolence, benevolence, intemperance, irreverence, developments, insentience, inelegance, inheritance, impenitence, irrelevance, impediments, experiments, pre-eminence, maleficence, beneficence, intelligence, \* disinheritance, \* counterintelligence, etc.

**10.69** peppering, rendering, tendering, Kettering, lettering, sheltering, sweltering, mentoring, feathering, weathering, censoring, measuring, welcoming, reckoning, threatening, deafening, lessening, questioning, trespassing, editing, everything, anything, \* unquestioning, etc.

**10.70** exodus, Exodus, embolus, memberless, measureless, effortless, weaponless, Hesperus, decorous, generous, lecherous, treacherous, venturous, venomous, slenderness, tenderness, tetanus, cleverness, membranous, pleasantness, gentleness, helpfulness, helplessness, fecklessness, recklessness, restlessness, selflessness, breathlessness, Pegasus, Ephesus, plenteous, envious, Celsius, crepitus, perilous, penniless, Wenceslas, Septimus, readiness, steadiness, cretinous, pettiness, sweatiness, emptiness, heaviness, friendliness, cleanliness, dressiness, resinous, edginess, wretchedness, selfishness, strenuous, tenuous, sensuous, nebulous, Regulus, credulous, sedulous, pendulous, querulous, emulous, tremulous, \* Telemachus, acephalous, Bucephalus, expressionless,

indecorous, ungenerous, adventurous, togetherness, light-headedness, indebtedness, unpleasantness, forgetfulness, pretentiousness, compendious, rebellious, emeritus, necessitous, unfriendliness, effectiveness, inventiveness, unselfishness, impetuous, contemptuous, tempestuous, incestuous, ingenuous, incredulous, \* antitetanus, hydrocephalus, overgenerous, unadventurous, disingenuous, etc.

**10.71** Everest, peskiest, readiest, steadiest, trendiest, pettiest, sweatiest, emptiest, heaviest, healthiest, wealthiest, smelliest, deadliest, friendliest, merriest, dressiest, messiest, sexiest, sketchiest, \* unhealthiest, etc.

**10.72** therapist, Methodist, medallist, specialist, terrorist, hedonist, essayist, pessimist, feminist, Leninist, fetishist, exorcist, prejudiced, \* nonspecialist, detectorist, adventurist, telephonist, impressionist, expressionist, receptionist, protectionist, perfectionist, projectionist, postfeminist, geneticist, unprejudiced, \* hypnotherapist, psychotherapist, instrumentalist, existentialist, sentimentalist, antiterrorist, eco-terrorist, postimpressionist, resurrectionist, vivisectionist, interventionist, \* radiotherapist, physiotherapist, \* aromatherapist, environmentalist, \* antivivisectionist

**10.73** desolate, separate, temperate, desperate, Everett, leveret, delegate, sextuplet, \* intemperate, confederate, inveterate, protectorate, inspectorate, electorate, directorate, coelenterate, degenerate, regenerate, commensurate, affectionate, Connecticut, indelicate, effeminate, \* unregenerate, overestimate, underestimate

**10.74** Cheviot, Eliot, Herriot, definite, \* licentiate, indefinite

**10.75** twentieth, pennyworth, Kenilworth

**10.76** trespasses, terraces, lettuces, crevices, premises, blemishes, vestiges, \* apprentices, etc.

**10.77** melodies, penalties, seventies, memories, pleasantries, enemies, recipes, remedies, \* contemporaries, accessories, arch-enemies, discrepancies, elevenses, celebrities, extremities, obscenities, complexities, etc.

**For myself, I'm relied on by friends in extremities,  
And I don't mind so much if a comfort to them it is.**

OLIVER WENDELL HOLMES

**10.78** melancholy, sexually, sensually, regularly, temporarily, memorably, pleurably, questionably, enviably, veritably, negligibly, delicately, definitely, infinitely, eloquently, elegantly, evidently, hesitantly, eminently, petulantly, tentatively, relatively, sensitively, gentlemanly, genuinely, welcomingly, threateningly, deafeningly, questioningly, menacingly, effortlessly, decorously, generously, treacherously, enviously, strenuously, temporary, emissary, necessary, February, estuary, respiratory, testimony, ceremony, celibacy, efficacy, delicacy, Excellency, presidency, residency, hesitancy, \* ephemerally, professionally, exceptionally, intentionally, conventionally, congenitally, perpetually, conceptually, effectually, eventually, irregularly, irrevocably, unquestionably, immeasurably, inevitably, intelligibly, affectionately, indefinitely, irreverently, competitively, insensitively, consecutively, ungentlemanly, adventurously, rebelliously, impetuously, contemptuously, contemporary, extemporary, unnecessary, investigatory, confederacy, degeneracy, inefficacy, indelicacy, effeminacy, \* architecturally, unintentionally, ineffectually, intellectually, unintelligibly, \* infinitesimally, etc.

**10.79** revocable, memorable, venerable, measurable, pleasurable, mentionable, questionable, expiable, enviable, creditable, heritable, veritable, equitable, execrable, penetrable, estimable, perishable, eligible, negligible, educable, reputable, refutable, \* irrevocable, unmemorable, inexorable, immeasurable, commensurable, impressionable, exceptionable, objectionable, unmentionable, unquestionable, inexpiable, unenviable, hereditary, discreditable, inevitable, inheritable, inequitable, impenetrable, inestimable, imperishable, intelligible, ineligible, ineducable, disreputable, irrefutable, \* unexceptionable, unintelligible

## -er-

*The rhymes in this section have the 'er' sound of her and working as their main or final vowel sound.*

**11.1** blur, br'er, burr, cur, duh, er, err, fir, Fleur, fur, her, Kerr, knur, myrrh, per, purr, shirr, sir, Sir, slur, spur, stir, 'twere, Ur, were, whir, \* occur, concur, astir, confer, aver, adieu, monsieur, Pasteur, transfer, chasseur, masseur, coiffeur, voyeur, seigneur, deburr, prie-dieu, milieu, recur, incur, deter, inter, bestir, defer, prefer, refer, infer, demur, longueur, Montreux, auteur, hauteur, chauffeur, poseur, douceur, \* transfer, larkspur, cockspur, Hotspur, \* saboteur, amateur, shamateur, raconteur, rapporteur, pas de deux, *de rigueur*, Périgueux, reoccur, cri de coeur, Richelieu, disinter, connoisseur, *bon viveur*, force majeure, cordon bleu, butterbur, underfur, \* restaurateur, entrepreneur, folie à deux, arbitrageur, droit du seigneur, \* *agent provocateur*

**11.2** blurb, curb, herb, kerb, Serb, verb, \* perturb, disturb, superb, \* adverb, EPIRB, proverb, potherb, suburb, \* willowherb

**The cars and the lorries run over the kerb,  
And the villagers put up a notice: road closed –  
So that nothing untoward may chance to disturb  
Deuteronomy's rest when he feels so disposed.**

T. S. ELIOT

**11.3** curbed, \* perturbed, disturbed, \* unperturbed, undisturbed

**11.4** berk, Burke, Chirk, cirque, dirk, Dirk, erk, irk, jerk, kirk, Kirk, lurk, murk, perk, quirk, Quirke, shirk, smirk, stirk, Turk, work, \* Dunkirk, de

Klerk, McGurk, berserk, rework, \* hackwork, handwork, waxwork, patchwork, artwork, part work, craftwork, glasswork, spadework, paintwork, framework, brainwork, casework, lacework, Selkirk, legwork, headwork, fretwork, network, breastwork, guesswork, earthwork, beadwork, fieldwork, teamwork, piecework, brickwork, shiftwork, bridgework, firework, wirework, brightwork, timework, clockwork, Falkirk, Ormskirk, coursework, groundwork, outwork, housework, coachwork, scrollwork, homework, stonework, brushwork, woodwork, footwork, \* Atatürk, handiwork, latticework, masterwork, basketwork, paperwork, metalwork, trelliswork, needlework, timberwork, wickerwork, ironwork, donkey work, bodywork, pokerwork, overwork, openwork, \* cabinetwork

**11.5** circs, irks, jerks, perks, quirks, works, \* gasworks, waxworks, glassworks, steelworks, fireworks, wireworks, saltworks, roadworks, \* ironworks, waterworks, etc.

**11.6** birch, church, lurch, perch, search, smirch, \* besmirch, research, \* Fenchurch, wordsearch, research, Whitchurch, Christchurch, \* silver birch

**11.7** bird, blurred, Byrd, curd, erred, furred, gird, heard, herd, Kurd, nerd, purred, sherd, shirred, slurred, spurred, stirred, surd, third, turd, whirred, word, \* occurred, concurred, unstirred, conferred, averred, unheard, absurd, Cape Verde, reword, recurred, begird, deferred, referred, preferred, inferred, misheard, \* blackbird, catchword, yardbird, password, swearword, jailbird, game bird, cage bird, headword, f-word, sea bird, keyword, firebird, lyrebird, swineherd, byword, songbird, crossword, watchword, potsherd, shore bird, foreword, cowherd, bowerbird, goatherd, codeword, loan word, lovebird, buzz word, bluebird, \* afterword, ladybird, word for word, early bird, whirlybird, weaverbird, reoccurred, dickybird, wattlebird, mockingbird, water bird, overheard, undergird, Douglas Hurd, hummingbird, undeterred, \* Richard the Third, four-letter word, etc.

**And what mortal ever heard  
Any good of George the Third?  
WALTER SAVAGE LANDOR**

**11.8** scurf, serf, Smurf, surf, turf, \* windsurf, \* AstroTurf®

**11.9** berg, Berg, erg, \* Hamburg, Hapsburg, Strasbourg, Salzburg, Marburg, Carlsberg, Schoenberg, Sternberg, Lindbergh, Strindberg, Pittsburgh, Spielberg, Freiburg, iceberg, homburg, Coburg, Joburg, Newburg, \* Brandenburg, Battenburg, Gettysburg, Württemberg, Königsberg, Hindenburg, Heidelberg, Gothenburg, Nuremberg, Luxembourg, Gutenberg, \* Johannesburg, Saint Petersburg

**11.10** dirge, merge, purge, scourge, serge, Serge, splurge, spurge, surge, urge, verge, \* converge, submerge, demerge, emerge, diverge, \* upsurge, \* dramaturge, demiurge, thaumaturge

**11.11** churl, curl, earl, furl, girl, hurl, knurl, Merle, pearl, Pearl, purl, Searle, skirl, swirl, twirl, whirl, whorl, \* uncurl, unfurl, \* ball girl, call girl, cowgirl, showgirl, schoolgirl

**11.12** curled, furred, hurled, knurled, swirled, twirled, whirled, world, \* uncurled, unfurled, \* afterworld, underworld

**Proud Wellington, with eagle beak so curled,  
That nose, the hook where he suspends the world!**  
LORD BYRON

**11.13** firm, germ, Herm, perm, sperm, squirm, term, therm, worm, \* affirm, confirm, half term, preterm, midterm, infirm, \* ragworm, sandworm, flatworm, tapeworm, threadworm, earthworm, wheatgerm, eelworm, mealworm, silkworm, pinworm, ringworm, inchworm, wireworm, blindworm, roundworm, glow-worm, slowworm, lugworm, bookworm, hookworm, woodworm, \* pachyderm, endoderm, ectoderm, reaffirm, gymnosperm, isotherm

**11.14** permed, squirmed, wormed, \* affirmed, confirmed, \* unconfirmed, reaffirmed

**11.15** Bern, burn, Byrne, CERN, churn, earn, Ern, erne, fern, föhn, girn, kern, Kern, learn, quern, spurn, stern, Sterne, tern, turn, urn, Verne, yearn, \*

astern, Ahern, Traherne, unlearn, concern, adjourn, relearn, epergne, return, intern, inurn, discern, Sauternes, Auvergne, Jules Verne, lucerne, Lucerne, \* Blackburn, pastern, heartburn, Braeburn, Raeburn, Hepburn, lectern, extern, Redfern, windburn, Swinburne, bittern, intern, Tyburn, wyvern, nocturne, sojourn, downturn, Woburn, Cockburn, sunburn, upturn, Crewkerne, U-turn, \* Bannockburn, taciturn, three-point turn, Comintern, nonreturn, overturn, unconcern, \* pay-as-you-earn

**11.16** burned, earned, learned, spurned, turned, yearned, \* unburned, upturned, unturned, unlearned, unearned, concerned, adjourned, hard-earned, well-earned, returned, interned, discerned, downturned, \* overturned, unconcerned, etc.

**11.17** burnt, learnt, weren't, \* unburnt, unlearnt, \* sunburnt

**11.18** Burns, churns, earns, Ern's, ferns, learns, turns, urns, yearns, \* concerns, returns, \* sideburns, etc.

**11.19** burp, chirp, slurp, twerp, \* usurp, \* Antwerp, \* Wyatt Earp

**11.20** burps, chirps, SERPS, slurps, stirps, turps, \* usurps, \* Wyatt Earp's

**11.21** burped, chirped, slurped, \* usurped, \* excerpt

**11.22** curse, Erse, hearse, nurse, purse, terse, verse, worse, \* asperse, averse, perverse, traverse, adverse, converse, submerge, transverse, disburse, disperse, reverse, inverse, rehearse, immerse, diverse, coerce, \* adverse, wet nurse, inverse, obverse, converse, commerce, cutpurse, \* reimburse, intersperse, universe

**An open foe may prove a curse,  
But a pretended friend is worse.**

JOHN GAY

**11.23** burst, cursed, durst, first, Hearst, Hirst, Hurst, nursed, pursed, thirst, versed, worst, wurst, \* accursed, traversed, conversed, submersed, headfirst, well-versed, disbursed, dispersed, reversed, rehearsed, immersed,

coerced, \* Pankhurst, Sandhurst, knackwurst, bratwurst, starburst, cloudburst, outburst, Dewhurst, \* safety first, twenty-first, reimbursed, interspersed, liverwurst, unrehearsed

**11.24** Bert, blurt, Burt, cert, curt, dirt, flirt, girt, hurt, Kurt, pert, shirt, skirt, spurt, squirt, wert, wort, \* avert, pervert, subvert, advert, convert, unhurt, alert, assert, concert, revert, invert, inert, insert, desert, dessert, exert, divert, obvert, overt, \* Frankfurt, advert, ragwort, Blackshirt, hair shirt, expert, sexpert, sweatshirt, pervert, sneezewort, T-shirt, ribwort, milkwort, figwort, stitchwort, insert, nightshirt, convert, outsert, overt, lungwort, woundwort, \* malapert, bladderwort, Engelbert, Ethelbert, extrovert, pennywort, reconvert, feverwort, reassert, reinsert, introvert, slipperwort, liverwort, disconcert, inexpert, miniskirt, controvert, overskirt, underskirt, undershirt, \* overexert

**11.25** Bert's, flirts, hertz, Hertz, hurts, shirts, skirts, squirts, \* adverts, experts, *Weltschmerz*, T-shirts, converts, outskirts, \* extroverts, megahertz, introverts, gigahertz, kilohertz, underskirts, just deserts, etc.

**11.26** berth, birth, dearth, earth, firth, girth, mirth, Perth, worth, \* unearth, self-worth, rebirth, \* Dankworth, Tamworth, Hayworth, Knebworth, Hepworth, Petworth, Emsworth, Letchworth, Wordsworth, stillbirth, childbirth, Bosworth, jobsworth, Wandsworth, Duckworth, Lulworth, Woolworth, \* afterbirth, pennyworth, Kenilworth, Middle-earth, Illingworth, Solway Firth, down-to-earth, Butterworth, Shuttleworth

**One for sorrow, two for mirth.**

**Three for a wedding, four for a birth.**

TRADITIONAL RHYME

**11.27** curve, derv, Merv, nerve, perv, serve, swerve, verve, \* unnerve, Deneuve, subserve, conserve, observe, deserve, preserve, reserve, hors d'oeuvre

**11.28** curved, served, swerved, \* unnerved, conserved, observed, deserved, preserved, reserved, \* well-preserved, unobserved, undeserved, unreserved

**11.29** blurs, errs, firs, furs, furze, hers, Meuse, purrs, Sirs, spurs, stirs, \* occurs, masseuse, chanteuse, coiffeuse, chartreuse, recurs, prefers, \* saboteurs, amateurs, secateurs, Betelgeuse, connoisseurs, etc.

**12.1** Furby®, Herbie, herby, Kirby, Kirkby, chirpy, jerky, murky, perky, quirky, turkey, Turkey, Fergie, lurgy, birdie, nerdy, Purdy, sturdy, wordy, Thursday, Bertie, dirty, flirty, Gertie, qwerty, shirty, thirty, Kirsty, thirsty, furphy, Murphy, scurfy, surfie, turfy, curvy, nervy, scurvy, Turvey, earthy, worthy, Berlei, Burghley, burly, curly, early, girlie, Hurley, pearly, Shirley, surly, twirly, thirdly, worldly, curtly, firstly, earthly, firmly, Burnley, sternly, tersely, blurry, firry, furry, Vyrnwy, Fermi, wormy, Burney, Ernie, ferny, Gurney, journey, Kearney, Circe, mercy, Percy, Chertsey, curtsy, furzy, jersey, Jersey, kersey, Mersey, Guernsey, Hershey, clergy, \* Euterpe, unworthy, superbly, absurdly, unworldly, overtly, unearthly, perversely, adversely, conversely, attorney, \* bloodthirsty, airworthy, blameworthy, praiseworthy, seaworthy, Galsworthy, roadworthy, noteworthy, trustworthy, newsworthy, \* untrustworthy, \* Albuquerque, hurdy-gurdy, vinho verde, olde worlde, topsyturvy, creditworthy, taxidermy, diathermy, arsy-versy, controversy, dramaturgy, metallurgy, hurly-burly, Curly Wurly, otherworldly, etc.

**I'm Burlington Bertie, I rise at ten-thirty.**

WILLIAM HARGREAVES

**12.2** Berber, Thurber, chirper, Sherpa, burka, circa, Gurkha, lurker, shirker, smirker, worker, burger, burgher, birder, Gerda, girder, herder, murder, purdah, Schroeder, curter, Goethe, perter, squirter, surfer, fervour, server, swerver, Bertha, Eartha, further, murther, curler, pearler, purler, twirler, whirler, burglar, gurgler, hurdler, Koestler, stirrer, oeuvre, verdure, Burma, firmer, Irma, Sturmer, murmur, wormer, burner, earner, learner, Lerner, Myrna, Smyrna, sterner, turner, Turner, Verner, Werner, yearner, bursa, cursor, bursar, mercer, Mercer, purser, Ursa, Persia, lurcher, nurture, percher, searcher, merger, perjure, purger, scourger, urger, verger, \* usurper, mazurka, Roberta, perverter, subverter, converter, McWhirter, asserter, Alberta, inverter, deserter, observer, Minerva, deserver, preserver, transferor, *chef-d'oeuvre*, deferrer, referrer, hors d'oeuvre, taverna, returner,

precursor, disperser, rehearser, immerser, vice versa, coercer, inertia, researcher, demerger, \* networker, tear-jerker, field worker, steelworker, mill worker, outworker, homemaker, woodworker, hamburger, Pressburger, beefburger, cheeseburger, Limburger, frankfurter, windsurfer, timeserver, \* metalworker, ironworker, Ethelburga, vegebürger, Luxembourger, terra firma, Annapurna, afterburner, gutta-percha, \* hurt her, serve her, etc.

**12.3** Turkic, Lerwick, \* acerbic, allergic, synergic, lysergic, \* hypodermic, taxidermic, metallurgic, \* poikilothermic, homoiothermic

**12.4** turbid, dirtied, fervid, learned, cursed, curtsied, \* perfervid, accused

**12.5** herded, murdered, worded, spurted, squirted, Burford, furthered, earthward, murmured, Bernard, gurnard, nurtured, \* averted, perverted, converted, concerted, inverted, inserted, deserted, diverted, \* extroverted, introverted, disconcerted, unconverted, etc.

**12.6** earthwards, Bernard's

**12.7** Burbage, herbage, wordage

**12.8** burble, gerbil, Froebel, herbal, verbal, purple, circle, burgle, Fergal, gurgle, curdle, girdle, hurdle, dirndl, hurtle, kirtle, myrtle, Myrtle, turtle, hurtful, chervil, serval, dermal, thermal, colonel, journal, kernel, sternal, vernal, Hirsil, Persil®, Purcell, tercel, kursaal, Herschel, tertial, Virgil, \* nonverbal, encircle, transferral, deferral, referral, fraternal, maternal, paternal, eternal, internal, external, infernal, diurnal, hibernal, nocturnal, succursal, transversal, dispersal, reversal, rehearsal, commercial, inertial, \* Bracegirdle, \* semicircle, panty girdle, epidermal, geothermal, sempiternal, coeternal, universal, mangelwurzel, infomercial, controversial, noncommercial, \* uncontroversial

**12.9** burbles, gerbils, Goebbels, circles, hurdles, thermals, \* rehearsals, commercials, etc.

**12.10** serfdom, earldom, Bertram, Burnham, sternum, irksome, \* laburnum, viburnum, nasturtium, \* reductio ad absurdum, \* heard 'em, learn 'em, etc.

**12.11** Turpin, firkin, gherkin, jerkin, Perkin, Irvine, Mervyn, Merlin, Irwin, Gershwin, ermine, Jermyn, vermin, urchin, virgin, \* Dick Turpin, Dunfermline, determine, \* predetermine, \* workin', learnin', etc.

**12.12** bourbon, Durban, turban, urban, Bergen, Jürgen, burden, guerdon, Burton, certain, curtain, Girton, Merton, Kirsten, earthen, burthen, Kirwan, Burman, german, German, Herman, Hermon, sermon, Sherman, workman, Bergman, Perlman, herdsman, churchman, Vernon, person, worsen, Curzon, Persian, tertian, version, burgeon, Spurgeon, sturgeon, surgeon, \* suburban, unburden, disburden, uncertain, Albertan, Macpherson, aspersion, aversion, perversion, subversion, conversion, submersion, assertion, dispersion, recursion, incursion, excursion, Cistercian, reversion, inversion, immersion, insertion, desertion, exertion, diversion, coercion, \* Spitsbergen, barperson, chairperson, layperson, salesperson, sportsperson, spokesperson, unperson, \* Ardnamurchan, overburden, retroversion, extroversion, self-assertion, reconversion, interspersion, introversion, \* animadversion, overexertion

**Like the ancient Medes and Persians,  
Always by his own exertions  
He subsisted on those hills.**

EDWARD LEAR

**12.13** burdened, curtained, Bertrand, \* unburdened, \* overburdened, etc.

**12.14** serpent, verdant, fervent, servant, Derwent, versant, merchant, Merchant, urgent, \* advertent, observant, conferment, deferment, preferment, interment, adjournment, internment, discernment, disbursement, conversant, dispersant, convergent, resurgent, detergent, emergent, insurgent, divergent, \* maidservant, manservant, \* inadvertent, unobservant, reimbursement

**12.15** serpents, servants, merchants, \* observance, detergents, convergence, emergence, resurgence, insurgence, insurgents, divergence, \* inadvertence, re-emergence, etc.

**12.16** curbing, burping, chirping, kerbing, jerking, lurking, shirking, working, erlking, herding, wording, flirting, hurting, shirting, skirting,

squirting, bursting, thirsting, surfing, curving, Irving, serving, swerving, berthing, birthing, Worthing, curling, hurling, sterling, Stirling, swirling, whirling, circling, gurgling, hurdling, earthling, nursling, erring, Goering, purring, shirring, stirring, whirring, squirming, Groening, burning, churning, earning, kerning, learning, turning, yearning, cursing, nursing, Pershing, birching, churching, lurching, searching, merging, purging, surging, urging, verging, \* perturbing, disturbing, usurping, hard-working, nonworking, converting, deserting, unswerving, unnerving, observing, self-serving, deserving, preserving, unearthing, encircling, occurring, conferring, unerring, recurring, inferring, confirming, concerning, returning, discerning, conversing, dispersing, rehearsing, converging, emerging, \* networking, tear-jerking, woodworking, windsurfing, kitesurfing, timeserving, heart-searching, \* metalworking, teleworking, disconcerting, undeserving, etc.

**Keep the home-fires burning,  
While your hearts are yearning.**

LENA GUILBERT FORD

**12.17** workings, servings, earthlings, purse-strings, earnings, yearnings, etc.

**12.18** Curtis, surface, Jervis, Purves, service, surplice, dermis, kermis, furnace, Furness, burgess, Burgess, purchase, \* resurface, self-service, disservice, repurchase, \* epidermis

**12.19** purpose, circus, Fergus, nervous, surplus, workless, wordless, mirthless, worthless, Thermos®, curtness, pertness, firmness, terseness, versus, Tertius, \* Lycurgus, alertness, Propertius, \* multipurpose, Carrickfergus, \* hurt us, curse us, etc.

**12.20** curtest, pertest, furthest, firmest, earnest, Ernest, sternest, etc.

**Life is real! Life is earnest!  
And the grave is not its goal;  
Dust thou art, to dust returnest,  
Was not spoken of the soul.**

HENRY WADSWORTH LONGFELLOW

**12.21** surfaced, serviced, \* resurfaced, reservist, repurchased, \* taxidermist

**12.22** furbish, Kurdish, Turkish, dervish, churlish, girlish, skirmish, burnish, furnish, \* refurbish

**12.23** burnished, furnished, \* refurbished, unfurnished

**12.24** burbot, Herbert, sherbet, turbot, Urquhart, ergot, Dermot, \* alternate

**12.25** turnspit, Burkitt, circuit, surfeit, vervet, circlet, hermit, Kermit, permit, Burnett, \* short-circuit, interpret, \* reinterpret, misinterpret, \* work it, turn it, etc.

**12.26** Wordsworth, vermouth

**12.27** furtive, cursive, \* assertive, subversive, discursive, coercive

**12.28** herpes, turkeys, birdies, certes, Surtees, thirties, worthies, Hermes, journeys, mercies, Xerxes, \* Laertes, etc.

**12.29** Burgundy, certainty, verbally, personally, fervently, urgently, earnestly, certainly, purposely, nervously, Burberry®, servery, burglary, mercury, Mercury, wormery, fernery, ternary, turnery, bursary, cursory, mercery, nursery, tertiary, perjury, surgery, purgatory, Germany, fervency, urgency, Bermondsey, perfidy, furmity, chirpily, sturdily, dirtily, worthily, vertically, surgically, perfectly, mercifully, furtively, churlishly, girlishly, circuitry, mercenary, courtesy, virtually, \* uncertainty, hyperbole, maternally, paternally, eternally, internally, externally, infernally, nocturnally, impersonally, commercially, alternately, uncertainly, infirmary, quaternary, precursory, conservatory, observatory, confirmatory, diversionary, conservancy, emergency, insurgency, acerbity, absurdity, infirmity, fraternity, maternity, paternity, eternity, modernity, perversity, adversity, diversity, unworthily, deservedly, reservedly, concernedly, accursedly, unmercifully, assertively, unnervingly, unerringly, discourtesy, \* universally, controversially, inadvertently, anniversary, microsurgery, neurosurgery, taciturnity, university, undeservedly, unreservedly, unconcernedly, disconcertingly, \* counterinsurgency, biodiversity, etc.

**12.30** pergola, Berbera, gerbera, murderer, murmurer, nurturer, perjurer, surfacer, purchaser, curvature, nervature, worshipper, Guernica, Perdita, servitor, vertebra, Wurlitzer®, furnisher, furniture, circular, Ursula, \* conservator, hyperbola, interpreter, determiner, tubercular, \* semicircular

**12.31** Serbia, chirpier, murkier, perkier, quirkier, sturdier, dirtier, thirstier, worthier, curlier, earlier, surlier, Hermia, hernia, vernier, Mercia, \* suburbia, Calpurnia, Hibernia, inertia, \* hyperthermia, hypothermia, etc.

**12.32** workable, learnable, searchable, personal, vertical, cervical, versicle, surgical, merciful, worshipful, Percival, vertebral, germinal, terminal, virginal, virtual, \* unworkable, convertible, observable, transferable, returnable, discernible, submersible, reversible, puerperal, impersonal, adverbial, proverbial, liturgical, unmerciful, \* imperturbable, controvertible, indiscernible, nonreturnable, irreversible, intervertebral, interpersonal, metallurgical, \* incontrovertible, entrepreneurial

**12.33** Pergamum, burdensome, erbium, terbium, Birmingham, \* ytterbium, operculum

**12.34** Turkoman, Pergamon, Ferguson, Serbian, Permian, Surbiton, Workington, Worthington, Burlington, journeyman, clergyman, Murchison, \* Gilbertian, quaternion, Saturnian, Melburnian, Hibernian, Copernican

**12.35** termagant, firmament, permanent, pertinent, turbulent, \* reverberant, impermanent, subservient, advertisement, refurbishment, appurtenant, impertinent, determinant, \* antiperspirant

**12.36** furtherance, permanence, pertinence, turbulence, \* impermanence, subservience, advertisements, appurtenance, impertinence, etc.

**12.37** purposeless, Cerberus, murderess, murderous, hurtfulness, nervousness, worthlessness, courteous, pervious, Perseus, merciless, murkiness, sturdiness, dirtiness, worthiness, earliness, terminus, verminous, earnestness, virtuous, \* discourteous, impervious, Copernicus, assertiveness, superfluous, tuberculous, \* airworthiness, seaworthiness, roadworthiness, etc.

**12.38** herbalist, journalist, \* determinist

**12.39** chirpiest, murkiest, perkiest, quirkiest, sturdiest, dirtiest, thirstiest, worthiest, curliest, earliest, surliest, etc.

**12.40** perforate, vertebrate, \* imperforate, invertebrate, determinate, \* indeterminate

**12.41** merchantable, personable, permeable, terminable, serviceable, \* impermeable, determinable, interminable, unserviceable, \* semipermeable, indeterminate

## -eer-

*The rhymes in this section have the 'eer' sound of beer and fiercely as their main or final vowel sound.*

**13.1** beer, bier, blear, cere, cheer, clear, dear, deer, drear, ear, fear, gear, Greer, hear, here, jeer, kir, leer, Lear, mere, Mir, near, peer, pier, queer, rear, sear, sere, shear, sheer, smear, sneer, spear, sphere, steer, stere, tear, tier, Trier, veer, Wear, we're, weir, Weir, year, \* appear, frontier, De Vere, adhere, unclear, career, uprear, veneer, Kashmir, apnoea, Tangier, cashier, emir, Vermeer, endear, revere, revers, severe, inhere, mishear, King Lear, midyear, besmear, Kinnear, sincere, vizier, Zaire, idea, austere, chorea, all-clear, cohere, Hosea, \* Tranmere, Tangmere, cashmere, Hampshire, Grasmere, Berkshire, Ayrshire, tapir, Shakespeare, fakir, nadir, reindeer, headgear, Ellesmere, Cheshire, wheatear, switchgear, Kingswear, Wiltshire, compeer, Shropshire, Yorkshire, roe deer, Goodyear, \* halberdier, Agadir, balladeer, pamphleteer, gazetteer, stratosphere, atmosphere, bandolier, chandelier, cavalier, Cavalier, cameleer, gasolier, Lancashire, Staffordshire, racketeer, gadgeteer, bathysphere, Vladimir, Casimir, Aboukir, Hertfordshire, marketeer, Chanticleer, Derbyshire, Haslemere, Cambridgeshire, belvedere, grenadier, megathere, seborrhoea, yesteryear, Delamere, Benazir, Leicestershire, Bedfordshire, hemisphere, Bedivere, Elzevir, engineer, technofear, persevere, reappear, ecosphere, disappear, ginger beer, brigadier, interfere, lithosphere, crystal-clear, Windermere, cuirassier, Lincolnshire, Guinevere, insincere, privateer, biosphere, diarrhoea, pyorrhoea, Tyne and Wear, pioneer, bombardier, commandeer, volunteer, troposphere, gondolier, logorrhoea, gonorrhoea, Rothermere, Gloucestershire, Oxfordshire, Conybeare, rocketeer, profiteer, sonneteer, domineer, Warwickshire, auctioneer, corsetier, Paul Revere, mountaineer, oversteer, overhear, sloganeer, understeer, Buttermere, buccaneer,

puppeteer, musketeer, Worcestershire, souvenir, muleteer, fusilier, mutineer, scrutineer, \* titanothera, Northamptonshire, electioneer, ionosphere, ozonosphere, \* charioteer, orienteer, amenorrhoea, dysmenorrhoea, adipocere, Nottinghamshire, Buckinghamshire, Golda Meir, Guadalquivir, carabineer

**Damn with faint praise, assent with civil leer,  
And without sneering, teach the rest to sneer.**

ALEXANDER POPE

**13.2** beard, cheered, cleared, eared, jeered, leered, peered, reared, smeared, sneered, speared, steered, tiered, veered, weird, \* appeared, afeard, adhered, careered, veneered, revered, \* Blackbeard, bat-eared, lop-eared, goatsbeard, Bluebeard, \* engineered, disappeared, pioneered, domineered, etc.

**13.3** real, \* surreal, unreal, ideal, \* gonorrhoeal

**13.4** Bierce, fierce, Pearse, pierce, Pierce, tierce

**13.5** beers, cheers, ears, fears, gears, hears, jeers, peers, Piers, Sears, shears, sneers, spears, Spears, Squeers, tears, tiers, years, \* appears, arrears, careers, Algiers, Tangiers, in tears, ideas, all ears, \* Cavaliers, engineers, etc.

Mademoiselle from Armenteers,

Hasn't been kissed for forty years.

Military song

**14.1** realty, Brearley, clearly, dearly, merely, nearly, queerly, really, yearly, weirdly, fiercely, Beardsley, beery, bleary, cheery, Cleary, dearie, dreary, eerie, Erie, eyrie, Leary, leery, Neary, Peary, peri, query, smeary, sneery, teary, theory, weary, Deirdre, Tierney, \* unclearly, surreally, severely, sincerely, ideally, Dun Laoghaire, Valkyrie, Kashmiri, O'Leary, \* insincerely

**14.2** weirder, theatre, era, clearer, dearer, hearer, Hera, lira, nearer, queerer, rearer, sclera, sera, shearer, smearer, sneerer, steerer, Vera, fiercer, piercer, \* Madeira, Utsire, Elvira, sincerer, chimera, coherer, \* sheepshearer, \* amphitheatre, rangatira, lavatera, antisera, aloe vera, D'Oliviera, \* reared her, cheer her, etc.

**14.3** bearded, rearward

**14.4** queried, wearied, \* unwearied

**14.5** peerage, steerage, \* arrearage

**14.6** cheerful, fearful, tearful, feral, scleral, spheral, Pearsall, tiercel

**14.7** serum, theorem, fearsome, meerschaum, \* antiserum, \* fear 'em, hear 'em, etc.

**14.8** deerskin, Erin, \* jeerin', piercin', etc.

**14.9** Reardon, Kieran, Viren, spearman, steersman, Pearson, \* Madeiran, frontiersman

**14.10** cerement, vehement, \* adherent, inherent, coherent, endearment, \* incoherent

**14.11** clearance, vehemence, \* appearance, adherence, adherents, coherence, endearments, \* perseverance, reappearance, interference, incoherence, nonappearance

**14.12** shearling, yearling, cheering, clearing, earring, gearing, hearing, jeering, rearing, searing, shearing, sneering, steering, piercing, \* appearing, veneering, endearing, revering, \* sheep-shearing, child-rearing, God-fearing, \* engineering, persevering, disappearing, interfering, pioneering, profiteering, domineering, auctioneering, mountaineering, scrutineering, \* electioneering, \* orienteering, \* bioengineering, etc.

**14.13** peeress, Beatrice

**14.14** cheerless, earless, fearless, peerless, beardless, sclerous, serous, clearness, dearness, nearness, weirdness, fierceness, \* Severus, \* Algeciras, \* Ahasuerus, \* hear us, feared us, etc.

**14.15** realist, theorist, pianist, \* surrealist, idealist, careerist

**14.16** weirdest, clearest, dearest, nearest, queerest, fiercest, \* sincerest, etc.

**14.17** Kyrgyz, queries, series, theories, wearies, Deirdre's, \* miniseries, etc.

**14.18** cheerier, drearier, eerier, wearier, \* bacteria, anterior, Algeria, exterior, interior, listeria, wisteria, hysteria, inferior, diphtheria, Iberia, Liberia, Siberia, Nigeria, posterior, ulterior, superior, \* cafeteria, sansevieria, Lake Superior, etc.

**14.19** hearable, steerable, cereal, ferial, serial, Cheeryble, \* material, bacterial, arterial, imperial, Imperial, ethereal, venereal, sidereal, funereal, \* immaterial, monasterial, managerial, magisterial, ministerial, \* antibacterial

**14.20** cerium, \* bacterium, imperium, deuterium, \* magisterium

**14.21** Pierian, \* Adlerian, Kashmirian, Cancerian, Algerian, Wagnerian, Shakespearean, Spenserian, Zairian, Iberian, Liberian, Siberian, Hyperion, criterion, Nigerian, Chaucerian, Moustertian, Sumerian, \* Hanoverian, Presbyterian, trans-Siberian

**14.22** experience, \* inexperience

**14.23** cheerfulness, fearlessness, serious, dreariness, weariness, \* imperious, mysterious, Tiberias, Tiberius, \* Desiderius, deleterious, etc.

**For the writing of verse is a struggle mysterious  
And the gayest of rhymes is a matter that's serious.**  
OLIVER WENDELL HOLMES

## -ee-

*The rhymes in this section have the 'ee' sound of breed and teacher as their main or final vowel sound. You can also rhyme some of these words with words ending in -y (e.g. happily, telepathy, capability), which you will find in other sections.*

**15.1** B, be, Bea, bee, Brie, C, Cree, D, Dee, E, fee, flea, flee, free, G, gee, ghee, glee, he, key, knee, lea, lee, Lee, Leigh, me, mi, P, pea, pee, plea, quay, re, sea, scree, see, she, ski, spree, T, te, tea, tee, the, thee, three, tree, Tree, twee, V, we, wee, whee, ye, Z

**Stands the church clock at ten to three?**

**And is there honey still for tea?**

RUPERT BROOKE

**15.2** McGee, Dundee, suttee, trustee, McPhee, alee, Tralee, Cherie, Marie, sirree, Capri, agree, buckshee, maquis, grandee, standee, tax-free, banshee, marquee, marquis, draftee, grantee, Grand Prix, Parsee, bargee, payee, JP, HP, AD, bailee, trainee, NB, LP, MP, vendee, settee, esprit, rent-free, étui, ME, lessee, MC, PE, CB, GB, TB, GP, CD, three-D, VD, ET, PT, TT, CV, TV, tee-hee, BC, cc, PC, e.g., yippee, decree, degree, jinni, i.e., ID, IT, Tiree, lychee, t'ai chi, off-key, scot-free, Torquay, Pawnee, Shawnee, foresee, low-key, OD, goatee, toll-free, whoopee, cooee, rupee, bootee, tutee, UV, QC, \* mother-to-be, Trincomalee, fiddle-de-dee, bouquet garni, GCSE, RSVP, PAYE, interviewee, on the q.t., WC, \* Muhammad Ali

**15.3** Bacchae, Yankee, latchkey, Atlee, Crabtree, algae, passkey, larvae, carefree, pear tree, Aintree, Braintree, precis, debris, Elstree, turnkey, fir tree, tepee, kiwi, pewee, gee-gee, squeegee, Frisbee®, pritheo, Nike,

psyche, pine tree, sightsee, spondee, coffee, toffee, crosstree, Rowntree, Toynbee, trochee, ogee, puttee, bungee, look-see, bootee, shoetree, \* antennae, Mycenae, committee, banoffee, Milwaukee, alumnae, Grand Coulee, \* Tallahassee, prima facie, subcommittee, Murrumbidgee

**15.4** manatee, guarantee, absentee, jamboree, transferee, Anne-Marie, *bain-marie*, axletree, ratatouille, apogee, Chatterjee, après-ski, addressee, Galilee, Pharisee, appointee, amputee, jalousie, Sadducee, R&B, R&D, Marshalsea, RAC, RIP, maître d', A&E, HRT, c'est la vie, KGB, ABC, eighty-three, HIV, Cherokee, legatee, devotee, referee, kedgeree, repartee, SAE, escapee, LSD, MSc, MBE, MEP, LED, LCD, Zebedee, Gemini, pedigree, twenty-three, Tennessee, perigee, debauchee, employee, SOB, epopee, MOD, MOT, refugee, fleur-de-lys, verdigris, thirty-three, B&B, Tweedledee, C of E, Peterlee, vis-à-vis, CJD, PhD, VAT, detainee, ESP, CND, GMT, PMT, TNT, BSE, CFC, plc, TLC, BSc, DVD, BBC, PVC, VIP, CID, deportee, TUC, chickadee, disagree, swingletree, fricassee, Winchelsea, chimpanzee, returnee, interneer, filigree, fifty-three, sixty-three, retiree, divorcee, inductee, bride-to-be, licensee, Zuider Zee, ITV, Waikiki, ninety-three, wannabe, warrantee, bonhomie, nominee, monoski, water-ski, forty-three, mortgagee, formulae, bourgeoisie, oversea, oversee, OAP, OBE, OTT, Rosie Lee, bumblebee, dungaree, trouble-free, undersea, honeybee, sugar-free, USP, QED, jubilee, dutyfree, \* abandonee, examinee, evacuee, chinoiserie, Thermopylae, minutiae

**There was an old lady of Winchelsea,  
Who said, 'If you needle or pin shall see,  
On the floor of my room,  
Sweep it up with the broom!'  
That exhaustive old lady of Winchelsea!**  
EDWARD LEAR

**15.5** Beeb, dweeb, glebe, grebe, \* Delibes, Antibes

**15.6** dweebs, grebes, Thebes

**15.7** beak, bleak, cheek, chic, clique, creak, creek, eek, eke, freak, geek, Greek, leak, leek, meek, peak, Peake, peek, peke, pique, reek, seek, shriek, Sikh, sleek, sneak, speak, Speke, squeak, streak, teak, tweak, weak, week, wreak, \* unspeak, oblique, batik, pratique, antique, Lalique, Tajik, technique, bespeak, critique, triptyque, mystique, midweek, bezique, physique, off-peak, boutique, Mustique, unique, \* speedfreak, pipsqueak, forepeak, houseleek, newspeak, \* Martinique, Chesapeake, fenugreek, stickybeak, hide-and-peek, Dominique, ortanique, Mozambique, tongue-in-cheek, \* téléphérique

**And I seem to find the happiness I seek  
When we're out together dancing cheek-to-cheek.**

IRVING BERLIN

**15.8** beaks, brecks, cheeks, freaks, shrieks, speaks, Weekes, weeks, \* *idée fixe*, \* Macgillicuddy's Reeks, etc.

**15.9** beach, beech, bleach, breach, breech, each, leach, Leach, leech, peach, pleach, preach, reach, screech, speech, teach, \* unteach, impeach, beseech, \* Wisbech, horseleech, outreach, \* overreach

**Shall I part my hair behind? Do I dare to eat a peach?  
I shall wear white flannel trousers, and walk upon the beach.**

T. S. ELIOT

**15.10** beached, bleached, preached, reached, \* unbleached, impeached, beseeched, etc.

**15.11** bead, Bede, bleed, breed, cede, creed, deed, Eid, feed, freed, Gide, greed, he'd, heed, knead, lead, lied, mead, Meade, Mede, need, plead, read, Reade, reed, Reed, Reid, screed, seed, she'd, skied, speed, steed, swede, Swede, tweed, Tweed, we'd, weed, \* agreed, proceed, succeed, concede, stampede, accede, Rashid, Candide, reread, impede, indeed, misdeed, mislead, inbreed, misread, precede, recede, secede, exceed, high-speed, Godspeed, outbreed, OD'd, \* Flamsteed, handfeed, knapweed, ragweed, flaxseed, airspeed, fairlead, hayseed, rapeseed, breast-feed, birdseed, Siegfried, seaweed, weak-kneed, drip-feed, lip-read, chickweed, linseed,

mind-read, sight-read, bindweed, Lockheed, crossbreed, hogweed, pondweed, knotweed, knock-kneed, force-feed, groundspeed, oilseed, nosebleed, duckweed, spoonfeed, proofread, \* guaranteed, Ganymede, antecede, aniseed, refereed, centipede, retrocede, invalid, interbreed, intercede, millipede, chicken feed, bottle-feed, cottonseed, waterweed, overfeed, underfeed, tumbleweed, Runnymede, bugleweed, supersede, \* velocipede

**Who to himself is law, no law doth need,  
Offends no law, and is a king indeed.**

GEORGE CHAPMAN

**15.12** beads, breeds, deeds, Leeds, needs, reeds, tweeds, weeds, \* succeeds, misdeeds, \* nosebleeds, proceeds, \* centipedes, invalids, etc.

**15.13** beef, brief, chief, fief, grief, leaf, reef, sheaf, thief, \* Sharif, massif, debrief, belief, relief, naïf, corned beef, roast beef, O’Keeffe, motif, \* kerchief, sneak thief, tea leaf, wheatsheaf, fig leaf, flyleaf, \* handkerchief, bas-relief, Tenerife, neckerchief, interleaf, disbelief, misbelief, leitmotif, overleaf, cloverleaf, unbelief, \* apéritif

**15.14** gigue, Grieg, league, \* fatigue, intrigue, renege, \* blitzkrieg, sitzkrieg, colleague

**15.15** liege, siege, \* besiege

**15.16** prestige, \* noblesse oblige

**15.17** Beale, creel, deal, Deal, eel, feel, he’ll, heal, heel, keel, Keele, Kiel, kneel, Lille, meal, Neil, peal, peel, Peel, reel, seal, she’ll, spiel, squeal, steal, steel, Steel, Steele, stele, teal, veal, we’ll, weal, wheal, wheel, zeal, \* appeal, allele, Camille, schlemiel, anneal, chenille, conceal, unseal, congeal, Bastille, Castile, square deal, genteel, Emil, Cecile, reseal, repeal, misdeal, reveal, ordeal, O’Neill, Lucille, \* cartwheel, selfheal, treadwheel, gearwheel, freewheel, sweetmeal, wheatmeal, piecemeal, printwheel, millwheel, pinwheel, fishmeal, flywheel, cogwheel, allheal, Mobile, oatmeal, wholemeal, bonemeal, newsreel, \* blastocoel, deshabelle, stainless

steel, daisywheel, rectocele, Ferris wheel, Estoril, three-course meal, cystocele, imbecile, glockenspiel, cockatiel, commonweal, cochineal, Dormobile®, snowmobile, Popemobile, underseal, \* Achilles heel, \* automobile

**15.18** field, Field, healed, heeled, kneeled, pealed, peeled, reeled, sealed, shield, squealed, Weald, wheeled, wield, yield, \* appealed, afield, unhealed, annealed, concealed, unsealed, congealed, well-heeled, three-wheeled, resealed, repealed, revealed, high-heeled, four-wheeled, low-heeled, two-wheeled, \* Hatfield, Anfield, Cranfield, Mansfield, airfield, hayfield, Wakefield, Masefield, Sheffield, Enfield, greenfield, midfield, infield, Winfield, Springfield, Lichfield, windshield, minefield, cornfield, outfield, brownfield, oilfield, Schofield, snowfield, Oldfield, coalfield, Nuffield, gumshield, \* battlefield, Macclesfield, Dangerfield, chesterfield, Chesterfield, Sellafeld, Beaconsfield, Petersfield, ill-concealed, Copperfield, Butterfield, Somerfield, Huddersfield, unconcealed, unrevealed, \* Sutton Coldfield

**15.19** deals, eels, feels, heels, meals, Neil's, seals, wheels, \* appeals, conceals, congeals, reveals, \* Galashiels, jellied eels, meals on wheels, imbeciles, etc.

**When love congeals**

**It soon reveals**

**The faint aroma of performing seals,**

**The double crossing of a pair of heels.**

LORENZ HART

**15.20** beam, bream, Bream, Cheam, cream, deem, dream, gleam, Nîmes, ream, scheme, scream, seam, seem, steam, stream, team, teem, theme, \* abeam, agleam, Karim, upstream, raceme, blaspheme, regime, redeem, esteem, extreme, midstream, ice cream, onstream, downstream, supreme, \* centime, harem, airstream, daydream, mainstream, jetstream, Brylcreem®, slipstream, millstream, whitebeam, bireme, trireme, crossbeam, hornbeam, morpheme, Coldstream, phoneme, sunbeam, bloodstream, Gulf Stream,

moonbeam, \* academe, self-esteem, Ibrahim, single cream, disesteem, quinquere, kibbutzim, clotted cream, monotreme, double cream

**But what is man in his own proud esteem?**

**Hear him, himself the poet and the theme.**

WILLIAM COWPER

15.21 beamed, dreamed, gleamed, screamed, seemed, steamed, streamed, teemed, \* undreamed, unstreamed, blasphemed, redeemed, esteemed, \* unredeemed, etc.

15.22 beams, dreams, reams, Rheims, schemes, seams, teams, etc.

15.23 bean, been, clean, dean, Dean, e'en, gean, gene, Gene, glean, green, Greene, Jean, Kean, keen, lean, mean, mien, Nene, peen, preen, queen, Queen, scene, screen, seen, sheen, Sheene, skean, spleen, teen, wean, zine

**Pussycat, pussycat, where have you been?**

**I've been to London to see the Queen.**

NURSERY RHYME

15.24 lateen, umpteen, Devine, Levine, ravine, subvene, convene, baleen, unclean, careen, marine, tureen, latrine, McQueen, Janine, obscene, unseen, machine, Rabin, nankeen, sateen, canteen, shagreen, Racine, Maxine, Harbin, sardine, Martine, Amin, Nadine, James Dean, eighteen, jade green, Céline, French bean, terrine, Benin, thirteen, preteen, shebeen, beguine, fifteen, sixteen, trephine, spring-clean, serene, big screen, between, demean, cuisine, nineteen, dry-clean, widescreen, poteen, broad bean, fourteen, small screen, foreseen, Slovene, Justine, routine, \* mujaheddin, aquamarine, ultramarine, vending machine, knitting machine, washing machine, sewing machine, *nouvelle cuisine*, Palaeocene, Oligocene

15.25 has-been, caffeine, Kathleen, gangrene, gamine, vaccine, fanzine, Charlene, Marlene, guanine, Aileen, scalene, dentine, Hellene, Essene, benzene, benzine, theine, Christine, pristine, Sistine, Springsteen, Crimplene®, windscreen, quinine, strychnine, Eileen, Irene, styrene, flyscreen, glycine, lysine, Nicene, hygiene, Tolkien, tontine, colleen,

Colleen, morphine, Pauline, chlorine, Doreen, Maureen, Noreen, fluorine, purine, soybean, codeine, Roedean, protein, smokescreen, bromine, sunscreen, butene, Lutine, \* epinephrine, Benedictine, polystyrene, diamorphine, \* norepinephrine

**15.26** atropine, carrageen, Aberdeen, gabardine, carotene, galantine, trampoline, Jacqueline, Magdalene, naphthalene, gasoline, Vaseline®, tambourine, saccharine, Gadarene, Nazarene, tangerine, Dramamine®, anthracene, Damascene, magazine, Balanchine, aniline, Trasimene, Plasticine®, Halloween, mangosteen, Argentine, margarine, tartrazine, langoustine, crepe de Chine, grenadine, Geraldine, gelatine, seventeen, eglantine, clementine, mescaline, nectarine, pelerine, evergreen, Gretna Green, Bethnal Green, melamine, mezzanine, kerosene, phenazine, fedayeen, Bellarmine, jellybean, pethidine, velveteen, ethylene, methylene, Terylene®, Emmeline, ephedrine, Benzedrine®, epicene, Bernardine, Germolene®, creatine, reconvene, neoprene, Eocene, libertine, nicotine, guillotine, brigantine, brilliantine, Byzantine, intervene, Cymbeline, Windolene®, figurine, Listerine®, glycerine, Hippocrene, silver screen, wintergreen, histamine, limousine, kidney bean, Philippine, Ghibelline, village green, in-between, indigene, iodine, thiamine, tyrosine, isoprene, Miocene, Pliocene, Pleistocene, Constantine, Florentine, quarantine, Josephine, contravene, bottle green, bombazine, olivine, polythene, propylene, olive green, Holocene, oncogene, toluene, tourmaline, soya bean, Ovaltine®, dopamine, overseen, aubergine, bowling green, go-between, *haute cuisine*, butter bean, runner bean, submarine, putting green, unforeseen, subroutine, wolverine, fullerene, supervene, glutamine, \* papaverine, amphetamine, adenosine, promethazine, acetylene, methionine, scopolamine, glucosamine, \* betacarotene, polyethylene, antihistamine, nitroglycerine, dryopithecine, catecholamine, polypropylene, antisubmarine, \* benzodiazepine, oxyacetylene, australopithecine, trinitrotoluene, buckminsterfullerene, \* polytetrafluoroethylene

**15.27** cleaned, fiend, gleaned, preened, screened, weaned, \* unscreened, unweaned, machined, etc.

**15.28** umpteenth, eighteenth, thirteenth, fifteenth, sixteenth, nineteenth, fourteenth, \* seventeenth

**15.29** beans, Dean's, greens, jeans, Jean's, Keynes, means, queens, Queens, scenes, screens, teens, \* latrines, sardines, baked beans, Justine's, \* Grenadines, clementines, Milton Keynes, smithereens, limousines, Philippines, aubergines, full of beans, New Orleans, \* amphetamines, \* antihistamines, etc.

**The woods are lovely, dark and deep.**

**But I have promises to keep,**

**And miles to go before I sleep.**

ROBERT FROST

**15.30** beep, bleep, cheap, cheep, creep, deep, heap, Jeep®, keep, leap, neap, neep, peep, reap, seep, sheep, sleep, steep, Streep, sweep, veep, weep, \* asleep, équipe, knee-deep, bo-peep, \* scrapheap, slagheap, upkeep, upsweep, \* chimney sweep, oversleep, \* Uriah Heep

**15.31** beeps, bleeps, creeps, heaps, neaps, neeps, Pepys, sweeps, weeps, etc.

**15.32** cease, crease, *fil*s, fleece, geese, grease, Greece, lease, Nice, niece, peace, piece, Rees, Rhys, \* apiece, Matisse, police, sublease, cerise, caprice, Dumfries, De Vries, Denise, MacNeice, pastis, cassis, pelisse, Bernice, surcease, degrease, release, decrease, increase, decease, obese, Cochise, coulisse, \* hairpiece, Makepeace, tailpiece, neckpiece, headpiece, set piece, chesspiece, workpiece, earpiece, Greenpeace, eyepiece, timepiece, codpiece, crosspiece, showpiece, mouthpiece, \* mantelpiece, ambergris, masterpiece, centrepiece, chersonese, verdigris, re-release, predecease, chimneypiece, altarpiece, *War and Peace*, frontispiece, \* Peloponnese, archdiocese

**Abou Ben Adhem (may his tribe increase!)**

**Awoke one night from a deep dream of peace.**

LEIGH HUNT

**15.33** beast, ceased, creased, east, feast, Geest, greased, least, piste, priest, yeast, \* uncreased, batiste, artiste, Far East, archpriest, Near East, released, decreased, increased, deceased, northeast, southeast, modiste, \* beanfeast, \* arriviste, hartebeest, re-released, wildebeest, unreleased, etc.

**15.34** fiche, leash, niche, quiche, \* unleash, pastiche, Dalglish, rime riche, schottische, postiche, corniche, \* hashish, baksheesh, \* microfiche, nouveau riche

**15.35** beat, beet, bleat, cheat, cleat, Crete, eat, feat, feet, fleet, Fleet, gîte, gleet, greet, heat, leat, leet, lied, meat, meet, mete, neat, peat, Pete, pleat, seat, sheet, skeet, sleet, street, suite, sweet, teat, treat, tweet, wheat, \* compete, petite, complete, accrete, conceit, unseat, flat feet, Magritte, maltreat, *en suite*, dead beat, preheat, reheat, reseat, repeat, defeat, effete, delete, elite, deplete, replete, secrete, discreet, discrete, excrete, retreat, ill-treat, entreat, mistreat, deceit, receipt, gamete, crabmeat, factsheet, heartbeat, mainsheet, deadbeat, Benfleet, helpmeet, spreadsheet, worksheet, aesthete, sweetmeat, freesheet, pigmeat, mincemeat, bystreet, high street, time sheet, offbeat, Longleat, concrete, forefeet, Northfleet, forcemeat, horsemeat, broadsheet, browbeat, downbeat, groundsheet, wholewheat, upbeat, drumbeat, buckwheat, dustsheet, bushmeat, \* pentathlete, decathlete, \* parakeet, Paraclete, Masorete, marguerite, Marguerite, Harley Street, exegete, meadowsweet, incomplete, bittersweet, indiscreet, indiscrete, trick-or-treat, window seat, spirochaete, driver's seat, obsolete, polychaete, lorikeet, Downing Street, overeat, overheat, sugar beet, superheat, \* Carnaby Street, oligochaete

**Oh, East is East, and West is West, and never the twain shall meet,  
Till Earth and Sky stand presently at God's great Judgement Seat.**  
RUDYARD KIPLING

**15.36** beats, cheats, eats, Keats, Pete's, pleats, seats, sheets, streets, sweets, \* athletes, backstreets, heartbeats, sweetmeats, etc.

**15.37** heath, Heath, Keith, Leith, Meath, 'neath, Reith, sheath, teeth, wreath, \* bequeath, beneath, Monteith, \* milk teeth, eyeteeth, buckteeth, \*

Bexleyheath, Cowdenbeath, underneath, \* B'nai B'rith

**15.38** breathe, Meath, seethe, sheathe, teethe, wreathe, \* unsheathe, enwreath, inbreathe, bequeath, \* Pontypridd

**15.39** breve, cleave, eve, Eve, greave, grieve, heave, leave, Neave, Niamh, peeve, reeve, reive, sheave, sleeve, Steve, thief, vive, we've, weave, Yves, \* upheave, aggrieve, perceive, conceive, achieve, Rajiv, French leave, qui vive, khedive, believe, relieve, bereave, reprieve, retrieve, inweave, deceive, receive, naive, \* wayleave, shirtsleeve, sick leave, Congreve, \* apperceive, make-believe, Tel Aviv, Genevieve, semibreve, preconceive, interleave, interweave, misconceive, disbelieve, oversleeve, undeceive, \* recitative, overachieve, underachieve

**O what a tangled web we weave,  
When first we practise to deceive!**

SIR WALTER SCOTT

**15.40** grieved, heaved, peeved, thieved, \* aggrieved, perceived, conceived, achieved, believed, relieved, bereaved, reprieved, deceived, received, long-sleeved, broad-leaved, short-sleeved, \* preconceived, interleaved, misconceived, disbelieved, unrelieved, undeceived, etc.

**15.41** beeves, eaves, Eve's, Greaves, grieves, heaves, Jeeves, leaves, Reeves, sheaves, sleeves, thieves, \* achieves, believes, deceives, receives, \* Hargreaves, shirtsleeves, sneak thieves, tea leaves, Greensleeves, wheatsheaves, fig leaves, flyleaves, \* Anne of Cleves, Genevieve's, semibreves, etc.

**15.42** bees, bise, breeze, cheese, Cleese, ease, fleas, fees, freeze, frieze, he's, keys, knees, lees, peas, please, seas, seize, she's, skis, sleaze, sneeze, squeeze, tease, Tees, these, trees, T's, tweeze, wheeze, etc.

**He'd fly through the air with the greatest of ease,  
A daring young man on the flying trapeze.**

GEORGE LEYBOURNE

**15.43** appease, trapeze, trustees, Belize, valise, cerise, Marie's, agrees, unfreeze, chemise, Denise, unease, marquise, trainees, MPs, Kirklees, Burmese, CDs, DTs, degrees, refreeze, deepfreeze, striptease, displease, reprise, disseise, disease, Chinese, Maltese, Louise, rupees, \* Senegalese, Peloponnese, Dodecanese, Abdul-Aziz, *éminence grise*, GCSEs, etc.

**15.44** Andes, axes, Ganges, heartsease, Ares, Aries, caries, lares, pear trees, rabies, scabies, tabes, stapes, Hades, bases, testes, menses, herpes, stirpes, Surtees, fir trees, Hermes, Xerxes, Ceres, series, faeces, theses, species, gee-gees, pine trees, crises, Pisces, \* Cervantes, dolmades, penates, Pilates, Antares, Mercedes, Achatas, Euphrates, oases, Orestes, Apelles, Waldenses, Laertes, subspecies, committees, Achilles, Antilles, meninges, pyrites, synopses, litotes, psychoses, prognoses, neuroses, \* Ecclesiastes, Mithridates, rarae aves, Albigenses, Holofernes, Artaxerxes, Boanerges, miniseries, Archimedes, diabetes, ecospecies, bona fides, diagnoses, etc.

**15.45** Maccabees, absentees, Androcles, Damocles, Anne-Marie's, Gabonese, Japanese, manganese, Cantonese, antifreeze, Rameses, Javanese, Balinese, Faeroese, sanies, facies, apices, matrices, Cherokees, expertise, Nepalese, Heracles, Vietnamese, Lebanese, Celebes, Hebrides, Pericles, Héloïse, refugees, journalese, vertices, Hercules, legalese, Viennese, Pekinese, helices, Cyclades, Sinhalese, Milanese, Pyrenees, indices, Hyades, Pleiades, Siamese, Guyanese, Taiwanese, Sporades, Socrates, Congolese, novelese, Sophocles, chalk and cheese, cortices, vortices, Portuguese, gourmandise, vocalise, Togolese, overseas, OAPs, codices, dungarees, Sudanese, Ulysses, \* cheval-de-frise, cantharides, Los Angeles, analyses, evacuees, Empedocles, Hesperides, appendices, parentheses, antipodes, officialese, Themistocles, Pheidippides, Euripides, Thucydides, Praxiteles, Xenocrates, Hippocrates, anopheles, isosceles, Xenophanes, Demosthenes, Diogenes, hypotheses, computerese, \* Alcibiades, Aristophanes, Mephistopheles, Eratosthenes, etc.

**16.1** freebie, hebe, Hebe, Phoebe, creepy, sleepy, tepee, weepy, beaky, cheeky, cliquey, creaky, freaky, geeky, Leakey, leaky, peaky, sneaky, squeaky, streaky, beady, Edie, greedy, needy, reedy, seedy, speedy, tweedy, weedy, wieldy, Beattie, Beatty, meaty, peaty, sleety, sweetie, treaty, fealty,

beastie, yeasty, beefy, leafy, Revie, Lethe, Leahy, Ely, freely, Greeley, Healey, Keeley, Lely, mealie, mealy, steely, stele, wheelie, feebly, cheaply, deeply, steeply, bleakly, meekly, treacly, weakly, weekly, neatly, sweetly, Wheatley, beastly, Eastleigh, Priestley, priestly, briefly, chiefly, Keighley, seemly, cleanly, keenly, meanly, queenly, measly, Queensberry, Petrie, kiwi, pewee, beamy, creamy, dreamy, Mimi, premie, REME, seamy, see me, steamy, beanie, Heaney, genie, Jeannie, meanie, Queenie, Rene, Sweeney, teeny, tweeny, weeny, fleecy, greasy, breezy, cheesy, easy, queasy, sleazy, sneezy, wheezy, teensy, specie, Vichy, peachy, preachy, screechy, Fiji, gee-gee, squeegee, \* tzatziki, Kon-Tiki, Malpighi, Carnegie, Respighi, Macready, unwieldy, graffiti, Tahiti, entreaty, Haiti, Donleavy, sapele, Swahili, obliquely, uniquely, naively, serenely, obscenely, routinely, completely, discreetly, unseemly, extremely, supremely, tahini, bambini, tankini, Martini®, Bellini, Cellini, Fellini, Bernini, bikini, Selene, linguine, Irene, Mycenae, Rossini, Orsini, zucchini, Houdini, Puccini, Assisi, Tbilisi, uneasy, Zambezi, Medici, Luigi, \* speakeasy, \* cock-a-leekie, Nefertiti, Matabele, touchy-feely, Lamborghini, Agostini, Pasolini, Paganini, Cherubini, fettucine, teeny-weeny, Rossellini, Boccherini, Borromini, Toscanini, Mussolini, easy-peasy, teensy-weensy, maharishi, etc.

**16.2** Gaea, freer, Leah, Mia, ria, Ria, rhea, Rhea, seer, Shiah, skier, Thea, Zia, \* trachea, Korea, Maria, sharia, Chaldea, sangria, García, Medea, IKEA, spiraea, Crimea, Nicaea, tortilla, cornea, urea, Sofia, Sophia, Euboea, rupiah, Judaea, Lucía, \* Landseer, sightseer, \* Galatea, ratafia, Dorothea, mausolea, trattoria, pizzeria, Caesarea, Cytherea, mamma mia, Tanzania, panacea, Nicosia, overseer, Boadicea, Kampuchea, \* Cassiopeia, pharmacopoeia, Arimathea, Tia Maria®, Ave Maria, peripeteia, Laodicea, Andalucía, \* onomatopoeia, \* free her, see her, etc.

**16.3** Sheba, beeper, bleeper, cheaper, creeper, deeper, Dnieper, keeper, leaper, peeper, reaper, sleeper, steeper, sweeper, weeper, \* amoeba, Bathsheba, Beersheba, barkeeper, park keeper, gamekeeper, gatekeeper, beekeeper, greenkeeper, peacekeeper, tree creeper, innkeeper, timekeeper, minesweeper, shopkeeper, doorkeeper, scorekeeper, storekeeper, housekeeper, goalkeeper, book-keeper, zoo keeper, \* Arequipa, wicketkeeper, \* bleep her, keep her, etc.

**When we were a soft amoeba, in ages past and gone,  
Ere you were the Queen of Sheba, or I King Solomon.**

ARTHUR SHIPLEY

**16.4** beaker, bleaker, leaker, meeker, seeker, sika, sleeker, sneaker, speaker, Speaker, squeaker, streaker, tikka, tweaker, weaker, eager, leaguer, meagre, Riga, Seeger, Vega, \* paprika, self-seeker, Guernica, eureka, loudspeaker, Antigua, beleaguer, intriguer, Swarfega®, \* Tanganyika, Frederica, Costa Rica, overeager, \* seek her, intrigue her, etc.

**16.5** bleeder, Breda, breeder, cedar, Creda, feeder, kneader, leader, Leda, lieder, Ouida, pleader, reader, seeder, speeder, weeder, fielder, Kielder, wielder, yielder, beater, beta, cheater, cheetah, Dieter, eater, fetor, greeter, heater, litre, meeter, meter, metre, neater, Peta, Peter, pleater, praetor, Rita, Streeter, sweeter, teeter, theta, tweeter, Vita, zeta, Dniester, Easter, keister, quaestor, deemster, teamster, \* succeder, Aïda, valeta, Anita, granita, Juanita, raita, partita, repeater, Evita, excreta, Demeter, Ryvita, pineta, Lolita, saltpetre, ureter, two-seater, northeaster, southeaster, \* bandleader, cheerleader, ringleader, mind-reader, sight-reader, loss leader, stockbreeder, mouthbreeder, proofreader, newsreader, midfielder, infielder, outfielder, anteater, eggbeater, beefeater, windcheater, tripmeter, wattmeter, toadeater, voltmeter, ohmmeter, \* al-Qaeda, Etheldreda, interceder, copyreader, altimeter, taximeter, nanometre, arboreta, Margarita, decalitre, decametre, centilitre, decilitre, centimetre, decimetre, señorita, hectolitre, hectometre, Eid-ul-Fitr, kilometre, millilitre, millimetre, micrometre, dolce vita, honey-eater, Sandinista, \* follow-my-leader, olla podrida, Bhagavad-Gita, \* feed her, meet her, etc.

**Here lies that peerless paper peer Lord Peter,  
Who broke the laws of God and man and metre.**

JOHN GIBSON LOCKHART

**16.6** briefer, reefer, FIFA, Eva, beaver, Beaver, Cheever, cleaver, diva, fever, griever, Hever, leaver, lever, reiver, Siva, viva, weaver, weever, ether, breather, either, neither, \* Recife, perceiver, achiever, transceiver, believer, retriever, Geneva, deceiver, receiver, school-leaver, Aretha, Ibiza,

bequeather, \* cantilever, basketweaver, disbeliever, nonbeliever, unbeliever, Unilever, \* overachiever, under-achiever, \* debrief her, leave her, etc.

**16.7** dealer, feeler, healer, heeler, Keeler, Keillor, kneeler, Leila, peeler, sealer, selah, Sheila, squealer, stealer, vealer, velar, wheeler, Wheeler, feebler, beagler, Ziegler, Libra, Ypres, Phaedra, Kenya, senior, \* appealer, concealer, three-wheeler, tequila, revealer, cathedra, urethra, Monsignor, \* wheeler-dealer, Philomela, \* *enfant terrible*, ex cathedra, tetrahedra, polyhedra, savoir-vivre, *joie de vivre*, \* heal her, steal her, etc.

**16.8** beamer, creamer, dreamer, femur, lemur, Lima, reamer, schema, schemer, screamer, seamer, steamer, streamer, Beena, cleaner, Ena, Gina, gleaner, greener, keener, leaner, Lena, meaner, Meena, Nina, screener, Sheena, Tina, weaner, Wiener, Zena, \* blasphemer, oedema, redeemer, Redeemer, Robina, subpoena, convener, Athena, tahina, arena, farina, marina, Marina, Sabrina, Catriona, Katrina, pashmina, Martina, tsarina, Medina, Edwina, Messina, retsina, verbena, Christina, Melina, Selina, Serena, demeanour, hyena, Ribena®, Hygena, Molina, Cortina, Georgina, Rowena, novena, euglena, \* daydreamer, pipe cleaner, \* emphysema, terza rima, Iwo Jima, Hiroshima, carabiner, Pasadena, cavatina, ballerina, Palestrina, Agrippina, Angelina, Ballymena, casuarina, scarlatina, Argentina, St Helena, semolina, Messalina, intervener, signorina, Philomena, Wilhelmina, Filipina, misdemeanour, concertina, contravener, ocarina, Thomasina, \* ottava rima, Gewürztraminer, \* Herzegovina, \* esteem her, screen her, etc.

**16.9** greaser, Lisa, pizza, Caesar, freezer, geezer, geyser, Pisa, pleaser, seizer, sneezer, squeezer, teaser, visa, freesia, seizure, Esher, Beecher, bleacher, creature, feature, Meacher, Nietzsche, preacher, screecher, teacher, \* degreaser, releaser, Teresa, Theresa, El Gîza, Malteser, Louisa, amnesia, nemesia, godetia, Belisha, Phoenicia, magnesia, Helvetia, Venetia, montbretia, Ossetia, Portlaoise, aubrietia, Rhodesia, Lucretia, procedure, besieger, \* crowd-pleaser, schoolteacher, \* Ebenezer, *Mona Lisa*, Melanesia, Indonesia, Micronesia, Austronesia, Polynesia, alopecia, paraplegia, tetraplegia, aquilegia, hemiplegia, quadriplegia, \* Hispano-Suiza, \* release her, reach her, etc.

**16.10** Greenock, Taoiseach

**16.11** greenstick, Friedrich, Dietrich, scenic, beatnik, seasick, peachick, \* amoebic, comedic, acetic, anaemic, phonemic, ischaemic, glycaemic, toxaemic, irenic, hygienic, amnesic, strategic, \* orthopaedic, unhygienic, geodesic, analgesic, nonstrategic, paraplegic, tetraplegic, hemiplegic, quadriplegic, \* encyclopedic, \* hyperglycaemic, hypoglycaemic

**16.12** prefix, Felix, helix, Friedrich's, remix, phoenix, beatniks, peachicks, etc.

**16.13** fetid, Enid, \* Aeneid, bikinied

**16.14** beaded, heeded, needed, pleaded, seeded, fielded, shielded, wielded, yielded, cheated, heated, metered, treated, feasted, Seaford, levered, leeward, Leeward, seaward, eastward, featured, \* beleaguered, unheeded, unneeded, succeeded, conceded, unseeded, impeded, receded, exceeded, unheated, untreated, conceited, reheated, repeated, defeated, depleted, ill-treated, northeastward, southeastward, \* unimpeded, overheated, undefeated, etc.

**16.15** seawards, eastwards, \* northeastwards, southeastwards

**16.16** seepage, leakage, leafage, cleavage

**16.17** feeble, Keble, peepul, people, sepal, steeple, faecal, Jekyll, treacle, beagle, eagle, legal, regal, Segal, Spiegl, beadle, Cheadle, needle, wheedle, beetle, betel, fetal, gleeful, heedful, needful, peaceful, evil, shrieval, weevil, lethal, equal, prequel, sequel, penal, renal, venal, diesel, easel, teasel, weasel, \* tracheal, pineal, corneal, enfeeble, illegal, spread-eagle, viceregal, Threadneedle, deceitful, medieval, retrieval, primeval, coeval, upheaval, cathedral, unequal, adrenal, \* tradespeople, townspeople, porbeagle, \* perineal, laryngeal, pharyngeal, meningeal, centripetal, Evel Knievel, tetrahedral, hexahedral, octahedral, polyhedral, duodenal, \* oesophageal, Till Eulenspiegel

**16.18** Peebles, beagles, eagles, needles, Needles, Beatles, beetles, easels, measles, teasels, weasels, \* Gleneagles, \* pins and needles, etc.

**16.19** prelim, Leitrim, \* heal him, meet him, etc.

**16.20** geum, Liam, sebum, caecum, Secombe, Edom, freedom, Needham, sedum, fiefdom, Cheetham, coelom, velum, Greenham, plenum, threesome, besom, Heysham, Evesham, Beecham, \* Lyceum, museum, pinetum, cerebrum, pyrethrum, \* mausoleum, Colosseum, Erechtheum, Atheneum, perineum, propylaeum, coliseum, arboretum, equisetum, duodenum, dirigisme, \* peritoneum, \* see 'em, teach 'em, etc.

**You're the top! You're the Coliseum,  
You're the top! You're the Louvre Museum.**

COLE PORTER

**16.21** wheelspin, Deakin, Wrekin, sheepskin, sealskin, lead-in, Evelyn, sequin, teach-in, \* Kosygin, Dunedin, \* seekin', readin', etc.

**16.22** Behan, eon, Ian, Leon, lien, paeon, peon, Theban, cheapen, deepen, steepen, beacon, deacon, pecan, weaken, Egan, Keegan, Regan, vegan, Bredon, Eden, Sweden, Weedon, wealden, Neasden, beaten, Beaton, Beeton, Cretan, eaten, Eaton, Eton, Keaton, neaten, Seaton, Seton, sweeten, wheaten, chieftain, eastern, Easton, even, Leven, Stephen, Ethan, heathen, Whelan, Libran, daemon, demon, freeman, Freeman, Leman, seaman, semen, Eastman, Cheeseman, liegeman, Gleason, Nielsen, Nilsson, Pisan, reason, season, treason, Friesian, lesion, Grecian, legion, region, \* plebeian, Korean, Chaldean, Andean, Tarpeian, Circean, Aegean, Fijian, Nemean, Linnean, Piscean, Crimean, Nicaean, Strontian, Orphean, Taurean, Augean, protean, Euboean, Judaeon, archdeacon, mohican, Mohican, Antiguan, unbeaten, uneaten, Nuneaton, Cleckheaton, Genevan, breakeven, Kesteven, Ibizan, Van Diemen, pentstemon, Philemon, policeman, unreason, adhesion, artesian, Cartesian, Ephesian, inhesion, Rhodesian, cohesion, Tahitian, completion, accretion, concretion, Phoenician, Haitian, Helvetian, deletion, depletion, repletion, secretion, excretion, Venetian, Ossetian, collegian, Galwegian, Glaswegian, Norwegian, \* browbeaten, \* Jacobean,

Maccabean, Aramaean, Tanzanian, Atlantean, Caribbean, Manichaeian, Achillean, Galilean, Kampuchean, Erechtheion, Hebridean, Periclean, empyrean, Herculean, Aeschylean, Tyrolean, Pyrenean, Sisyphian, Mycenaean, Sophoclean, Odyssean, European, Puerto Rican, Costa Rican, Mozambican, cotyledon, weather-beaten, overeaten, Tudorbethan, decahedron, tetrahedron, hexahedron, octahedron, polyhedron, cacodemon, Lacedaemon, Melanesian, Indonesian, Micronesian, Austronesian, Polynesian, Diocletian, \* antipodean, Archimedean, Laodicean, epicurean, Epicurean, Terpsichorean, Pythagorean, Elizabethan, dodecahedron

**Good King Wenceslas looked out,  
On the feast of Stephen;  
When the snow lay round about,  
Deep and crisp and even.**

JOHN MASON NEALE

**16.23** cheapened, deepened, fecund, weakened, sweetened, eland, Zealand, Zeeland, Priestland, Cleveland, Greenland, Friesland, Queensland, reasoned, seasoned, weasand, \* unsweetened, New Zealand, unseasoned, etc.

**16.24** eons, Ian's, beacons, deacons, vegans, chieftains, evens, Stephens, heathens, demons, Siemens, reasons, seasons, legions, regions, \* plebeians, Koreans, Orleans, Van Diemen's, adhesions, deletions, secretions, \* Jacobean, Europeans, New Orleans, etc.

**16.25** piquant, secant, needn't, sealant, frequent, treatment, easement, decent, puissant, recent, regent, \* cosecant, infrequent, agreement, maltreatment, ill-treatment, achievement, bereavement, concealment, appeasement, impeachment, indecent, impuissant, malfeasant, allegiant, \* antecedent, disagreement, \* overachievement, underachievement

**16.26** credence, grievance, sequence, \* impedance, agreements, achievements, malfeasance, allegiance, \* antecedence, etc.

**Sure, deck your lower limbs in pants;  
Yours are the limbs, my sweeting.**

**You look divine as you advance –  
Have you seen yourself retreating?**

OGDEN NASH

**16.27** being, fleeing, seeing, skiing, beeping, bleeping, creeping, keeping, leaping, peeping, reaping, sleeping, sweeping, weeping, creaking, leaking, reeking, seeking, shrieking, sneaking, speaking, squeaking, streaking, beading, bleeding, breeding, feeding, kneading, leading, pleading, reading, speeding, weeding, Fielding, wielding, yielding, beating, cheating, eating, fleeting, greeting, heating, Keating, meeting, seating, sheeting, sweeting, bee sting, feasting, briefing, reefing, grieving, heaving, leaving, sleeving, thieving, weaving, breathing, seething, teething, ceiling, dealing, Ealing, feeling, healing, Keeling, kneeling, peeling, sealing, shieling, squealing, stealing, wheeling, weakling, beagling, needling, reedling, seedling, wheedling, Riesling, key ring, G-string, beeswing, beaming, dreaming, gleaming, scheming, screaming, seeming, steaming, streaming, teeming, cleaning, gleaning, keening, leaning, meaning, screening, weaning, evening, ceasing, fleecing, greasing, leasing, freezing, pleasing, seizing, sneezing, squeezing, teasing, wheezing, preaching, reaching, screeching, teaching, \* agreeing, unseeing, unsleeping, safekeeping, self-seeking, nonspeaking, fatiguing, intriguing, reneging, unheeding, proceeding, succeeding, rereading, misleading, inbreeding, preceding, receding, exceeding, unyielding, competing, completing, repeating, defeating, retreating, debriefing, perceiving, achieving, believing, deceiving, receiving, bequeathing, appealing, unfeeling, concealing, congealing, Darjeeling, self-sealing, freewheeling, revealing, redeeming, convening, unmeaning, self-cleaning, spring-cleaning, demeaning, policing, unceasing, decreasing, increasing, unleashing, beseeching, far-reaching, nonteaching, besieging, \* wellbeing, sightseeing, peacekeeping, timekeeping, shopkeeping, housekeeping, book-keeping, breastfeeding, lip-reading, mind-reading, sight-reading, stockbreeding, forcefeeding, spoonfeeding, proofreading, \* water-skiing, human being, self-defeating, overeating, overheating, unbelieving, wheeler-dealing, unappealing, unrevealing, intervening, overweening, overreaching, \* overachieving, underachieving, etc.

**I had a dove and the sweet dove died;**

**And I have thought it died of grieving:  
O, what could it grieve for? Its feet were tied,  
With a silken thread of my own hand's weaving.**

JOHN KEATS

**16.28** beings, sweepings, greetings, meetings, beestings, leavings, dealings, feelings, seedlings, gleanings, leanings, meanings, evenings, \* proceedings, etc.

**16.29** Leavis, penis, thesis, tmesis, aegis, Regis, \* kinesis, mimesis, prosthesis, Lyme Regis, \* *in extremis*, exegesis, enuresis, diuresis, Bognor Regis, \* diaphoresis, telekinesis, \* amniocentesis

**16.30** Phoebus, rebus, negus, Negus, foetus, grievous, naevus, Stevas, treeless, sleepless, heedless, needless, seedless, weedless, leafless, sleeveless, heelless, wheelless, dreamless, seamless, ceaseless, speechless, oestrus, seamstress, Remus, genus, heinous, venous, Venus, cheapness, steepness, bleakness, meekness, weakness, neatness, sweetness, keenness, greenness, meanness, Croesus, rhesus, Jesus, specious, \* Antaeus, Aeneas, Linnaeus, Piraeus, boletus, quietus, Miletus, Malvinas, Silenus, Maecenas, uniqueness, completeness, discreetness, facetious, Lucretius, egregious, \* Maccabaeus, Manichaeus, Nicodemus, Polyphemus, polysemous, intravenous, \* see us, believe us, etc.

**When I talk, and you are heedless,  
I will show no anger needless.**

JONATHAN SWIFT

**16.31** deist, theist, \* defeatist, elitist, extremist, machinist, hygienist, \* encyclopedist

**16.32** freest, cheapest, deepest, steepest, bleakest, meekest, sleekest, weakest, neatest, sweetest, briefest, feeblest, greenest, leanest, meanest, etc.

**16.33** cheapish, sheepish, Swedish, fiendish, cliquish, freakish, peevish, squeamish, cleanish, greenish

**16.34** fleapit, eaglet, leaflet, secret, egret, peewit, refit, remit, resit, eejit, \* albeit, howbeit, so be it, \* keep it, clean it, etc.

**16.35** expletive, adhesive, cohesive, \* self-adhesive

**16.36** freebies, Phoebe's, sweeties, treatise, wheelies, weeklies, faeces, theses, species, gee-gees, \* subspecies, \* heebie-jeebies, Archimedes, diabetes, ecospecies, etc.

**16.37** creepers, jeepers, peepers, sleepers, weepers, beakers, sneakers, speakers, cedars, leaders, fielders, litres, metres, Peters, Rita's, Beavers, cleavers, levers, dealers, peelers, dreamers, cleaners, creases, pieces, tweezers, creatures, features, beaches, peaches, teachers, \* loudspeakers, fajitas, repeaters, Evita's, \* gamekeepers, goalkeepers, cheerleaders, ringleaders, beefeaters, believers, school-leavers, \* nonbelievers, misdemeanours, etc.

**Finders keepers, losers weepers.**

SAYING

**16.38** eagerly, legally, meagrely, regally, easterly, gleefully, peacefully, lethally, equally, weaselly, reasonably, peaceably, feasibly, heatedly, eastwardly, frequently, evenly, grievously, heedlessly, needlessly, ceaselessly, Queensberry, eatery, thievery, sealery, Tuileries, breviary, creamery, beanery, deanery, denary, greenery, plenary, scenery, venerary, deaconry, peony, frequency, decency, recency, regency, Regency, deity, creepily, sleepily, cheekily, sneakily, greedily, speedily, dreamily, breezily, easily, secretly, fleetingly, seemingly, pleasingly, sheepishly, fiendishly, peevishly, feverishly, secrecy, \* illegally, northeasterly, southeasterly, deceitfully, agreeably, conceivably, unreasonably, appreciably, conceitedly, repeatedly, infrequently, unevenly, facetiously, secretory, excretory, catenary, machinery, centenary, patisserie, rotisserie, archdeaconry, infrequency, indecency, naivety, amenity, hygienically, strategically, misleadingly, exceedingly, appealingly, revealingly, unceasingly, decreasingly, increasingly, obesity, \* inconceivably, unbelievably,

irretrievably, irredeemably, intermediary, bicentenary, tercentenary, tridentary, spontaneity, \* simultaneity, homogeneity, etc.

**I like your moral and machinery;  
Your plot, too, has such scope for scenery.**

LORD BYRON

**16.39** Greenlander, schemata, Queenborough, sweetener, easterner, reasoner, \* New Zealander

**16.40** sepia, creepier, sleepier, weepier, cheekier, sneakier, squeakier, greedier, media, needier, seedier, speedier, weedier, meatier, meteor, beefier, Celia, Delia, creamier, dreamier, seamier, steamier, senior, taenia, greasier, breezier, easier, freesia, \* Karelia, Amelia, camellia, Cecilia, Cordelia, Cornelia, lobelia, Ophelia, anaemia, ischaemia, pyaemia, toxaemia, uraemia, Bohemia, leukaemia, proscenia, asthenia, gardenia, Armenia, Slovenia, trapezia, amnesia, Silesia, \* cyclopedia, multimedia, psychedelia, academia, septicaemia, myasthenia, neurasthenia, schizophrenia, \* encyclopedia, Melanesia, Indonesia, Micronesia, Austronesia, analgesia, paraesthesia, anaesthesia, kinaesthesia, synaesthesia, hypaesthesia, Polynesia, aqua regia, \* hyperglycaemia, hypoglycaemia, hyperaesthesia, etc.

**16.41** keepable, readable, eatable, beatable, treatable, breathable, cleanable, reasonable, seasonable, peaceable, feasible, freezable, seizable, squeezable, reachable, teachable, seasonal, regional, medial, genial, menial, venial, Oedipal, vehicle, meaningful, \* agreeable, foreseeable, unspeakable, unreadable, unbeatable, untreatable, uneatable, repeatable, unbreathable, perceivable, conceivable, achievable, believable, retrievable, receivable, resealable, redeemable, amenable, unreasonable, unseasonable, appreciable, depreciable, unreachable, unteachable, impeachable, procedural, Ezekiel, remedial, congenial, strategical, \* disagreeable, unforeseeable, unrepeatable, inconceivable, irretrievable, unachievable, unbelievable, irredeemable, inappreciable, unimpeachable, endometrial, uncongenial

**16.42** medium, tedium, Sealyham, helium, premium, rhenium, caesium, \* mycelium, nobelium, proscenium, selenium, ruthenium, trapezium, magnesium, technetium, lutetium, collegium, \* endothelium, epithelium, florilegium

**16.43** Peterman, Peterson, Stephenson, Stevenson, oestrogen, median, Reithian, Delian, Pelion, Fenian, Friesian, Nietzschean, \* comedian, tragedian, Promethean, chameleon, Hegelian, Mendelian, cornelian, Bohemian, Athenian, Armenian, Tyrrhenian, Slovenian, artesian, Cartesian, Silesian, collegian, \* Archimedean, Magdalenian, Melanesian, Indonesian, Micronesian, Austronesian, Polynesian, \* Aristotelian, Mephistophelean

**16.44** mediant, deviant, lenient, \* obedient, submediant, expedient, ingredient, convenient, \* disobedient, inexpedient, inconvenient

**16.45** deviance, deviants, lenience, \* obedience, expedience, ingredients, convenience, \* disobedience, inexpedience, inconvenience, etc.

**16.46** deepening, weakening, sweetening, reasoning, seasoning, \* unreasoning, etc.

**16.47** Daedalus, leaderless, featureless, eagerness, meagreness, treasonous, feebleness, evenness, tedious, devious, previous, Delius, Peleus, genius, Theseus, Regius, Oedipus, Aeschylus, meaningless, creepiness, sleepiness, greediness, speediness, dreaminess, greasiness, easiness, seasickness, squeamishness, \* unevenness, Asclepius, Prometheus, Boethius, Aurelius, Cornelius, obsequious, abstemious, arsenious, ingenious, egregious, uneasiness, \* contumelious, homogeneous, \* heterogeneous, etc.

**16.48** egotist, legalist, re-enlist, egoist, \* anaesthetist, medievalist

**16.49** creepiest, sleepest, weepiest, cheekiest, sneakiest, squeakiest, greediest, neediest, seediest, speediest, weediest, meatiest, beefiest, creamiest, dreamiest, seamiest, steamiest, greasiest, breeziest, easiest, etc.

**16.50** Cheviot, \* inebriate, collegiate, \* intermediate

**16.51** Tuileries, frequencies, decencies, \* amenities, etc.

**16.52** seasonally, regionally, genially, reasonably, leniently, vehemently, previously, deviancy, leniency, \* unreasonably, immediately, obediently, conveniently, obsequiously, immediacy, expediency, \* disobediently, inconveniently

**16.53** reasonable, seasonable, \* unreasonable, unseasonable, remediable, \* irremediable

*The rhymes in this section have the ‘i’ sound of sit and whistle as their main or final vowel sound. You will find many words ending with a weak ‘i’ sound in other sections (e.g. – a – for frantic, – e – for resin, – o – for horrid).*

**17.1** bib, crib, dib, fib, Gibb, glib, jib, lib, nib, rib, sib, snib, squib, \* ad-lib, damp squib, sparerib, \* Carib, sahib, midrib, \* memsahib, \* women’s lib, \* Sennacherib

**17.2** bibs, dibs, dribs, fibs, Gibbs, Hibs, nibs, ribs, \* ad-libs, spareribs, his nibs, etc.

**17.3** Bic®, brick, chick, click, clique, crick, Crick, dick, Dick, flick, hic, hick, kick, lick, Mick, nick, Nick, pic, pick, prick, quick, rick, Rick, shtick, sic, sick, slick, snick, spick, stick, thick, tic, tick, trick, Vic, Wick, wick, wrick, \* unpick, matric, unstick, hand-pick, nonstick, Old Vic, \* airsick, gearstick, firebrick, cowlick, joystick, oil slick, \* Arabic, candlestick, catholic, Catholic, agaric, Catterick, maverick, Alaric, caloric, Scarisbrick, candlewick, Reykjavik, bailiwick, clever Dick, heretic, Menshevik, Metternich, Frederick, rhetoric, turmeric, Leofric, Evo-stik®, fiddlestick, Giggleswick, limerick, Limerick, bishopric, chivalric, biopic, Broderick, Roderick, choleric, politic, Bolshevik, Dominic, Moby Dick, lunatic, Ludovic, \* cadaveric, arithmetic, archbishopric, Theodoric

**Jack be nimble, Jack be quick,  
Jack jump over the candlestick.**

NURSERY RHYME

**17.4** bricks, chicks, clicks, Dick's, fix, flicks, Hicks, kicks, Mick's, Nick's, mix, nix, pix, pricks, Rick's, six, sticks, Styx, ticks, tricks, Wicks, \* unpicks, unsticks, affix, commix, admix, hand-picks, transfix, M6, prefix, remix, \* cervix, Beatrix, gearsticks, joysticks, oil slicks, \* candlesticks, Catholics, apteryx, Asterix, eighty-six, heretics, twenty-six, MI6, thirty-six, Weetabix®, fiddlesticks, limericks, fifty-six, sixty-six, ninety-six, politics, Dominic's, forty-six, lunatics, crucifix, \* executrix, \* archaeopteryx, etc.

**17.5** fixed, mixed, sixte, 'twixt, \* affixed, unmixed, transfixed, betwixt, etc.

**17.6** clicked, flicked, kicked, licked, nicked, picked, Pict, pricked, strict, ticked, tricked, \* unpicked, addict, convict, afflict, conflict, constrict, hand-picked, depict, predict, evict, inflict, restrict, \* addict, panicked, Maastricht, relict, verdict, perfect, edict, mimicked, picnicked, district, frolicked, conflict, object, subject, \* word-perfect, imperfect, pluperfect, \* Benedict, derelict, derestrict, interdict, contradict, etc.

**17.7** bitch, ditch, flitch, glitch, hitch, itch, kitsch, Mitch, niche, pitch, rich, snitch, stitch, switch, titch, twitch, which, witch, \* unhitch, unstitch, bewitch, enrich, \* Harwich, Magwitch, sandwich, Sandwich, Nantwich, backstitch, Redditch, Prestwich, Greenwich, hemstitch, quidditch, spinach, slipstitch, whipstitch, dip switch, Ipswich, Norwich, Bromwich, topstitch, cross stitch, ostrich, Shoreditch, Aldwych, Northwich, Woolwich, Goodrich, \* tsarevitch, Middlewich, \* Ivanovich, Milosevic, \* Rostropovich, Shostakovich, \* son-of-a-bitch

**A nasty surprise in a sandwich,  
A drawing-pin caught in your sock,  
The limpest of shakes from a hand which  
You'd thought would be firm as a rock.**

JAMES FENTON

**17.8** bid, chid, did, fid, grid, hid, id, kid, Kidd, lid, mid, quid, rid, Sid, skid, slid, squid, yid, \* forbid, undid, amid, Madrid, El Cid, redid, outbid, \* canopied, parodied, atrophied, galleried, salaried, katydid, remedied,

tertium quid, liveried, pilloried, Winifred, pyramid, propertied, hominid, overbid, overdid, underbid, mutinied, \* accompanied, \* unaccompanied

### **17.9** didst, midst

**17.10** biff, Cif®, cliff, Cliff, glyph, Griff, if, Jif®, jiff, kif, miff, niff, quiff, riff, Schiff, skiff, sniff, spliff, stiff, tiff, whiff, \* skewwhiff, \* Radcliffe, Ratcliffe, tariff, mastiff, plaintiff, bailiff, caliph, Cardiff, serif, sheriff, Pecksniff, Heathcliff, Wycliffe, midriff, pontiff, Joseph, Sutcliffe, \* anaglyph, hippogriff, hieroglyph, undercliff

**17.11** biffed, drift, gift, GIFT, grift, lift, miffed, niffed, rift, shift, shrift, sift, sniffed, swift, Swift, thrift, whiffed, \* adrift, uplift, red shift, \* airlift, chairlift, stairlift, facelift, makeshift, spendthrift, festschrift, ski lift, spindrift, shoplift, snowdrift

### **Time, the avenger! unto thee I lift**

**My hands, and eyes, and heart, and crave of thee a gift.**

LORD BYRON

**17.12** big, brig, cig, dig, fig, frig, gig, jig, lig, MiG, pig, prig, rig, Rigg, sprig, swig, trig, twig, Whig, wig, \* unrig, rejig, \* Danzig, Schleswig, earwig, shindig, bigwig, Leipzig, oil rig, Grundig, Ludwig, \* periwig, whirligig, infra dig, thimblorig, WYSIWYG, \* thingumajig

**17.13** Biggs, Briggs, digs, figs, gigs, jigs, pigs, rigs, swigs, twigs, Whigs, wigs, \* Bay of Pigs, \* syrup of figs, etc.

**17.14** bridge, fridge, midge, ridge, smidge, \* abridge, \* vassalage, anchorage, Anchorage, average, sacrilege, patronage, harbourage, Casterbridge, pasturage, parsonage, Armitage, cartilage, parentage, acreage, beverage, Beveridge, haemorrhage, Breckenridge, heritage, personage, verbiage, hermitage, leverage, Stevenage, privilege, vicarage, pilferage, pilgrimage, pilotage, lineage, orphanage, Fordingbridge, sortilege, brokerage, Coleridge, foliage, Muggeridge, coverage, sewerage, pupillage, tutelage, mucilage

**He that complies against his will,  
Is of his own opinion still.**

SAMUEL BUTLER

**17.15** bill, Bill, brill, chill, dill, drill, fill, frill, ghyll, gill, Gill, grill, grille, hill, Hill, ill, Jill, kill, krill, Lil, mill, Mill, nil, Phil, pill, quill, Rhyl, rill, shrill, sill, skill, spill, still, swill, thrill, till, trill, twill, 'twill, will, Will, \* McGill, until, Seville, uphill, De Mille, brazil, Brazil, Rainhill, Redhill, Bexhill, Edgehill, deskill, refill, freewill, distil, instil, stock-still, quadrille, downhill, fulfil, goodwill, \* handbill, waxbill, Shankill, Catskill, dactyl, pastille, standstill, backfill, landfill, Savile, Sackville, anvil, Granville, Nashville, Amptill, anthill, Avril, tranquil, Hamill, Tamil, Cahill, Scargill, Cargill, playbill, waybill, cranesbill, ethyl, methyl, Melville, Grenville, treadmill, Denzil, chervil, Churchill, Persil®, Virgil, Jekyll, refill, infill, pistil, pigswill, windmill, windchill, vigil, crossbill, Tocqueville, Knoxville, Bovril®, jonquil, hornbill, sawmill, Cornhill, Orville, Torvill, Bournville, Mobil®, roadkill, Yeovil, Oakville, Tocqueville, molehill, Huntsville, Dullsville, Dunhill, dunghill, foothill, cook-chill, shoebill, spoonbill, \* daffodil, Baskerville, Mandeville, Jacksonville, razorbill, Rentokil®, Pentonville, espadrille, peppermill, Selsey Bill, Benny Hill, Clearasil®, whippoorwill, Yggdrasil, minipill, windowsill, fibrefill, Fothergill, Goneril, chlorophyll, vaudeville, watermill, overspill, overkill, codicil, Somerville, Louisville, \* pterodactyl, Invercargill, Merthyr Tydfil, \* run-of-the-mill, over the hill, \* Cruella De Vil

**17.16** bilk, ilk, milk, silk, \* Liebfraumilch, buttermilk

**The cow is of the bovine ilk;  
One end is moo, the other, milk.**

OGDEN NASH

**17.17** filch, milch, zilch

**17.18** billed, build, chilled, drilled, filled, gild, grilled, guild, killed, milled, pilled, sild, skilled, thrilled, willed, \* unskilled, unfilled, unwilled, self-

willed, weak-willed, rebuild, refilled, distilled, strong-willed, fulfilled, Brunhild, \* jerry-build, semiskilled, overbuild, unfulfilled, etc.

**17.19** film, \* clingfilm, \* microfilm

**17.20** kiln, Milne, \* limekiln

**17.21** built, gilt, guilt, hilt, jilt, kilt, lilt, milt, quilt, silt, spilt, stilt, tilt, wilt, \* unbuilt, unpilt, well-built, inbuilt, \* Vanderbilt, jerry-built, purpose-built, overbuilt, custom-built

**17.22** filth, tilth

**17.23** bills, Bill's, drills, fills, frills, gills, hills, ills, kills, Lil's, mills, Mills, Phil's, pills, Pils, skills, spills, thrills, wills, Wills, Will's, \* no-frills, \* pastilles, windmills, molehills, foothills, \* daffodils, espadrilles, \* battle of wills, Beverly Hills, etc.

**His eye so dim,**

**So wasted each limb,**

**That, heedless of grammar, they all cried, 'That's him!'**

R. H. BARHAM

**17.24** brim, dim, grim, Grimm, gym, him, hymn, Jim, Kim, limb, limn, Lymm, prim, Pimm, Pym, quim, rim, scrim, shim, Sim, skim, slim, swim, Tim, trim, vim, whim, \* bedim, \* antonym, acronym, cherubim, seraphim, eponym, interim, synonym, hypernym, hyponym, toponym, homonym, Joachim, pseudonym, \* heteronym

**17.25** dimmed, skimmed, slimmed, trimmed, \* undimmed, untrimmed, broad-brimmed, loose-limbed, \* semi-skimmed, etc.

**17.26** lymph, nymph

**17.27** blimp, chimp, crimp, gimp, imp, limp, pimp, primp, scrimp, shrimp, skimp, wimp

**17.28** chimps, glimpse, imps, limps, pimps, shrimps, wimps, etc.

**On a sofa upholstered in panther skin**

**Mona did researches in original sin.**

WILLIAM PLOMER

**17.29** bin, Bryn, chin, din, fin, Finn, Flynn, gin, Glyn, grin, Gwyn, in, inn, jinn, kin, Lynn, min, pin, PIN, quin, Quinn, shin, sin, skin, spin, thin, tin, twin, whin, win, Wyn, yin, \* unpin, akin, agin, therein, wherein, Vietminh, Berlin, herein, begin, built-in, within, King's Lynn, Penrhyn, Pinyin, chinchin, Turin, Boleyn, \* Jacobin, atropin, paladin, Saladin, Anadin®, paraffin, trampoline, Jacqueline, Madeleine, Magdalene, mandolin, Carolyn, lanolin, saccharin, mandarin, Catherine, Mazarin, ramekin, mannequin, Sanhedrin, masculine, albumen, albumin, capuchin, Capuchin, harlequin, wafer-thin, kaolin, chamberlain, Chamberlain, terrapin, next-of-kin, gelatin, keratin, zeppelin, mescaline, Gwendolen, heparin, nectarine, Benjamin, melanin, Peregrine, specimen, feminine, medicine, heroin, heroine, endocrine, Bedouin, genuine, Menuhin, eosin, litter bin, whipper-in, Ritalin®, crinoline, Michelin®, glycerine, vitamin, histamine, Mickey Finn, discipline, Silvikrin®, insulin, bitumen, Scriabin, violin, thiamine, niacin, myelin, Borodin, Rosalyn, sovereign, moccasin, origin, globulin, formalin, warfarin, porphyrin, Ho Chi Minh, Lohengrin, underpin, onionskin, muscadine, Gunga Din, rub it in, bulletin, \* Led Zeppelin, adrenaline, amphetamine, unfeminine, tuberculin, through thick and thin, self-discipline, indiscipline, \* nitroglycerine, antihistamine, \* immunoglobulin

**17.30** blink, brink, chink, clink, dink, drink, fink, Frink, gink, Inc., ink, jink, kink, link, mink, pink, plink, prink, rink, shrink, sink, skink, slink, stink, sync, think, twink, wink, zinc, \* unthink, bethink, rethink, \* ratfink, rethink, lip-sync, Haitink, ice rink, snowblink, cuff link, hoodwink, \* Maeterlinck, skating rink, pen-and-ink, rinky-dink, tiddlywink, hyperlink, bobolink, countersink, out of sync, doublethink

**They never taste who always drink;**

**They always talk, who never think.**

## MATTHEW PRIOR

**17.31** blinks, chinks, clinks, drinks, jinx, Lincs, links, lynx, minx, shrinks, sinks, sphinx, stinks, thinks, winks, \* methinks, rethinks, high jinks, \* ratfinks, larynx, pharynx, golf links, cuff links, \* tiddlywinks, forty winks, etc.

**17.32** blinked, clinked, inked, kinked, linked, pinked, prinked, winked, \* succinct, distinct, extinct, \* precinct, instinct, hoodwinked, \* index-linked, indistinct, etc.

**17.33** cinch, clinch, finch, flinch, grinch, inch, lynch, Lynch, Minch, pinch, winch, \* half-inch, \* chaffinch, greenfinch, goldfinch, bullfinch

**17.34** finned, grinned, Lind, pinned, Sind, sinned, skinned, tinned, twinned, wind, \* unpinned, upwind, dark-skinned, fair-skinned, rescind, thick-skinned, thin-skinned, downwind, \* trade wind, tailwind, headwind, Chetwynd, destined, whirlwind, sequined, Rifkind, crosswind, woodwind, ruined, \* examined, predestined, determined, \* Amerind, tamarind, disciplined, Rosalind, underpinned, wunderkind, double-chinned, \* undisciplined, \* undetermined

**17.35** bing, bling, bring, Byng, Ching, cling, ding, fling, Inge, king, King, ling, Ming, ping, ring, sing, Singh, sling, spring, sting, string, swing, Synge, thing, ting, Ting, Tring, wing, wring, zing, \* unsling, unstring, Nanking, Ram Singh, Beijing, left-wing, Peking, I Ching, bling-bling, Taiping, right-wing

**A little learning is a dangerous thing;  
Drink deep, or taste not the Pierian spring.**

ALEXANDER POPE

**17.36** brings, clings, kings, Kings, rings, sings, springs, strings, swings, things, wings, \* Palm Springs, \* Alice Springs, waterwings, underthings, etc.

**17.37** binge, cringe, dinge, fringe, hinge, minge, singe, springe, swinge, whinge, tinge, twinge, \* unhinge, impinge, syringe, infringe, \* scavenge, challenge, orange, Orange, lozenge

**17.38** mince, prince, quince, rinse, since, Vince, wince, \* convince, evince, \* province, \* Port-au-Prince

**They dined on mince, and slices of quince,  
Which they ate with a runcible spoon.**

EDWARD LEAR

**17.39** bint, clint, Clint, dint, flint, Flint, glint, hint, lint, mint, print, skint, splint, sprint, squint, stint, tint, \* reprint, imprint, \* catmint, varmint, spearmint, enprint, reprint, skinflint, imprint, misprint, offprint, voiceprint, thumbprint, footprint, blueprint, newsprint, \* aquatint, peppermint, mezzotint, fingerprint, overprint, wunderkind, \* Septuagint

**17.40** Clint's, flints, glints, hints, chintz, splints, squints, tints, etc.

**17.41** plinth, \* absinthe, helminth, Corinth, \* labyrinth, terebinth, hyacinth

**17.42** bins, Binns, chins, fins, Finns, grins, Lynn's, quins, shins, sins, skins, spins, tins, twins, \* unpins, begins, \* Jacobins, Jacqueline's, Madeleine's, mandolins, Carolyn's, mandarins, Catherine's, ramekins, mannequins, Capuchins, terrapins, nectarines, Benjamin's, medicines, heroines, Bedouins, litter bins, withershins, crinolines, vitamins, violins, moccasins, origins, underpins, bulletins, \* amphetamines, etc.

**17.43** blip, chip, clip, dip, drip, flip, grip, gyp, hip, kip, lip, nip, pip, Pip, quip, rip, scrip, ship, sip, skip, slip, snip, strip, tip, trip, Tripp, whip, zip, \* unhip, unclip, unzip, unship, transship, reship, equip, nonslip, nondrip, round trip, outstrip, \* landslip, handgrip, catnip, flagship, parsnip, starship, clerkship, hardship, harelip, hairgrip, airstrip, airship, mayorship, pay slip, day trip, spaceship, felt-tip, headship, friendship, turnip, Worsnip, circlip, worship, sheep-dip, steamship, wing tip, fillip, Philip, gymslip, film strip, kinship, kingship, Ruislip, sideslip, lightship, oxlip, gossip, longship, horsewhip, warship, lordship, wardship, courtship, cowslip, township,

rosehip, bunyip, gunship, judgeship, bullwhip, wood chip, julep, tulip, Q-ship, troopship, \* trusteeship, \* battleship, captainship, Gaza Strip, partnership, marksmanship, craftsmanship, draughtsmanship, chairmanship, paperclip, statesmanship, salesmanship, gamesmanship, ladyship, sailing ship, membership, censorship, lectureship, penmanship, fellowship, bursarship, workmanship, kirby grip, speakership, leadership, readership, dealership, chieftainship, seamanship, re-equip, fingertip, filter tip, brinkmanship, skinny-dip, pillowslip, fibre-tip, biochip, microchip, scholarship, sponsorship, consulship, comradeship, rocket ship, authorship, horsemanship, sportsmanship, swordsmanship, ownership, showmanship, mother ship, toodle-pip, tutorship, viewership, stewardship, studentship, \* companionship, commandership, dictatorship, curatorship, relationship, acquaintanceship, electorship, directorship, professorship, self-censorship, apprenticeship, receivership, musicianship, discipleship, co-ownership, conductorship, instructorship, one-upmanship, \* championship, managership, admiralship, magistrateship, landownership, chancellorship, cardinalship, guardianship, partisanship, emperorship, treasurership, generalship, premiership, editorship, presidentship, residentship, deputyship, Möbius strip, ministership, principalship, silicon chip, citizenship, laureateship, Freudian slip, governorship, \* ambassadorship, librarianship, executorship, proprietorship, associateship, custodianship, \* entrepreneurship, \* interrelationship

**17.44** chips, clips, Cripps, drips, hips, lips, Phipps, pips, Pip's, quips, ships, sips, snips, strips, thrips, tips, trips, whips, zips, \* unclips, unzips, ellipse, eclipse, equips, \* Mendips, felt-tips, wing tips, fillips, Philips, Philip's, gymslips, film strips, tin snips, horsewhips, warships, lordships, \* amidships, athwartships, \* fingertips, filter tips, Mr Chips, fish and chips, pillowslips, scholarships, rocket ships, \* relationships, apprenticeships, apocalypse, etc.

**17.45** chipped, clipped, crypt, dipped, dripped, flipped, gripped, nipped, ripped, script, shipped, sipped, skipped, slipped, stripped, tipped, whipped, \* unclipped, conscript, unzipped, decrypt, encrypt, equipped, outstripped, close-lipped, \* transcript, harelipped, prescript, Egypt, typescript, conscript, horsewhipped, cork-tipped, postscript, subscript, \* manuscript, well-

equipped, filtertipped, ill-equipped, nondescript, unequipped, eucalypt, superscript, etc.

**17.46** bliss, Bliss, Chris, diss, Diss, hiss, kiss, kris, miss, Miss, piss, sis, Swiss, this, \* abyss, amiss, near miss, dehisce, remiss, dismiss, \* cannabis, avarice, ambergris, Salamis, Charteris, armistice, artifice, Artemis, emphasis, precipice, edifice, benefice, reminisce, emesis, Nemesis, genesis, Genesis, berberis, chrysalis, liquorice, clitoris, hit-and-miss, synthesis, prejudice, diocese, cockatrice, orifice, cowardice, \* Annapolis, metastasis, catalysis, paralysis, analysis, dialysis, Persepolis, ephemeris, mons veneris, parenthesis, diaeresis, antithesis, psoriasis, archdiocese, Acropolis, necropolis, metropolis, hypothesis, hydrolysis, autolysis, \* Minneapolis, sui generis, overemphasis, underemphasis, epididymis, photosynthesis, satyriasis, megalopolis, electrolysis, metamorphosis, \* Indianapolis, psychoanalysis, microanalysis, haemodialysis, *annus mirabilis*, parthenogenesis, annus horribilis, elephantiasis

**You must remember this,**

**A kiss is still a kiss.**

HERMAN HUPFELD

**17.47** bisque, brisk, disc, disk, fisc, frisk, risk, whisk, \* asterisk, tamarisk, basilisk, obelisk, compact disc, floppy disk

**17.48** crisp, lisp, wisp, \* will-o'-the-wisp

**17.49** cist, cyst, fist, gist, grist, hissed, hist, kissed, list, Liszt, missed, mist, pissed, schist, tryst, twist, whist, wist, wrist, \* unkissed, assist, persist, subsist, consist, delist, demist, enlist, dismissed, encyst, insist, desist, resist, exist, \* naturalist, nationalist, rationalist, capitalist, separatist, federalist, negativist, relativist, liberalist, minimalist, militarist, spiritualist, Oliver Twist, positivist, structuralist, monetarist, \* sensationalist, materialist, imperialist, traditionalist, industrialist, \* conversationalist, Congregationalist, educationalist, individualist, agriculturalist, horticulturalist, etc.

**17.50** bish, Bysshe, dish, fish, Frisch, Gish, pish, squish, swish, Trish, wish, \* Irish, boyish, \* Cavendish, damselfish, angelfish, babyish, jellyfish, feverish, silverfish, gibberish, lickerish, liverish, spinsterish, kittenish, minidish, killifish, tomboyish, butter dish, cuttlefish, womanish, \* impoverish

**17.51** bit, Brit, chit, fit, flit, git, grit, hit, it, kit, knit, lit, mitt, nit, pit, Pitt, quit, Schmidt, shit, sit, skit, slit, spit, split, Split, squirt, tit, twit, whit, Whit, wit, writ, zit, \* unfit, alit, unlit, de Witt, acquit, commit, permit, submit, admit, unknit, transmit, refit, keep-fit, relit, resit, befit, mishit, emit, remit, legit, tight-knit, op. cit., outwit, omit, close-knit, \* aquavit, candlelit, apposite, manumit, favourite, baby-sit, megabit, preterite, Messerschmitt, benefit, definite, plebiscite, deficit, requisite, Jesuit, perquisite, recommit, resubmit, readmit, retransmit, Hindemith, hypocrite, infinite, Inuit, opposite, composite, *floruit*, conduit, Duraglit®, counterfeit, Photofit®, Chuzzlewit, cuckoo spit, \* Plantagenet, banana split, Identikit®, indefinite, prerequisite, \* lickety-split, overcommit

**Do not adultery commit;**

**Advantage rarely comes of it.**

ARTHUR HUGH CLOUGH

**17.52** bits, blitz, Blitz, fits, Fitz, Fritz, glitz, grits, its, it's, mitts, nits, pits, quits, Ritz, Spitz, splits, tits, wits, zits, \* St Kitts, submits, admits, Berlitz, Biarritz, befits, emits, \* St Moritz, megabits, benefits, Jesuits, slivovitz, hypocrites, Horowitz, opposites, Austerlitz, etc.

**17.53** Frith, kith, myth, pith, smith, Smith, with, fifth, \* therewith, wherewith, Penrith, herewith, forthwith, outwith, \* Asquith, blacksmith, Kenneth, zenith, wordsmith, Edith, Griffith, tinsmith, Gwyneth, Highsmith, Sopwith, locksmith, songsmith, Grossmith, goldsmith, Goldsmith, gunsmith, Judith, tunesmith, \* Hammersmith, Arrowsmith, eightieth, Ladysmith, Meredith, megalith, twentieth, thirtieth, Hindemith, silversmith, fiftieth, sixtieth, ninetieth, monolith, coppersmith, fortieth, \* Aberystwyth, Merioneth, \* seventieth

**17.54** div, give, live, sieve, spiv, Viv, \* forgive, relive, outlive, \* palliative, decorative, meditative, vegetative, legislative, speculative, innovative, figurative, iterative, illustrative, imitative, operative, quantitative, qualitative, nominative, ulcerative, cumulative, \* collaborative, imaginative, evaluative, commemorative, degenerative, investigative, deliberative, alliterative, administrative, manipulative, corroborative, inoperative, cooperative, postoperative, authoritative, denominative, vituperative, remunerative, adjudicative, communicative, \* unimaginative, uncooperative, unremunerative, uncommunicative

**Far and few, far and few,  
Are the lands where the Jumblies live;  
Their heads are green, and their hands are blue,  
And they went to sea in a sieve.**

EDWARD LEAR

**17.55** ablative, narrative, laxative, additive, transitive, adjective, calmative, negative, sedative, tentative, relative, genitive, sensitive, ergative, purgative, secretive, fricative, privative, fixative, primitive, combative, locative, vocative, cognitive, positive, talkative, formative, normative, causative, curative, putative, lucrative, nutritive, punitive, fugitive, \* comparative, declarative, preparative, reparative, intransitive, rebarbative, preventative, correlative, contemplative, imperative, competitive, repetitive, insensitive, consecutive, executive, conservative, Conservative, preservative, superlative, affirmative, alternative, interpretive, appreciative, predicative, indicative, explicative, derivative, initiative, prohibitive, definitive, infinitive, acquisitive, inquisitive, attributive, distributive, diminutive, provocative, evocative, derogative, prerogative, restorative, pejorative, demonstrative, remonstrative, appositive, postpositive, informative, connotative, denotative, consultative, commutative, disputative, accusative, intuitive, \* argumentative, representative, noncompetitive, uncompetitive, hypersensitive, photosensitive, nonexecutive, interrogative, undemonstrative, \* unrepresentative, ultraconservative

**17.56** biz, fizz, frizz, his, is, Ms, Liz, phiz, 'tis, quiz, swizz, tizz, viz, whizz, wiz, zizz, \* Cadiz, buck's fizz, gee-whiz

**18.1** Libby, Digby, Rigby, VitBe, Whitby, Philby, trilby, will be, NIMBY, Frisbee®, Thisbe, Rigsby, Grimsby, chippy, clippie, dippy, drippy, gippy, grippy, hippy, lippy, nippy, slippy, trippy, zippy, chickpea, impi, skimpy, Wimpey, Wimpy, crispy, wispy, \* astilbe, Xanthippe, \* Mr Whippy, Mississippi

**18.2** bickie, brickie, cliquey, dicky, Dickie, hickey, icky, Mickey, Nicky, picky, quickie, Ricky, sickie, sticky, thickie, tricky, Vicky, milky, silky, Wilkie, dinky, inky, kinky, minke, pinkie, slinky, stinky, frisky, risky, whiskey, whisky, biggie, ciggy, piggy, twiggy, Twiggy, dinghy, \* Helsinki, Stravinsky, Nijinsky, Miss Piggy, \* doohickey, \* take the mickey, Billericay

**18.3** bidy, Bidy, diddy, did he, gidly, kiddy, midi, bhindi, Cindy, Hindi, indie, Indy, Lindy, Mindy, shindy, Sindy, windy, bitty, chitty, city, ditty, gritty, Intercity, kitty, Kitty, pity, pretty, shitty, titty, Whitty, witty, fifty, nifty, shifty, thrifty, guilty, silty, flinty, linty, minty, shinty, Christie, misty, twisty, sixty, \* McVitie, committee, self-pity, McGinty, \* chickabiddy, Rawalpindi, intercity, itty-bitty, pretty-pretty, nitty-gritty, Walter Mitty, Salt Lake City, subcommittee, fifty-fifty, pepperminty, Corpus Christi

**In Dublin's fair city,  
Where the girls are so pretty.**

ANONYMOUS

**18.4** cliffy, iffy, jiffy, Liffey, miffy, sniffy, squiffy, stiffy, whiffy, chivy, divvy, Livy, privy, skivvy, Sylvie, pithy, filthy, prithe, smithy, withy, \* tantivy

**18.5** Billy, Chile, chilli, chilly, filly, frilly, gillie, hilly, Jilly, Lilee, lily, Lily, Lyly, Millie, Philly, Scilly, silly, stilly, Tilley, Tilly, will he, Willey, willy, Willy, Dibley, glibly, scribbly, nimbly, Ripley, Shipley, triply, dimply, limply, pimply, simply, crisply, prickly, quickly, sickly, thickly, tickly, crinkly, Hinckley, twinkly, wrinkly, briskly, giggly, niggly, squiggly, wiggly, wriggly, Wrigley, singly, tingly, Zwingli, fiddly, Ridley, Siddeley, tiddly, twiddly, Hindley, spindly, fitly, Whitley, strictly, swiftly, dimly, grimly, primly, Finlay, Linley, thinly, Bingley, kingly, gristly, princely, Bisley,

drizzly, grisly, grizzly, Wisley, Tinsley, Kingsley, Critchley, richly, Finchley, Kiri, Pirie, bilberry, indri, wintry, \* Chantilly, Caerphilly, Goonhilly, distinctly, McKinley, \* hillbilly, \* Piccadilly, piccalilli, willy-nilly, willy-willy, indistinctly, rockabilly, Hawker Siddeley, hara-kiri, etc.

**But Shakespeare also says, 'tis very silly**

**'To gild refinèd gold, or paint the lily.'**

LORD BYRON

**18.6** gimme, Jimmy, shimmy, Timmy, pygmy, Pygmy, filmy, blini, cine, Finney, finny, Ginny, guinea, Guinea, jinni, hinny, Linnhe, mini, Minnie, ninny, pinny, Pliny, skinny, spinney, tinny, Trinny, Vinny, whinny, Winnie, Sidney, Sydney, kidney, Britney, Pitney, Whitney, chimney, Disney, isnae, clingy, dinghy, springy, stringy, swingy, thingy, zingy, \* borborygmi, pickaninny, supermini, \* give me, kill me, etc.

**18.7** Chrissie, Cissie, missy, prissy, sissy, Gypsy, tipsy, Dixie, nixie, pixie, tricksy, Trixie, ditzy, glitzy, Mitzi, ritzy, chintzy, wincey, busy, dizzy, fizzy, frizzy, is he, Izzy, Lizzie, tizzy, whizzy, flimsy, mimsy, whimsy, Kinsey, Lindsay, quinsy, dishy, fishy, squishy, swishy, Vichy, bitchy, itchy, pitchy, Richie, titchy, twitchy, Binchy, ridgy, squidgy, dingy, mingy, stingy, \* Uffizi, De Quincey, tin lizzie, da Vinci, \* kissy-kissy, itsy-bitsy, busy Lizzie, Mitsubishi, Murrumbidgee

**18.8** bibber, Cibber, cribber, fibber, gibber, ribber, Wilbur, limber, Simba, timber, timbre, chipper, clipper, dipper, flipper, gripper, kipper, nipper, Pippa, ripper, shipper, skipper, slipper, snipper, stripper, tipper, tripper, whipper, zipper, crimper, shrimper, simper, whimper, crisper, whisper, \* marimba, Agrippa, \* winebibber, mudskipper, \* women's libber, \* rib her, tip her, etc.

**18.9** bicker, clicker, dicker, flicker, kicker, licker, liquor, nicker, picker, pricker, quicker, sicker, slicker, snicker, sticker, thicker, ticker, tikka, vicar, Whicker, Wicca, wicker, Sitka, milker, Rilke, Simca, blinker, clinker, drinker, Glinka, Inca, linker, minke, sinker, stinker, thinker, tinker, winker, frisker, risker, whisker, bigger, chigger, digger, figure, Frigga, jigger, ligger,

nigger, rigger, rigor, rigour, snigger, swigger, trigger, vigour, finger, linger,  
\* Treblinka, freethinker, stotinka, nondrinker, Soyinka, configure,  
transfigure, square-rigger, prefigure, disfigure, malinge, fishfinger, syringa,  
\* pigsticker, billsticker, bootlicker, headshrinker, grave-digger, outrigger,  
forefinger, \* reconfigure, alcheringa, ladyfinger, \* kick her, sink her, etc.

## **Candy**

**Is dandy**

**But liquor**

**Is quicker.**

OGDEN NASH

**18.10** bidder, kidder, whydah, builder, gilder, guilder, Hilda, Tilda, tilde, cinder, hinder, Linda, Pindar, tinder, bitter, critter, fitter, flitter, fritter, glitter, gritter, hitter, jitter, knitter, litter, pitta, quitter, Ritter, sitter, skitter, spitter, titter, twitter, witter, scripter, dicta, lictor, Richter, victor, Victor, sphincter, drifter, grifter, lifter, snifter, swifter, filter, kilter, philtre, quilter, tilter, Pinter, printer, sinter, splinter, sprinter, tinter, winter, Bicester, blister, clyster, glister, lister, Lister, mister, Mr, sister, twister, vista, hipster, quipster, tipster, trickster, minster, spinster, \* consider, St Kilda, Matilda, bewilder, Belinda, Dorinda, Lucinda, aglitter, committer, transmitter, bedsitter, Birgitta, embitter, emitter, remitter, descriptor, constrictor, predictor, CARIFTA, gefilte, midwinter, transistor, demister, enlister, resistor, \* shipbuilder, coach-builder, Fassbinder, outfitter, bullshitter, weightlifter, scene-shifter, shoplifter, half-sister, stepsister, Axminster, Westminster, \* reconsider, overbidder, underbidder, body-builder, babysitter, counterfeiter, Anaglypta®, Araminta, teleprinter, overwinter, Kidderminster, \* neurotransmitter, vasoconstrictor, boa constrictor, \* hid her, missed her, etc.

**18.11** differ, sniffer, titfer, pilfer, giver, liver, quiver, river, shiver, sliver, silver, sylva, dither, hither, slither, thither, whither, wither, zither, \* forgiver, deliver, downriver, upriver, Bat Mitzvah, Bar Mitzvah, \* caregiver, lawgiver, quicksilver, \* give her, with her, etc.

**18.12** chiller, Cilla, driller, filler, griller, Hiller, killer, miller, Miller, pillar, Schiller, Scylla, shriller, spiller, stiller, thriller, tiller, villa, Willa, dribbler, nibbler, quibbler, scribbler, nimble, tippler, simpler, pickler, stickler, tickler, sprinkler, twinkler, giggler, wriggler, mingler, Swinger, diddler, fiddler, tiddler, swindler, Hitler, littler, whittler, riffler, whiffler, sniveller, Himmler, Simla, whistler, Whistler, Rizla®, sizzler, mirror, sirrah, Libra, Libya, \* papilla, megillah, Attila, flotilla, gorilla, guerrilla, zorilla, Camilla, mamilla, manila, Manila, vanilla, mantilla, Aquila, Anguilla, axilla, maxilla, cedilla, scintilla, distiller, instiller, Priscilla, chinchilla, Godzilla, fulfiller, Ludmilla, Drusilla, belittler, \* painkiller, weedkiller, \* caterpillar, manzanilla, sarsaparilla, lady-killer, Polyfilla®, potentilla, pulsatilla, aspidistra, \* kill her, thrill her, etc.

**18.13** dimmer, glimmer, grimmer, Rimmer, shimmer, simmer, skimmer, slimmer, Strimmer®, swimmer, trimmer, Zimmer®, sigma, stigma, Wilma, Brynner, Cinna, dinner, grinner, inner, Jinnah, pinna, Pinner, sinner, skinner, Skinner, spinner, thinner, tinner, winner, Dymphna, Kilner, Milner, Pilsner, Krishna, bringer, clinger, dinger, pinger, ringer, singer, Singer, springer, stinger, stringer, swinger, winger, wringer, \* aglimmer, nonswimmer, enigma, charisma, Berliner, beginner, echidna, humdinger, \* breadwinner, prizewinner, bell-ringer, Schrödinger, klipspringer, mudslinger, gunslinger, \* Hare Krishna, mastersinger, Minnesinger, Meistersinger, \* win her, bring her, etc.

**But, by Jove, your hair is thinner, since you came to us in Pinner,  
And you're fatter now, I'm certain. What you need is country air.**

JOHN BETJEMAN

**18.14** kisser, pisser, fixer, mixer, sixer, bitser, spritzer, Switzer, mincer, pincer, fizzer, quizzer, scissor, Windsor, fisher, Fischer, fissure, Trisha, Wiltshire, wisher, ditcher, hitcher, pitcher, richer, stitcher, twitcher, scripture, picture, stricture, cincture, tincture, filcher, clincher, lyncher, pincher, wincher, fixture, mixture, Bridger, cringer, ginger, injure, ninja, whinger, \* Clarissa, Larisa, mantissa, abscissa, Melissa, elixir, Amritsar, Patricia, Phoenicia, Letitia, militia, admixture, abridger, infringer, \* well-

wisher, kingfisher, \* reminiscer, \* Doberman pinscher, \* miss her, convince her, etc.

**18.15** hillock, pillock, Dimmock, Dymock, Kinnock

**18.16** limbic, nitpick, Indic, syndic, critic, cryptic, diptych, glyptic, styptic, triptych, cystic, mystic, dipstick, lipstick, civic, Britvic®, mythic, Killick, niblick, skin flick, lyric, Pyrrhic, pinprick, citric, Cymric, Pickwick, gimmick, mimic, rhythmic, filmic, clinic, cynic, picnic, strychnic, Chiswick, physic, \* philippic, Olympic, acidic, Glenfiddich, bromidic, Druidic, graphitic, Hamitic, granitic, arthritic, mephitic, Semitic, bronchitic, Cushitic, elliptic, ecliptic, sadistic, statistic, patristic, sophistic, ballistic, fascistic, logistic, artistic, realistic, simplistic, linguistic, stylistic, autistic, heuristic, juristic, puristic, touristic, holistic, prolific, horrific, terrific, pacific, Pacific, specific, deific, pontific, omnific, morbific, Trevithick, dactylic, acrylic, basilic, exilic, sibyllic, idyllic, Cyrillic, vampiric, satiric, satyric, empiric, bulimic, eurhythmic, rabbinic, actinic, intrinsic, extrinsic, \* genotypic, ecotypic, biotypic, prototypic, Paralympic, stalactitic, saprophytic, Glagolitic, catalytic, paralytic, analytic, stalagmitic, parasitic, anthracitic, thermolytic, neophytic, haemolytic, sybaritic, lymphocytic, syphilitic, dialytic, diacritic, troglodytic, coprolitic, dolomitic, oolitic, leucocytic, masochistic, atavistic, aphoristic, agonistic, pantheistic, altruistic, voyeuristic, narcissistic, fatalistic, plagiaristic, atheistic, mechanistic, hedonistic, pessimistic, journalistic, egotistic, legalistic, egoistic, syllogistic, inartistic, jingoistic, idealistic, nihilistic, novelistic, moralistic, modernistic, optimistic, polycystic, solecistic, formalistic, pluralistic, socialistic, chauvinistic, surrealist, unrealistic, humoristic, futuristic, humanistic, euphemistic, calorific, transpacific, beatific, hieroglyphic, scientific, soporific, honorific, nonspecific, unspecific, megalithic, Eolithic, Neolithic, Mesolithic, microlithic, monolithic, Anglophilic, carboxylic, necrophilic, haemophilic, imbecilic, panegyric, pantomimic, matronymic, patronymic, metonymic, homonymic, algorithmic, logarithmic, cataclysmic, nicotinic, \* encephalitic, electrolytic, erythrocytic, apocalyptic, antagonistic, evangelistic, behaviouristic, impressionistic, expressionistic, paternalistic, neologistic, \* naturalistic, nationalistic, antiballistic, cannibalistic, minimalistic, ritualistic,

hypocoristic, characteristic, negativistic, relativistic, metalinguistic, opportunistic, nonscientific, unscientific, Palaeolithic, \* semiparasitic, psychoanalytic, microanalytic, osteoarthritic, sadomasochistic, overoptimistic, pseudoscientific, \* uncharacteristic, materialistic, imperialistic

**18.17** critics, mystics, gimmicks, mimics, clinics, cynics, physics, \* Olympics, cladistics, statistics, ballistics, logistics, linguistics, stylistics, heuristics, eurythmics, \* Paralympics, hieroglyphics, astrophysics, metaphysics, geophysics, biophysics, \* characteristics, etc.

**18.18** lipid, limpid, wicked, whizz-kid, pitied, triffid, divvied, livid, vivid, skidlid, Ingrid, Wilfred, liquid, timid, whinnied, winged, viscid, busied, Brigid, frigid, rigid, \* insipid, \* glycolipid, semirigid, etc.

### **On murder in the first degree**

**The Law, I knew, is rigid:**

**Its attitude, if A kills B,**

**To A is always frigid.**

P. G. WODEHOUSE

**18.19** tribade, timbered, kippered, whispered, bickered, figured, jiggered, niggard, sniggered, lingered, gilded, hindered, fitted, glittered, knitted, littered, tittered, scripted, gifted, lifted, shifted, filtered, stilted, hinted, minted, printed, tinted, listed, twisted, Clifford, differed, Pickford, Mitford, Guildford, Milford, quivered, shivered, dithered, withered, Mildred, kindred, inward, windward, vineyard, glimmered, simmered, synod, blizzard, gizzard, Izzard, lizard, Lizard, wizard, Pritchard, Richard, pilchard, injured, \* half-timbered, bewhiskered, disfigured, considered, unhindered, unfitted, committed, admitted, half-witted, quick-witted, unscripted, addicted, convicted, constricted, predicted, evicted, restricted, unprinted, reprinted, imprinted, unlisted, assisted, enlisted, limp-wristed, resisted, existed, tightfisted, delivered, uninjured, \* unconsidered, uncommitted, self-inflicted, unpredicted, unrestricted, unassisted, lily-livered, undelivered, etc.

**18.20** niggards, Clifford's, inwards, billiards, innards, blizzards, lizards, wizards, Richards, pilchards, etc.

**18.21** cribbage, slippage, linkage, shrinkage, sinkage, windage, mintage, vintage, pillage, spillage, tillage, village, image, scrimmage, Greenwich, spinach, visage, \* nonvintage, self-image, envisage, \* afterimage

**18.22** dibble, dribble, fribble, kibble, nibble, quibble, Ribble, scribble, sibyl, Sybil, cymbal, gimbal, nimble, symbol, thimble, timbal, Trimble, wimble, cripple, nipple, ripple, stipple, tipple, triple, dimple, pimple, simple, wimple, chicle, fickle, mickle, nickel, Nicol, pickle, prickle, sickle, tickle, trickle, crinkle, sprinkle, tinkle, twinkle, winkle, wrinkle, Driscoll, fiscal, giggle, jiggle, niggle, squiggle, wiggle, wriggle, cringle, dingle, Fingal, ingle, jingle, mingle, Pringle, shingle, single, tingle, Biddle, diddle, fiddle, griddle, idyll, Liddell, middle, piddle, Riddell, riddle, twiddle, widdle, brindle, dwindle, Hindle, kindle, spindle, swindle, Tyndale, brittle, it'll, little, skittle, Spital, spittle, tittle, victual, whittle, Whittle, lintel, quintal, Bristol, crystal, distal, pistil, pistol, piffle, riffle, skiffle, sniffle, whiffle, fitful, wistful, skilful, wilful, sinful, blissful, wishful, civil, drivel, frivol, shrivel, snivel, swivel, Cyril, squirrel, Tyrol, Tyrrell, Wirral, liberal, Liberal, timbrel, whimbrel, literal, mistral, minstrel, mineral, Chigwell, lingual, Sitwell, dismal, Richmal, signal, hymnal, simnel, Bissell, bristle, Cecil, gristle, missal, mistle, thistle, whistle, pixel, schnitzel, plimsoll, tinsel, chisel, drizzle, fizzle, frizzle, grizzle, mizzle, pizzle, sizzle, swizzle, Mitchell, vigil, brinjal, \* Dalrymple, besprinkle, commingle, Kriss Kringle, Christingle, rekindle, acquittal, committal, belittle, unskilful, uncivil, magistral, bilingual, trilingual, abysmal, baptismal, abyssal, epistle, dismissal, official, initial, solstitial, judicial, provincial, vestigial, \* Doolittle, lickspittle, Birtwistle, \* Abu Simbel, pumpnickel, cupronickel, periwinkle, Rip Van Winkle, intermingle, paradiddle, tarradiddle, noncommittal, monolingual, multilingual, cacomistle, Oswaldtwistle, paroxysmal, sacrificial, artificial, beneficial, prejudicial, interstitial, unofficial, superficial

**Hey diddle diddle,  
The cat and the fiddle.**

## NURSERY RHYME

**18.23** dribbled, kibbled, nibbled, ribald, scribbled, gimballled, crippled, rippled, pickled, tickled, sprinkled, wrinkled, mingled, tingled, fiddled, swindled, whittled, shrivelled, swivelled, Tynwald, whistled, chiselled, drizzled, grizzled, sizzled, \* rekindled, unmingled, etc.

**18.24** cymbals, gimbals, thimbles, nipples, ripples, dimples, pimples, Nichols, Pickles, prickles, tickles, winkles, Biggles, giggles, squiggles, Fingal's, shingles, singles, fiddles, riddles, Tiddles, skittles, victuals, bristols, crystals, pistols, thistles, plimsolls, \* epistles, initials, etc.

**18.25** Shittim, victim, pilgrim, minim, \* hit him, kicked him, etc.

**18.26** Shippam, Wickham, Wykeham, dinkum, income, Brigham, Wyndham, kingdom, pryncedom, wisdom, symptom, dictum, system, Lytham, rhythm, Willem, siglum, Whitlam, Ingram, Tristram, William, Bingham, gingham, Ingham, jissom, lissom, gypsum, Brixham, winsome, Grisham, Mitchum, \* High Wycombe, Fitzwilliam, Fort William, \* Wiveliscombe, ecosystem, solar system, algorithm, biorhythm, logarithm, polyrhythm, \* pick 'em, missed 'em, etc.

**18.27** Chisholm, chrism, ism, prism, schism, \* abysm, \* baptism, Sapphism, fascism, Chartism, classism, Marxism, Nazism, papism, sadism, racism, ageism, sexism, realism, verism, deism, theism, Sikhism, Grecism, Jainism, sophism, autism, dwarfism, purism, tourism, Maoism, Taoism, tropism, Fauvism, Gaullism, holism, Buddhism, truism, cubism, mutism, \* alarmism, escapism, transvestism, voyeurism, surrealism, idealism, careerism, defeatism, elitism, extremism, \* vigilantism, ethnocentrism, egocentrism, Eurocentrism, photorealism, absenteeism, metamorphism, geotropism, opportunism, \* heterosexism

**18.28** masochism, pragmatism, atavism, vandalism, cataclysm, aphorism, aneurysm, mannerism, Thatcherism, laconism, galvanism, Rachmanism, Jansenism, paroxysm, pantheism, catechism, magnetism, pacifism, activism, animism, albinism, Latinism, Calvinism, Atticism, Gallicism, Anglicism, classicism, vampirism, altruism, barbarism, Dadaism, archaism,

Stalinism, Darwinism, narcissism, ableism, fatalism, racialism, naturism, plagiarism, paganism, Platonism, Satanism, atheism, Methodism, nepotism, despotism, embolism, centralism, specialism, terrorism, mesmerism, mechanism, hedonism, westernism, melanism, Pelmanism, pessimism, cretinism, Hellenism, feminism, Leninism, scepticism, Celticism, fetishism, exorcism, echoism, heroism, ergotism, verbalism, journalism, egotism, legalism, veganism, heathenism, demonism, speciesism, Hebraism, egoism, sinapism, tribadism, stigmatism, hypnotism, symbolism, syllogism, nimbyism, Briticism, criticism, witticism, mysticism, lyricism, cynicism, Yiddishism, jingoism, Hinduism, priapism, gigantism, tribalism, dynamism, Zionism, pietism, nihilism, Irishism, microprism, mongolism, modernism, ostracism, Trotskyism, cockneyism, Bolshevism, optimism, Scotticism, Gnosticism, solecism, occultism, populism, botulism, communism, traumatism, formalism, organism, daltonism, pluralism, bowdlerism, loyalism, pointillism, localism, vocalism, socialism, tokenism, onanism, cronyism, chauvinism, stoicism, vulgarism, rheumatism, dualism, feudalism, spoonerism, futurism, Teutonism, unionism, humanism, Judaism, pugilism, euphemism, euphuism, \* metabolism, antagonism, anachronism, Italianism, expansionism, infantilism, evangelism, fanaticism, romanticism, scholasticism, monasticism, Hispanicism, somnambulism, McCarthyism, behaviourism, creationism, adventurism, impressionism, expressionism, protectionism, perfectionism, collectivism, athleticism, asceticism, eclecticism, Conservatism, paternalism, commercialism, determinism, medievalism, astigmatism, initialism, provincialism, ventriloquism, revisionism, recidivism, descriptivism, prescriptivism, empiricism, revivalism, automatism, neologism, eroticism, agnosticism, Catholicism, Micawberism, teetotalism, reductionism, consumerism, Confucianism, illusionism, \* sadomasochism, televangelism, neoclassicism, Neo-Darwinism, Neo-Platonism, isolationism, fundamentalism, instrumentalism, departmentalism, transcendentalism, Orientalism, existentialism, sentimentalism, eco-terrorism, counterterrorism, servomechanism, postimpressionism, resurrectionism, photojournalism, universalism, abolitionism, exhibitionism, hypercriticism, hyperthyroidism, hypothyroidism, overoptimism, microorganism, \* experimentalism, environmentalism, homoeroticism, autoeroticism

**18.29** naturalism, nationalism, rationalism, patriotism, cannibalism, radicalism, capitalism, animalism, Anglicanism, Africanism, parallelism, parasitism, malapropism, alcoholism, absolutism, Parkinsonism, Fabianism, favouritism, separatism, federalism, lesbianism, clericalism, secularism, negativism, relativism, serialism, regionalism, liberalism, literalism, idiotism, syndicalism, digitalism, minimalism, militarism, ritualism, nicotinism, primitivism, Philistinism, spiritualism, Protestantism, popularism, Bonapartism, polytheism, monotheism, positivism, structuralism, functionalism, monetarism, hooliganism, mutualism, \* Mohammedanism, Tractarianism, sensationalism, Canadianism, Australianism, Pelagianism, professionalism, conventionalism, incendiarism, pedestrianism, equestrianism, Americanism, transsexualism, materialism, imperialism, traditionalism, colloquialism, colonialism, poststructuralism, industrialism, republicanism, \* internationalism, Zoroastrianism, Rastafarianism, vegetarianism, Unitarianism, millenarianism, Congregationalism, intellectualism, Presbyterianism, individualism, multiculturalism, institutionalism, \* parliamentarianism, egalitarianism, totalitarianism, humanitarianism, utilitarianism, authoritarianism, neocolonialism

## **Rhymes**

*Many rhymes have different spellings (e.g. mane/reign/vein/plain/Wayne or new/through/blue/coo/do), and many words with the same ending do not rhyme (e.g. bear/fear or mint/pint). When the latter are used in poetry, the result is called an eye rhyme or sight rhyme. Here are some examples:*

**Come live with me, and be my love,  
And we will all the pleasures prove.**  
CHRISTOPHER MARLOWE

**You beat your pate, and fancy wit will come:  
Knock as you please, there's nobody at home.**  
ALEXANDER POPE

**Goosey goosey gander,  
Whither shall I wander?**  
NURSERY RHYME

**18.30** diddums, kingdoms, symptoms, Ingrams, Williams, isms, etc.

**18.31** Philbin, sin bin, swing bin, pippin, Gilpin, kingpin, Crispin, linchpin, chicken, pigskin, kidskin, sit-in, Quintin, Tintin, griffin, Griffin, tiffin, Swithin, fibrin, Disprin®, women, linen, trypsin, Hitchin, Itchen, kitchen, lichen, pidgin, \* unlived-in, \* clanswomen, charwomen, craftswomen, cavewomen, saleswomen, Welshwomen, churchwomen, kinswomen, Scotswomen, yachtswomen, horsewomen, sportswomen, townswomen, \* policewomen, \* Rumpelstiltskin, Enniskillen, penicillin, gentlewomen, clergywomen, needlewomen, businesswomen, Englishwomen, Irishwomen, washerwomen, noblewomen, underlinen, Solzhenitsyn, \* skippin', knittin', etc.

**18.32** gibbon, Gibbon, ribbon, Brisbane, Lisbon, Crippen, Ripon, Rippon, Dickon, quicken, sicken, stricken, thicken, Wiccan, silken, Incan, Lincoln, big 'un, Wigan, bidden, hidden, midden, ridden, stridden, Cliveden, Findon, linden, Swindon, Wisden, bitten, bittern, Britain, Briton, Britten, kitten, Lytton, mitten, smitten, twitten, written, Lipton, Shipton, Skipton, Shrimpton, Clifton, Chiltern, Hilton, Milton, Stilton, Wilton, Clinton, Hinton, Minton, quintan, Tintern, Winton, cistern, piston, Tristan, Whiston, Wytan, Princeton, Winston, Kingston, griffon, gryphon, stiffen, driven, given, Niven, riven, shriven, sylvan, Dillon, Dylan, villain, villein, little 'un, Mirren, Libran, children, Citroën, citron, Libyan, billion, million, pillion, trillion, zillion, Binyon, minion, pinion, Lipman, Shipman, Hickman, milkman, Pitman, Whitman, kinsman, finnan, Bingen, \* Fitzgibbon, Franciscan, forbidden, unbidden, unhidden, unriden, unwritten, phlogiston, forgiven, unshriven, Macmillan, pavilion, carillon, vermilion, Brazilian, Castilian, Quintilian, civilian, Trevelyan, Sicilian, postilion, tourbillion, dominion, opinion, persimmon, McKinnon, Dunsinane, \* awestricken, hagridden, bedridden, handwritten, typewritten, frostbitten, festschriften, grandchildren, godchildren, schoolchildren, \* San

Franciscan, overridden, Hohenlinden, overwritten, underwritten, Bulwer-Lytton, unforgiven, Abbevillian, Maximilian, rack-and-pinion, \* Unter den Linden

**Nature's decorations glisten  
Far above their usual trim;  
Birds on box and laurels listen,  
As so near the cherubs hymn.**  
CHRISTOPHER SMART

**18.33** christen, glisten, listen, Nissen, Ibsen, Gibson, Simpson, Timpson, Blixen, Dixon, Hickson, Nixon, vixen, Whitsun, Smithson, Stillson, Wilson, Stimson, mizzen, prison, risen, wizen, Pilsen, crimson, Frisian, vision, fission, mission, scission, Titian, diction, fiction, friction, Christian, pigeon, wigeon, smidgen, Injun, St John, \* arisen, imprison, provision, collision, concision, division, revision, prevision, envision, elision, derision, decision, precisian, precision, incision, excision, suspicion, addition, perdition, tradition, condition, volition, Mauritian, attrition, patrician, contrition, commission, Domitian, omission, permission, submission, admission, monition, position, logician, magician, tactician, ambition, transmission, transition, partition, rendition, dentition, technician, edition, sedition, petition, detrition, demission, emission, remission, clinician, ignition, physician, optician, cognition, audition, mortician, coition, fruition, tuition, beautician, nutrition, munition, musician, ascription, subscription, conscription, conniption, transcription, decryption, encryption, description, prescription, inscription, Egyptian, proscription, addiction, conviction, affliction, constriction, depiction, prediction, eviction, infliction, restriction, nonfiction, distinction, extinction, unchristian, religion, \* television, circumcision, indecision, imprecision, Eurovision, tunnel vision, subdivision, supervision, abolition, apparition, admonition, apposition, transposition, statistician, acquisition, malnutrition, manumission, ammunition, parturition, extradition, ebullition, demolition, rhetorician, mechanician, premonition, recognition, preposition, exposition, exhibition, expedition, repetition, electrician, definition, requisition, erudition, theoretician, precondition, recondition, decommission, readmission, deposition, reposition, aesthetician, mint condition, micturition,

intermission, inanition, imposition, disposition, inhibition, inquisition, Inquisition, disquisition, intuition, dietician, opposition, proposition, composition, obstetrician, competition, politician, cosmetician, coalition, prohibition, Prohibition, phonetician, supposition, superstition, circumscription, superscription, malediction, valediction, dereliction, benediction, derestriction, interdiction, contradiction, jurisdiction, crucifixion, Crucifixion, irreligion, \* mathematician, academician, metaphysician, geometrician, derequisition, paediatrician, predisposition, decomposition, presupposition, interposition, indisposition, diagnostician, nonrecognition, overambition, juxtaposition, contradistinction

**Thou shalt not covet; but tradition**

**Approves all forms of competition.**

ARTHUR HUGH CLOUGH

**18.34** riband, sickened, thickened, brigand, England, midland, Finland, inland, Crimond, Grimoned, Sigmund, Richmond, christened, glistened, listened, wizened, \* beribboned, conditioned, commissioned, positioned, \* noncommissioned, etc.

**18.35** brigands, Midlands, Symonds, Sigmund's, etc.

**18.36** Crispin's, chickens, dickens, Dickens, Wilkins, Higgins, Swithin's, kitchens, etc.

**18.37** Gibbons, ribbons, Siddons, Britons, kittens, mittens, pistons, Tristan's, villains, millions, minions, Simmons, glistens, listens, Sissons, missions, Titian's, Christians, pigeons, \* civilians, Fitzsimmons, provisions, divisions, decisions, suspicions, ambitions, editions, beauticians, munitions, musicians, etc.

**Three little kittens they lost their mittens.**

NURSERY RHYME

**18.38** flippant, didn't, distant, instant, infant, brilliant, different, shipment, figment, pigment, fitment, Vincent, isn't, stringent, \* remittent, assistant, persistent, subsistent, consistent, insistent, resistant, existent, indifferent,

delinquent, equipment, commitment, enlistment, fulfilment, enrichment, abridgment, infringement, malignant, indignant, benignant, dehiscent, proficient, sufficient, deficient, efficient, astringent, contingent, refringent, \* intermittent, equidistant, inconsistent, nonexistent, coexistent, re-enlistment, non-malignant, reminiscent, indehiscent, self-sufficient, insufficient, inefficient, coefficient

**18.39** sixpence, riddance, pittance, quittance, distance, instance, instants, infants, hindrance, difference, brilliance, fitments, \* acquittance, admittance, transmittance, remittance, assistance, assistants, persistence, subsistence, insistence, resistance, Resistance, existence, outdistance, indifference, deliverance, delinquents, commitments, dehiscence, \* readmittance, intermittence, equidistance, nonexistence, coexistence, reminiscence, indehiscence, etc.

**Friday's child is loving and giving,  
Saturday's child works hard for his living.**

TRADITIONAL RHYME

**18.40** cribbing, fibbing, ribbing, chipping, clipping, dipping, dripping, flipping, gripping, nipping, ripping, shipping, skipping, slipping, stripping, tipping, whipping, crimping, limping, scrimping, shrimping, lispings, licking, kicking, picking, sticking, ticking, bilking, milking, blinking, chinking, drinking, linking, pinking, shrinking, sinking, stinking, thinking, winking, frisking, risking, whisking, digging, frigging, jiggling, rigging, swigging, wigging, bidding, kidding, skidding, building, gilding, wingding, fitting, gritting, hitting, knitting, quitting, sitting, spitting, splitting, witting, kilting, liling, quilting, tilting, wilting, printing, listing, misting, twisting, biffing, spiffing, giving, living, sieving, billing, chilling, drilling, filling, grilling, killing, milling, pilling, schilling, shilling, spilling, thrilling, willing, dribbling, nibbling, scribbling, sibling, Kipling, crippling, rippling, stripling, pickling, trickling, inking, sprinkling, tinkling, twinkling, wrinkling, giggling, niggling, wriggling, jingling, tingling, fiddling, middling, piddling, twiddling, kindling, whittling, piffling, brisling, bristling, whistling, quisling, sizzling, brimming, dimming, skimming, slimming, swimming, trimming, grinning, inning, pinning, sinning,

skinning, spinning, thinning, twinning, winning, bringing, clinging, ringing, singing, springing, stinging, swinging, wringing, Gissing, hissing, kissing, missing, pissing, glimpsing, fixing, mixing, mincing, fizzing, quizzing, whizzing, bitching, hitching, itching, stitching, twitching, witching, clinching, inching, lynching, pinching, bridging, cringing, hinging, swingeing, whingeing, \* unpicking, unblinking, unthinking, unwinking, right-thinking, forbidding, rebuilding, unwitting, admitting, transmitting, befitting, emitting, afflicting, conflicting, constricting, predicting, restricting, uplifting, unstinting, reprinting, imprinting, assisting, persisting, enlisting, resisting, existing, forgiving, thanksgiving, misgiving, unwilling, deskilling, distilling, fulfilling, beginning, dismissing, convincing, bewitching, enriching, unflinching, abridging, \* earwiggling, freethinking, shipbuilding, outbuilding, hairsplitting, ear-splitting, sidesplitting, shopfitting, weightlifting, shoplifting, downshifting, painkilling, prizewinning, bell-ringing, mudslinging, gunslinging, upbringing, \* scavenging, challenging, \* bodybuilding, baby-sitting, unbecoming, unremitting, unresisting, forward-thinking, unforgiving, Inniskilling, multiskilling, self-fulfilling, unfulfilling, underpinning, moneyspinning, unconvincing, penny-pinching, etc.

**18.41** clippings, pickings, buildings, sittings, fillings, killings, shillings, siblings, trimmings, innings, winnings, \* beginnings, \* underpinnings, etc.

**18.42** chirrup, stirrup, syrup, piss-up, mix-up, bishop, \* archbishop

**A youth who bore mid snow and ice**

**A bird that wouldn't chirrup,**

**And a banner with the strange device –**

**'Mrs Winslow's soothing syrup.'**

A. E. HOUSMAN

**18.43** Dilys, Phyllis, Willis, finis, Glynis, Guinness, Innes, Menzies, missus, \* Charybdis, ex libris, McGuinness, ellipsis, \* Nunc Dimittis, amaryllis, Amaryllis, Cader Idris

**18.44** gibbous, nimbus, incus, discus, viscous, Findus, Indus, ictus, rictus, linctus, cistus, Sixtus, villus, Nicklaus, lidless, windlass, windless, witless, shiftless, thriftless, guiltless, listless, limbless, rimless, chinless, sinless, skinless, stringless, wingless, cirrus, Pyrrhus, citrus, mistress, grimace, litmus, Titmus, Christmas, isthmus, pinnace, glibness, crispness, sickness, thickness, briskness, Widnes, fitness, witness, strictness, swiftness, stiffness, illness, stillness, dimness, grimness, slinness, business, richness, vicious, \* hibiscus, meniscus, Aer Lingus, bacillus, headmistress, strabismus, unfitness, succinctness, forgiveness, narcissus, Narcissus, propitious, suspicious, officious, malicious, Mauritius, capricious, pernicious, flagitious, ambitious, factitious, seditious, fictitious, delicious, auspicious, judicious, lubricious, nutritious, prodigious, prestigious, litigious, religious, \* housemistress, postmistress, schoolmistress, eyewitness, \* Aristippus, eohippus, cunnilingus, eucalyptus, Benedictus, Trismegistus, avaricious, adventitious, Aloysius, expeditious, repetitious, meretricious, inauspicious, injudicious, surreptitious, suppositious, unambitious, unsuspecting, superstitious, sacrilegious, irreligious, nonreligious, \* cumulonimbus, lactobacillus, overambitious, \* picked us, kill us, etc.

**But the apes – though not so vicious**

**To begin with – were ambitious.**

CLARENCE DAY

**18.45** wish list, linguist, \* violinist

**18.46** crispest, quickest, sickest, slickest, thickest, biggest, fittest, shrillest, stillest, nimblest, simplest, littlest, interest, dimmest, grimmest, slimmest, dynast, thinnest, witnessed, richest, \* self-interest, disinterest, etc.

**18.47** impish, wimpish, pinkish, biggish, priggish, Yiddish, British, skittish, ticklish, English, Finnish, finish, \* un-British, relinquish, distinguish, extinguish, diminish

**18.48** finished, \* relinquished, distinguished, extinguished, unfinished, diminished, \* undistinguished, undiminished

**18.49** Dilbert, filbert, Gilbert, Didcot, bigot, frigate, Piggott, spigot, ingot, divot, pivot, \* Don Quixote

**18.50** pipit, sippet, snippet, tippet, Tippett, whippet, limpet, gibbet, titbit, cricket, picket, snicket, thicket, ticket, wicket, trinket, biscuit, brisket, Chindit, ringgit, Tlingit, Kwik-Fit, misfit, civet, privet, rivet, trivet, with-it, billet, fillet, millet, skillet, ripple, triplet, piglet, singlet, gimlet, kinglet, ringlet, winglet, spirit, nitwit, dimwit, limit, innit, linnet, minute, spinet, cygnet, signet, licit, Tilsit, visit, Pritchett, Bridget, digit, fidget, midget, widget, \* prohibit, inhibit, exhibit, Glenlivet, dispiret, delimit, solicit, elicit, illicit, implicit, explicit, revisit, exquisite, \* flibbertigibbet, \* win it, is it, etc.

**Off went the cart with the home packed in it,  
I walked behind with my old cock linnet.**

CHARLES COLLINS

**18.51** snippets, whippets, titbits, pickets, rickets, tickets, wickets, biscuits, giblets, triplets, limits, Bridget's, digits, etc.

**18.52** Plymouth, Sidmouth, Lynmouth, Teignmouth, bismuth, Gwyneth

**18.53** fictive, missive, \* addictive, predictive, vindictive, descriptive, prescriptive, restrictive, distinctive, instinctive, assistive, resistive, permissive, submissive, dismissive, \* nonaddictive, nonrestrictive

**18.54** hippies, kiddies, Indies, Windies, cities, ditties, fifties, Christie's, sixties, civvies, skivvies, Billy's, lilies, Scillies, willies, wrinklies, guineas, kidneys, chimneys, Gypsies, pixies, \* West Indies, East Indies, committees, Achilles, Antilles, \* hillbillies, etc.

**A fine romance, with no kisses!  
A fine romance, my friend, this is!**

DOROTHY FIELDS

**18.55** timbers, clippers, flippers, kippers, nippers, slippers, trippers, whispers, knickers, pickers, Vickers, tinkers, whiskers, Whiskas®, figures,

sniggers, fingers, bidders, builders, cinders, Flinders, Linda's, critters, jitters, printers, splinters, winters, Winters, sisters, Chivers, rivers, Rivers, slivers, Smithers, withers, killers, pillars, slimmers, swimmers, dinners, sinners, winners, kisses, misses, missus, Mrs, pincers, princes, scissors, breeches, riches, stitches, witches, Scriptures, pictures, inches, bridges, Bridges, midges, fringes, \* transistors, gorillas, guerrillas, beginners, \* caregivers, painkillers, bell-ringers, \* camiknickers, butterfingers, caterpillars, lady-killers, rags-to-riches, etc.

**18.56** Willoughby, Dimbleby, Nickleby, syncopy, chirrupy, syrupy, schipperke, Picardy, liberty, dynasty, dystrophy, sympathy, Timothy, Kimberley, Tripoli, bitterly, Italy, sisterly, systole, fitfully, wistfully, skilfully, wilfully, sinfully, blissfully, wishfully, Tivoli, liberally, literally, dismally, cicely, Cicely, Wycherley, gingerly, miserably, visibly, niggardly, inwardly, flippantly, distantly, instantly, differently, brilliantly, winsomely, viciously, bilberry, Tilbury, Finsbury, frippery, slippery, chicory, hickory, trickery, Vickery, whiskery, piggery, Whiggery, cindery, tindery, glittery, jittery, twittery, victory, history, mystery, livery, quivery, shivery, silvery, dithery, slithery, Hilary, Hillary, pillory, literary, biliary, ciliary, shimmery, misery, fishery, stitchery, witchery, gingery, injury, wizardry, bigotry, dilatory, minatory, signatory, infantry, inventory, dysentery, industry, chivalry, missionary, visionary, dictionary, bigamy, thingummy, infamy, timpani, Brittany, dittany, litany, Tiffany, symphony, villainy, tyranny, simony, privacy, literacy, Christmassy, minstrelsy, flippancy, infancy, stringency, liturgy, trilogy, synergy, \* calligraphy, antipathy, Gallipoli, abysmally, officially, initially, judicially, predictably, considerably, admittedly, deliberately, considerately, persistently, consistently, indignantly, proficiently, sufficiently, efficiently, musicianly, suspiciously, officiously, maliciously, ambitiously, judiciously, prodigiously, religiously, Terpsichore, prehistory, periphery, midwifery, housewifery, delivery, capillary, ancillary, artillery, armillary, distillery, fritillary, antiquary, reliquary, subsidiary, auxiliary, rotisserie, justiciary, judiciary, explicatory, obligatory, depilatory, respiratory, conciliatory, divinatory, propitiatory, revisionary, soliloquy, ventriloquy, polygamy, epitome, Antigone, antiphony, epiphany, Epiphany, polyphony, conspiracy, illiteracy, consistency, delinquency, proficiency, sufficiency, deficiency, efficiency,

exigency, contingency, \* artificially, unofficially, superficially, inexplicably, unequivocally, inconsiderately, intermittently, inconsistently, insufficiently, inefficiently, inauspiciously, surreptitiously, contradictory, valedictory, domiciliary, disciplinary, beneficiary, expeditionary, inconsistency, self-sufficiency, insufficiency, inefficiency, \* higgledy-piggledy, idiosyncrasy, \* interdisciplinary, multidisciplinary, immunodeficiency, etc.

**There was a young person whose history,  
Was always considered a mystery.**

EDWARD LEAR

**18.57** finicky, gimmicky, rickety, quiddity, dimity, Trinity, dignity, fixity, witchetty, fidgety, skimpily, trickily, prettily, wittily, shiftily, thriftily, guiltily, civilly, simile, Sicily, busily, principally, typically, critically, mystically, mythically, biblically, lyrically, clinically, cynically, physically, whimsically, wickedly, vividly, timidly, fixedly, frigidly, rigidly, pitifully, fittingly, wittingly, chillingly, willingly, swimmingly, impishly, gimmickry, mimicry, military, symmetry, dignitary, ministry, millinery, imagery, Rimini, Brindisi, syzygy, \* pernickety, rapidity, avidity, validity, solidity, aridity, acridity, acidity, liquidity, timidity, frigidity, rigidity, morbidity, fluidity, cupidity, stupidity, humidity, lucidity, Nativity, acclivity, proclivity, captivity, activity, passivity, festivity, declivity, sublimity, proximity, affinity, salinity, virginity, infinity, divinity, felinity, vicinity, malignity, indignity, benignity, publicity, complicity, plasticity, spasticity, ethnicity, felicity, Felicity, simplicity, toxicity, duplicity, prolixity, facsimile, politically, elliptically, sadistically, statistically, artistically, realistically, prolifically, horrifically, terrifically, specifically, idyllically, satirically, empirically, intrinsically, illicitly, implicitly, explicitly, exquisitely, distinctively, instinctively, submissively, unthinkingly, unwittingly, unwillingly, convincingly, prohibitory, inhibitory, asymmetry, preliminary, Eurydice, Chalcidice, \* serendipity, invalidity, negativity, relativity, sensitivity, exclusivity, creativity, inactivity, impassivity, selectivity, objectivity, positivity, productivity, conductivity, subjectivity, anonymity, magnanimity, equanimity, unanimity, alkalinity, masculinity, femininity, consanguinity, eccentricity, electricity, synchronicity, domesticity, authenticity, multiplicity, analytically, hypocritically, altruistically,

pessimistically, idealistically, optimistically, euphemistically, scientifically, unconvincingly, paramilitary, alkalimetry, acidimetry, Aborigine, \* insensitivity, hyperactivity, overactivity, characteristically, unscientifically, niminy-piminy, \* radioactivity, hypersensitivity, hydroelectricity, etc.

**Sure there are times when one cries with acidity,  
'Where are the limits of human stupidity?'**

ARTHUR CONAN DOYLE

**18.58** ability, stability, scurrility, facility, agility, fragility, tranquillity, gentility, sterility, fertility, servility, debility, civility, virility, senility, hostility, mobility, nobility, motility, docility, utility, futility, humility, obliquity, antiquity, iniquity, ubiquity, propinquity, \* fallibility, capability, saleability, changeability, credibility, flexibility, sensibility, legibility, versatility, readability, feasibility, instability, inability, disability, visibility, infertility, incivility, imbecility, immobility, liability, viability, probability, possibility, volatility, solubility, plausibility, durability, notability, culpability, gullibility, suitability, \* compatibility, adaptability, infallibility, incapability, availability, dependability, susceptibility, respectability, accessibility, inflexibility, predictability, divisibility, invisibility, desirability, reliability, excitability, advisability, improbability, impossibility, responsibility, affordability, accountability, unsuitability, \* malleability, amicability, variability, amiability, eligibility, permeability, irritability, profitability, vulnerability, \* incompatibility, unavailability, inaccessibility, unreliability, irresponsibility, \* invariability, impressionability, inevitability, intelligibility, ineligibility, unprofitability, etc.

**18.59** fitfully, wistfully, skilfully, wilfully, sinfully, blissfully, wishfully, stimuli, visually, ritually, tributary, \* continually, habitually, obituary, contributory, \* individually, noncontributory, etc.

**18.60** Whitaker, Ithaca, spinnaker, Christopher, Nicola, tricolour, victualler, sniveller, signaller, chiseller, whimperer, whisperer, bickerer, sniggerer, lingerer, titterer, witterer, pilferer, cithera, ditherer, Sisera, viscera, Middlesbrough, thickener, stiffener, scrivener, listener, prisoner, Kitchener, Lincolnshire, ligature, Philippa, silica, mimicker, Lineker, picnicker,

vinegar, Phyllida, cylinder, cricketer, limiter, scimitar, visitor, minister, sinister, Chichester, Winchester, Nineveh, miniver, similar, Indira, cinema, minima, milliner, kibitzer, Yiddisher, Britisher, finisher, literature, miniature, signature, integer, pillager, villager, Kissinger, issuer, fibula, singular, titular, fistula, Vistula, primula, insular, \* conspirator, calligrapher, Agricola, amygdala, malingerer, deliverer, lonicera, conditioner, parishioner, commissioner, practitioner, petitioner, auditioner, basilica, Dominica, exhibitor, inhibitor, altimeter, perimeter, solicitor, inquisitor, administer, dissimilar, artificer, extinguisher, residua, continua, contributor, distributor, mandibular, vestibular, Caligula, particular, curricula, testicular, ventricular, vehicular, funicular, peninsula, \* Little Englander, spina bifida, calorimeter, maladminister, perpendicular, \* extracurricular

**18.61** Libya, tibia, grippier, nippier, slippier, pickier, stickier, trickier, milkier, silkier, friskier, Ischia, riskier, Lydia, India, windier, grittier, prettier, Whittier, wittier, shiftier, thriftier, mintier, mistier, twistier, clivia, Livia, Nivea®, trivia, Sylvia, pithier, Cynthia, chillier, cilia, frillier, hillier, Hillier, sillier, sicklier, Syria, wintrier, linear, skinnier, tineas, zinnia, springier, stringier, tipsier, busier, dizzier, fizzier, frizzier, flimsier, dishier, fishier, itchier, Phrygia, dingier, stingier, \* Namibia, Olympia, chlamydia, Numidia, Bolivia, Olivia, Carinthia, familiar, Brasília, Assyria, Illyria, porphyria, bulimia, robinia, Lavinia, actinia, Sardinia, Virginia, nonlinear, gloxinia, photinia, insignia, Alicia, Galicia, asphyxia, Kirghizia, Tunisia, Letitia, \* *Escherichia*, Francophilia, Anglophilia, necrophilia, paedophilia, haemophilia, coprophilia, Europhilia, bougainvillea, juvenilia, interlinear, Abyssinia, \* memorabilia, Germanophilia, overfamiliar, etc.

**18.62** pivoted, interested, Hilliard, *Iliad*, myriad, picketed, riveted, filleted, spirited, limited, visited, Bideford, \* uninterested, disinterested, prohibited, inhibited, dispirited, unlimited, solicited, unvisited, \* uninhibited, unsolicited, etc.

**18.63** liveried, pilloried, Winifred, pyramid

**18.64** clickable, drinkable, shrinkable, sinkable, thinkable, biddable, liftable, printable, Whitstable, livable, syllable, willable, miserable,

winnable, singable, kissable, miscible, missable, fixable, mixable, risible, visible, binnacle, pinnacle, citadel, pivotal, interval, liberal, Liberal, clitoral, literal, littoral, mineral, visceral, scriptural, integral, fictional, frictional, trivial, filial, vitriol, finial, lineal, pineal, principal, principle, typical, critical, mystical, mythical, biblical, cyclical, lyrical, miracle, rhythmical, clinical, cynical, finical, physical, quizzical, whimsical, infidel, digital, pitiful, sinistral, minimal, criminal, vicinal, spiritual, visual, ritual, \* applicable, despicable, explicable, undrinkable, unshrinkable, unsinkable, unthinkable, formidable, transmittable, hospitable, predictable, unprintable, forgivable, unkillable, refillable, considerable, deliverable, omissible, permissible, admissible, unmissable, immiscible, invincible, divisible, invisible, dirigible, episcopal, equivocal, reciprocal, antipodal, illiberal, peripheral, polygonal, provisional, divisional, additional, traditional, conditional, positional, transitional, nutritional, convivial, Lostwithiel, familial, vestigial, participle, municipal, untypical, atypical, veridical, juridical, Levitical, political, uncritical, elliptical, statistical, logistical, pontifical, umbilical, encyclical, empirical, satirical, cylindrical, inimical, rabbinical, dominical, nonphysical, centripetal, occipital, libidinal, subliminal, medicinal, original, continual, habitual, instinctual, residual, centrifugal, \* inapplicable, inexplicable, inextricable, inhospitable, unpredictable, irresistible, unforgivable, monosyllable, unfulfillable, inconsiderable, undeliverable, inadmissible, indivisible, unequivocal, prepositional, compositional, unconditional, suppositional, participial, matrilineal, patrilineal, archetypical, analytical, parasitical, apolitical, hypocritical, diacritical, hypercritical, nonpolitical, egotistical, egoistical, astrophysical, metaphysical, geophysical, Aboriginal, unoriginal, televisual, individual, \* archiepiscopal, stereotypical, audiovisual, \* psychoanalytical

**18.65** principled, \* unprincipled, two-syllabled

**18.66** Christendom, Chrysostom, Chippenham, tympanum, Twickenham, Hilversum, idiom, tritium, cilium, ileum, ilium, Ilium, Miriam, Librium®, Widdecombe, minimum, Gillingham, \* officialdom, iridium, presidium, rubidium, beryllium, delirium, Elysium, Brundisium, molybdenum, residuum, continuum, curriculum, reticulum, capitulum, \* post meridiem,

penicillium, equilibrium, neodymium, aluminium, diverticulum, \* ante meridiem, disequilibrium

**18.67** Wimbledon, Missenden, Pinkerton, Winterton, Tiverton, simpleton, Middleton, Littleton, Lyttelton, Ingleton, singleton, Silverstone, Lindemann, cyclamen, Zimmerman, cinnamon, fisherman, signalman, Richardson, Nicholson, Williamson, histogen, Imogen, Gibeon, Libyan, Crispian, Gideon, Lydian, Midian, Indian, Vivian, Vivien, billion, Chilean, Gillian, Lilian, million, pillion, trillion, zillion, Syrian, Tyrian, Cyprian, Simeon, simian, Guinean, Ninian, Plinian, Trinian, Phrygian, Stygian, silicon, Michigan, Milligan, Finnegan, Hillingdon, Pilkington, Whittington, Withington, Bridlington, Islington, Lymington, Wilmington, Livingston, Livingstone, Vlissingen, Dickinson, Wilkinson, citizen, \* militiaman, carcinogen, Namibian, amphibian, Philippian, Olympian, Pickwickian, Malpighian, Dravidian, meridian, viridian, Ovidian, obsidian, quotidian, ophidian, Euclidean, Numidian, Bolivian, oblivion, Maldivian, Corinthian, pavilion, Brazilian, Castilian, reptilian, vermilion, Churchillian, Virgilian, Quintilian, civilian, Sicilian, postilion, Assyrian, Amphitryon, Endymion, prosimian, Justinian, Sardinian, Darwinian, Arminian, Virginian, Galician, Parisian, Elysian, Tunisian, Thuringian, Dominican, McGilligan, \* hallucinogen, Mississippian, Paralympian, Hesperidian, postmeridian, Amerindian, labyrinthian, crocodilian, Abbevillian, vaudevillian, Maximilian, Argentinian, Palestinian, Augustinian, Carthaginian, Abyssinian, Dionysian, Ordovician, Cantabrigian, callipygian, Carolingian, Merovingian, Carolingian, \* antemeridian

**18.68** Switzerland, Sigismund

**18.69** simpletons, Gillian's, millions, citizens, \* amphibians, Philippians, St Trinian's, etc.

**18.70** impotent, sycophant, indolent, insolent, different, ignorant, ligament, filament, instrument, immanent, dissonant, innocent, brilliant, miscreant, litigant, diffident, dissident, incident, militant, irritant, visitant, sibilant, vigilant, immigrant, implement, increment, liniment, imminent, Millicent, indigent, diligent, impudent, virulent, simulant, stimulant, \* omnipotent,

indifferent, ambivalent, equivalent, itinerant, belligerent, refrigerant, grandiloquent, magniloquent, medicament, predicament, disfigurement, bewilderment, imprisonment, percipient, recipient, incipient, resilient, omniscient, asphyxiant, officiant, participant, significant, coincident, precipitant, magnificent, omnificent, munificent, relinquishment, mellifluent, constituent, \* hereditament, microfilament, insignificant, counterirritant

**18.71** impotence, sycophants, indolence, insolence, difference, inference, ignorance, ligaments, filaments, instruments, immanence, dissonance, innocence, brilliance, litigants, diffidence, dissidence, incidence, incidents, militants, vigilance, immigrants, implements, increments, imminence, indigence, diligence, influence, impudence, virulence, stimulants, \* omnipotence, indifference, deliverance, ambivalence, equivalence, belligerence, grandiloquence, magniloquence, medicaments, percipience, recipients, incipience, resilience, omniscience, participants, significance, coincidence, magnificence, munificence, mellifluence, constituents, continuance, \* insignificance, etc.

**18.72** billionth, millionth, trillionth

**18.73** chirruping, interesting, chitterling, gibbering, whimpering, whispering, flickering, Pickering, tinkering, fingering, tittering, wittering, Wittering, differing, quivering, shivering, blithering, dithering, glimmering, simmering, quickening, sickening, thickening, stiffening, christening, glistening, listening, pitying, dizzying, visiting, \* uninteresting, considering, conditioning, unpitying, politicking, etc.

**18.74** syllabus, Nicholas, fingerless, sisterless, frivolous, symptomless, frictionless, Icarus, rigorous, vigorous, dipterous, timorous, chivalrous, bigamous, infamous, Pyramus, Michaelmas, wilderness, bitterness, villainous, tyrannous, synchronous, nimbleness, fickleness, singleness, listlessness, hideous, piteous, bilious, Sirius, vitreous, Phineas, igneous, ligneous, Vilnius, impetus, Sisyphus, mischievous, pitiless, ticketless, limitless, victimless, stickiness, silkiness, giddiness, prettiness, wittiness, silliness, springiness, dizziness, flimsiness, itchiness, wickedness,

vividness, willingness, Britishness, sinuous, incubus, bibulous, mimulus, stimulus, \* Callimachus, Lysimachus, viviparous, oviparous, coniferous, vociferous, lactiferous, splendiferous, pestiferous, viniferous, somniferous, cruciferous, granivorous, carnivorous, herbivorous, omnivorous, frugivorous, polygamous, Antigonus, judiciousness, amphibious, fastidious, perfidious, invidious, insidious, oblivious, lascivious, punctilious, Lucilius, delirious, Arminius, Odysseus, Leviticus, umbilicus, precipitous, iniquitous, ubiquitous, solicitous, felicitous, duplicitous, libidinous, indigenous, vertiginous, permissiveness, unwillingness, perspicuous, conspicuous, promiscuous, contiguous, ambiguous, exiguous, assiduous, deciduous, mellifluous, continuous, meticulous, ridiculous, acidulous, \* erysipelas, Carboniferous, odoriferous, insectivorous, supercilious, ignominious, Dionysius, serendipitous, infelicitous, inconspicuous, unambiguous, discontinuous, \* australopithecus, etc.

**18.75** hypnotist, symbolist, bigamist, lyricist, physicist, jingoist, \* numismatist, ventriloquist, polygamist, nutritionist, revisionist, recidivist, empiricist, \* abolitionist, exhibitionist, prohibitionist, astrophysicist

**18.76** grippiest, nippiest, slippiest, pickiest, stickiest, trickiest, milkiest, silkiest, friskiest, riskiest, windiest, grittiest, prettiest, wittiest, shiftiest, thriftiest, mintiest, mistiest, twistiest, pithiest, chilliest, frilliest, hilliest, silliest, sickliest, winriest, springiest, stringiest, tipsiest, busiest, dizziest, fizziest, frizziest, flimsiest, dishiest, fishiest, itchiest, dingiest, stingiest, etc.

**18.77** disparate, literate, idiot, Cypriot, syndicate, silicate, triplicate, intricate, distillate, intimate, infinite, rivulet, quintuplet, \* episcopate, deliberate, considerate, preliterate, illiterate, affiliate, novitiate, initiate, sophisticate, certificate, pontificate, precipitate, legitimate, discriminate, articulate, particulate, barbiturate, \* inconsiderate, semiliterate, illegitimate, indiscriminate, inarticulate

**18.78** shibboleth, fiftieth, sixtieth, Illingworth, \* Elizabeth

**18.79** abilities, stabilities, hostilities, antiquities, \* capabilities, sensibilities, liabilities, possibilities, \* responsibilities, etc.

**18.80** difficulty, digitally, sinisterly, similarly, minimally, criminally, diligently, ritually, visually, singularly, intricately, intimately, innocently, interestingly, sickeningly, rigorously, vigorously, hideously, mischievously, literary, cinerary, ignominy, literacy, idiocy, intricacy, intimacy, sycophancy, militancy, \* sensationally, additionally, traditionally, conditionally, nutritionally, provisionally, familiarly, subliminally, medicinally, originally, continually, habitually, particularly, legitimately, significantly, definitively, inquisitively, bewilderingly, fastidiously, insidiously, conspicuously, ridiculously, meticulously, ambiguously, assiduously, continuously, epistolary, itinerary, obituary, discriminatory, episcopacy, illiteracy, legitimacy, constituency, \* unconditionally, individually, indiscriminately, superciliously, inconspicuously, etc.

**18.81** miserable, pitiable, irritable, imitable, limitable, spiritual, \* deliverable, illimitable, inimitable, distinguishable, attributable, meridional, \* undeliverable, indistinguishable

## **Rhyming slang**

*Rhyming slang, traditionally associated with the Cockneys of London's East End, involves substituting rhyming phrases for everyday words. Here are just a few of the best-known examples:*

**apples and pears = stairs**

**whistle and flute = suit**

**syrup of figs = wig**

**butcher's hook = look**

**china plate = mate**

**Adam and Eve = believe**

**tea leaf = thief**

**jam jar = car**

**dog and bone = phone**

**pork pie = lie**

**plates of meat = feet**

**Jimmy Riddle = piddle**

*Over the course of time, the rhyming part of the phrase is often dropped, with the result that have a butcher's is now a slang way of saying 'have a look', china is a slang word for 'friend', and so on.*

## -ire-

*The rhymes in this section have the 'ire' sound of tyre and admirer as their main or final vowel sound.*

**19.1** [[see also](#)] briar, brier, byre, choir, dire, Dwyer, fire, friar, gyre, hire, ire, lyre, mire, prior, Prior, pyre, quire, shire, sire, spire, squire, tire, tyre, Tyre, via, wire, \* aspire, perspire, conspire, attire, acquire, Maguire, afire, admire, transpire, backfire, barbed wire, spare tyre, rewire, respire, expire, inspire, retire, entire, Kintyre, misfire, require, enquire, esquire, inquire, bemire, desire, Bushire, \* vampire, satire, sapphire, campfire, samphire, quagmire, grandsire, haywire, empire, Empire, hellfire, shellfire, cease-fire, sweetbrier, spitfire, Spitfire, tripwire, pismire, wildfire, bonfire, crossfire, saltire, sure-fire, umpire, gunfire, drumfire, bushfire, \* lammergeier, McIntyre, retrofire, retrochoir, reacquire

**Here lies a poor woman who always was tired,  
For she lived in a place where help wasn't hired.**  
EPITAPH

**19.2** fired, hired, sired, tired, wired, \* aspired, perspired, conspired, attired, acquired, admired, transpired, backfired, rewired, expired, inspired, retired, misfired, required, enquired, desired, \* gas-fired, oil-fired, coal-fired, \* overtired, underwired, unexpired, uninspired, \* semiretired, etc.

**19.3** dial, Lyell, Niall, phial, trial, vial, viol, \* redial, retrial, espial, misdial, mistrial, denial, \* sundial, \* self-denial

**19.4** Byers, fires, Myers, quires, shires, spires, tyres, wires, \* perspires, admires, expires, requires, desires, \* vampires, campfires, Blackfriars,

Greyfriars, Spitfires, Whitefriars, \* Molly Maguires, etc.

**Religion blushing veils her sacred fires,  
And unawares Morality expires.**

ALEXANDER POPE

**20.1** direly, Brierley, diary, fiery, friary, miry, priory, wiry, enquiry, inquiry, expiry, \* entirely

**20.2** dialler, Viola, direr, firer, hirer, Ira, Lyra, Myra, wirer, \* aspirer, conspirer, acquirer, admirer, retirer, enquirer, inquirer, \* spirogyra, \* admire her, inspire her, etc.

**20.3** Hiram, tiresome, \* fire 'em, wire 'em, etc.

**20.4** Ireland, diamond

**20.5** violent, tyrant, \* nonviolent, acquirement, requirement, retirement

**20.6** violence, tyrants, \* nonviolence, requirements, etc.

**20.7** dialling, hireling, trialling, hiring, firing, tiring, wiring, \* aspiring, perspiring, conspiring, untiring, admiring, retiring, inspiring, misfiring, inquiring, desiring, \* uninspiring, etc.

**20.8** tireless, wireless, Cyrus, virus, tiredness, \* papyrus, Epirus, desirous, \* parvovirus, retrovirus, herpesvirus, \* hire us, fired us, etc.

**20.9** triallist, violist, diarist, lyrist

**20.10** spirelet, violet, \* inviolate, \* ultraviolet, \* hire it, dial it, etc.

**20.11** spirally, violently, tiresomely, tirelessly, \* entirety, admiringly, \* uninspiringly

**20.12** hirable, spiracle, \* inviolable, acquirable, desirable, \* undesirable

## -ie-

*The rhymes in this section have the 'ie' sound of try and glider as their main or final vowel sound.*

**21.1** ay, aye, bi, Bligh, buy, by, bye, chi, cry, Dai, Di, die, dry, dye, eye, fie, fly, fry, Fry, guy, Guy, hi, hie, high, I, lie, lye, my, nigh, Nye, phi, pi, pie, ply, pry, psi, Pye, rye, Rye, scry, shy, sigh, sky, Skye, sly, spry, spy, sty, stye, Thai, thigh, thy, tie, try, Vi, vie, why, wry, Wye, Y

**I must go down to the sea again, to the lonely sea and the sky,  
And all I ask is a tall ship and a star to steer her by.**

JOHN MASEFIELD

**21.2** Mackay, g'day, untie, ally, apply, supply, comply, awry, Transkei, shanghai, Shanghai, banzai, thereby, whereby, Versailles, Desai, hereby, nearby, GI, retie, knee-high, retry, deep-fry, espy, mince pie, defy, belie, rely, reply, imply, decry, descry, drip-dry, spin-dry, deny, bye-bye, I-spy, My Lai, pork pie, bone dry, goodbye, Mumbai, Dubai, July, Brunei

**21.3** rabbi, stand-by, magpie, cacti, ally, Adlai, blackfly, gadfly, sandfly, Catseye®, Masai, lay-by, Magi, mayfly, quasi, Jedi, red-eye, necktie, stir-fry, Birds Eye, workshy, Eli, three-ply, greenfly, Levi, pinkeye, nilgai, pigsty, drip-dry, fisheye, firefly, aye-aye, flyby, tie-dye, hi-fi, sci-fi, whitefly, Sinai, rhombi, thrombi, Popeye, sockeye, bronchi, Bondi, hogtie, botfly, oxeye, bonsai, walleye, sawfly, gallfly, horsefly, housefly, outcry, blowfly, blow-dry, foci, loci, shuteye, fungi, shoofly, \* Iceni, narcissi, thesauri, *E. coli*, alumni, \* decree nisi, \* aqua vitae, arbor vitae, a priori, \* modus vivendi, a fortiori, \* modus operandi, a posteriori, dramatis personae, \* curriculum vitae

**21.4** apple pie, Malachi, assegai, alkali, damselfly, dragonfly, Paraguay, abaci, Haggai, alibi, dandify, gratify, ratify, stratify, sanctify, amplify, clarify, scarify, ramify, magnify, damnify, classify, gasify, pacify, calcify, satisfy, samurai, passer-by, passers-by, RSI, Nazify, argify, aerify, rarefy, scarify, radii, deify, reify, ladyfy, FBI, edify, trendify, rectify, testify, jellify, terrify, verify, petrify, specify, Frenchify, Gemini, certify, versify, termini, reapply, resupply, CBI, genii, sweetie-pie, preachify, speechify, DIY, syllabi, bring-and-buy, misapply, high and dry, Philippi, typify, citify, prettify, mystify, vivify, vilify, simplify, vitrify, liquefy, dignify, lignify, signify, Disneyfy, stimuli, by and by, private eye, Private Eye, jai alai, tiger's-eye, Hi-de-Hi, Lorelei, hoverfly, solidi, modify, quantify, jollify, mollify, qualify, horrify, torrefy, cockneyfy, ossify, prophesy, Ross-on-Wye, occupy, Olduvai, Mordecai, fortify, glorify, falsify, Uruguay, purify, counterspy, overbuy, overlie, overfly, goldeneye, Chou En-lai, codify, notify, Hokusai, lullaby, hushaby, ultrahigh, underlie, thunderfly, butterfly, tumble-dry, yuppify, fructify, stultify, justify, nullify, uglify, mummify, Russify, multiply, uteri, hue and cry, UDI, nuclei, stupefy, beautify, putrefy, tumefy, unify, crucify, do-or-die, cumuli, tumuli, \* leylandii, syllabify, beatify, declassify, decalcify, dissatisfy, denazify, objectify, subjectify, identify, exemplify, electrify, indemnify, solemnify, intensify, diversify, Helvetii, solidify, acidify, rigidify, humidify, demystify, revivify, sarcophagi, disqualify, transmogrify, saponify, personify, detoxify, preoccupy, reoccupy, vox populi, demulsify, emulsify, minutiae, reunify, \* caravanserai, lapis lazuli, dehumidify, oversimplify, hippopotami, anno Domini

**21.5** bribe, gibe, gybe, jibe, kibe, scribe, tribe, vibe, \* ascribe, subscribe, transcribe, imbibe, describe, prescribe, inscribe, proscribe, \* circumscribe, diatribe, unsubscribe

**21.6** bribed, gibed, gybed, jibed, \* ascribed, subscribed, transcribed, imbibed, described, prescribed, inscribed, proscribed, \* circumscribed, unsubscribed, \* oversubscribed, undersubscribed

**21.7** bike, like, dyke, grike, hike, Ike, mike, Mike, pike, psych, Reich, shrike, Smike, spike, strike, trike, tyke, \* alike, unlike, Van Dyck, van

Eyck, dislike, \* catlike, antlike, manlike, garpike, starlike, glasslike, grasslike, hairlike, apeline, snakelike, wraithlike, threadlike, shell-like, turnpike, wormlike, priestlike, dreamlike, hitchhike, sylphlike, springlike, sphinxlike, childlike, Christlike, lifelike, Klondike, Fosdyke, godlike, swanlike, Thorndike, warlike, ghostlike, homelike, Updike, suchlike, \* statesmanlike, ladylike, workmanlike, seamanlike, businesslike, sportsmanlike, soundalike, motorbike, unalike, lookalike, womanlike, superbike, \* unbusinesslike, unsportsmanlike

**21.8** bikes, likes, dykes, hikes, Mike's, spikes, strikes, Sykes, yikes, \* dislikes, \* motorbikes, superbikes, \* likes and dislikes, etc.

**Out flew the web and floated wide;  
The mirror cracked from side to side;  
'The curse is come upon me,' cried  
The Lady of Shalott.**

ALFRED, LORD TENNYSON

**21.9** bide, bride, chide, Clyde, cried, died, dried, dyed, eyed, fried, glide, guide, Guide, hide, Hyde, I'd, lied, pied, pride, ride, Ryde, shied, side, sighed, slide, snide, spied, stride, tide, tied, tried, vied, wide, etc.

**21.10** abide, undyed, untied, confide, provide, allied, collide, applied, supplied, McBride, untried, astride, aside, subside, Strathclyde, worldwide, retried, deep-fried, misguide, betide, defied, divide, elide, replied, implied, deride, Kilbride, spin-dried, bestride, beside, decide, inside, preside, reside, offside, Port Said, outride, outside, \* nucleotide, Jekyll and Hyde, Bonnie and Clyde, industrywide, etc.

**Great wits are sure to madness near allied,  
And thin partitions do their bounds divide.**

JOHN DRYDEN

**21.11** allied, backslide, landslide, pan-fried, backside, carbide, waveguide, Tayside, wayside, lakeside, stateside, graveside, ebb tide, peptide, Twelfthtide, bedside, stir-fried, kerbside, nearside, freeze-dried, quayside, seaside, Cheapside, Teesside, riptide, springtide, hillside, inside, ringside,

fireside, pie-eyed, Tyneside, popeyed, cockeyed, Hocktide, phosphide, oxhide, cross-eyed, topside, dockside, oxide, offside, rawhide, horsehide, wall-eyed, chloride, foreside, broadside, fluoride, cowhide, outside, downside, joyride, doe-eyed, sloe-eyed, Shrovetide, blow-dried, bromide, roadside, tongue-tied, sulphide, sun-dried, one-eyed, upside, Brookside, Yuletide, noontide, poolside, \* peroxide, monoxide, dioxide, hydroxide, alongside

**21.12** Lammastide, paraglide, saccharide, lanthanide, Ambleside, gratified, ratified, stratified, sanctified, amplified, clarified, magnified, classified, pacified, satisfied, aldehyde, parricide, fratricide, matricide, patricide, algicide, park and ride, starry-eyed, rarefied, nationwide, deicide, set-aside, genocide, edified, rectified, terrified, verified, petrified, specified, pesticide, Heaviside, regicide, certified, herbicide, germicide, spermicide, vermicide, Merseyside, bleary-eyed, reapplied, Eastertide, eventide, eagle-eyed, beady-eyed, feticide, ecocide, Whitsuntide, Christmastide, glyceride, riverside, silverside, citified, prettified, mystified, vilified, simplified, liquefied, dignified, filicide, iodide, cyanide, biocide, glycoside, five-a-side, Ironside, modified, mollified, qualified, horrified, prophesied, homicide, occupied, waterside, fortified, glorified, purified, mountainside, override, codified, notified, coincide, tumble-dried, Humberside, underside, yuppified, justified, mummified, multiplied, subdivide, countrified, undenied, fungicide, countryside, dewy-eyed, beautified, putrefied, unified, crucified, suicide, \* disaccharide, unratified, beatified, unsanctified, unamplified, unclassified, declassified, unsatisfied, self-satisfied, dissatisfied, paraldehyde, formaldehyde, infanticide, tyrannicide, unrectified, identified, exemplified, unverified, unspecified, intensified, insecticide, rodenticide, uncertified, bactericide, thalidomide, solidified, unsimplified, undignified, sulphonamide, unmodified, unqualified, disqualified, personified, sororicide, unoccupied, preoccupied, unfortified, unpurified, unjustified, emulsified, \* polysaccharide, monosaccharide, unidentified, oversimplified, parasiticide, overqualified, parasuicide, etc.

**21.13** brides, Guides, hides, ides, rides, sides, strides, \* besides, decides, insides, etc.

**21.14** fife, Fife, knife, life, rife, strife, wife, \* real life, still life, long-life, pro-life, \* jackknife, alewife, shelf life, penknife, midlife, midwife, fishwife, flick knife, highlife, wildlife, nightlife, housewife, lowlife, goodwife, loosestrife, \* palette knife, afterlife, paperknife, pocketknife

**They all ran after the farmer's wife,  
Who cut off their tails with a carving knife,  
Did you ever see such a thing in your life,  
As three blind mice?**

NURSERY RHYME

**21.15** oblige, \* disoblige

**21.16** aisle, bile, chyle, file, guile, I'll, isle, Kyle, lisle, Lyle, mile, Nile, pile, rile, smile, stile, style, tile, vile, Weill, while, wile, \* compile, awhile, Argyll, argyle, Carlisle, Carlyle, erewhile, ensile, worthwhile, restyle, *Sieg Heil*, meanwhile, beguile, defile, misfile, revile, \* tactile, pantile, agile, facile, gracile, fragile, hairstyle, labile, nailfile, reptile, centile, Gentile, sextile, textile, sterile, sessile, exile, tensile, fertile, turnstile, servile, erstwhile, aedile, freestyle, ethyl, methyl, febrile, penile, phenyl, senile, virile, fissile, missile, scissile, lifestyle, stockpile, condyle, hostile, quartile, puerile, mobile, motile, profile, docile, ductile, woodpile, nubile, butyl, futile, \* contractile, retractile, projectile, trajectory, erectile, percentile, prehensile, infertile, presenile, immobile, immotile, high-profile, \* Francophile, Anglophile, rank and file, camomile, acetyl, arctophile, carbonyl, necrophile, xenophile, technophile, reconcile, peristyle, thermopile, versatile, mercantile, paedophile, oenophile, infantile, cyclostyle, crocodile, volatile, domicile, Europhile, Russophile, juvenile, \* ailurophile, bibliophile, audiophile

**21.17** child, filed, Fylde, mild, riled, smiled, styled, tiled, wild, Wilde, \* compiled, self-styled, restyled, beguiled, defiled, reviled, \* grandchild, Fairchild, exiled, stepchild, brainchild, godchild, Rothschild, love child, schoolchild, \* reconciled, Oscar Wilde, domiciled, etc.

**I call that parent rash and wild**

**Who'd reason with a six-year child.**

PHYLLIS MCGINLEY

**21.18** aisles, files, Giles, miles, Miles, piles, smiles, tiles, wiles, \* compiles, defiles, reviles, betweenwhiles, \* pantiles, reptiles, textiles, missiles, \* paedophiles, Western Isles, Scilly Isles, British Isles, crocodiles, Northern Isles, etc.

**21.19** Chaim, chime, chyme, climb, clime, crime, dime, grime, I'm, lime, Lyme, mime, prime, rhyme, rime, slime, thyme, time, \* sublime, part-time, half-time, spare time, mistime, begrime, all-time, old-time, full-time, two-time, \* ragtime, Mannheim, pastime, airtime, daytime, playtime, bedtime, enzyme, birdlime, teatime, mealtimes, Dreamtime, meantime, peacetime, springtime, quicklime, night-time, lifetime, longtime, Sondheim, Trondheim, wartime, downtime, Stroheim, uptime, sometime, one-time, lunchtime, noontime, \* paradigm, Anaheim, pantomime, maritime, Father Time, extra time, anytime, flexitime, wintertime, dinner time, Christmastime, cybercrime, ribozyme, Oppenheim, overtime, closing time, supper time, summertime, Guggenheim

**I'm tired of Love: I'm still more tired of Rhyme.**

**But Money gives me pleasure all the time.**

HILAIRE BELLOC

**21.20** chimed, climbed, limed, mimed, rhymed, timed, \* unclimbed, unrhymed, well-timed, ill-timed, begrimed

**21.21** chimes, climbs, climes, crimes, dimes, Grimes, rhymes, times, \* The Times, betimes, begrimes, \* pastimes, enzymes, mealtimes, oftentimes, sometimes, \* betweentimes, \* pantomimes, Maritimes, oftentimes, etc.

**21.22** bine, brine, chine, cline, dine, dyne, fine, Fyne, Jain, kine, Klein, Kline, line, mine, nine, pine, Rhine, shine, shrine, sign, sine, spine, spline, stein, Stein, Strine, swine, thine, tine, twine, Tyne, vine, whine, wine, \* combine, condign, confine, align, malign, front line, assign, consign, resign, repine, define, refine, divine, decline, recline, incline, enshrine, entwine, benign, design, resign, offline, online, cloud nine, outshine, opine,

\* Sabine, rapine, alpine, Alpine, strapline, land line, chatline, tramline, land mine, carbine, carmine, airline, hairline, grapevine, A-line, ley line, saline, dateline, waistline, mainline, baseline, canine, Epstein, Bechstein, helpline, neckline, breadline, deadline, headline, hemline, eccrine, equine, Pennine, ensign, turbine, Bernstein, Irvine, ursine, earthshine, beeline, feline, tree line, streamline, V-sign, incline, syncline, slimline, Einstein, by-line, skyline, pipeline, guideline, sideline, sightline, lifeline, timeline, Holbein, combine, Holstein, hotline, Fräulein, jawline, shoreline, taurine, porcine, outline, Goldstein, bovine, ovine, snow line, towline, coastline, clothesline, gold mine, coal mine, cosine, road sign, bloodline, plumb line, rhumb line, touchline, punch line, sunshine, woodbine, lupine, supine, shoeshine, moonshine, \* McAlpine, Byzantine, \* anodyne, Palatine, Ballantyne, valentine, Valentine, Hammerstein, alkaline, Caroline, saccharine, passerine, calamine, saturnine, Palestine, Frankenstein, aquiline, anticline, asinine, Argentine, party line, table wine, eighty-nine, twenty-nine, Sensodyne®, celandine, Heseltine, Levantine, eglantine, Clementine, endocrine, serpentine, Serpentine, turpentine, thirty-nine, Ursuline, recombine, realign, leonine, reassign, redefine, redesign, Wittgenstein, Liechtenstein, Ghibelline, zibeline, interline, crystalline, riverine, intertwine, Philistine, sibylline, disincline, picket line, disintwine, fifty-nine, sixty-nine, firing line, Eisenstein, ninety-nine, columbine, Columbine, Constantine, Florentine, concubine, borderline, water line, auld lang syne, story line, forty-nine, porcupine, countersign, opaline, underline, undermine, superfine, uterine, Rubinstein, \* Capitoline, estuarine, seventy-nine, overrefine, \* diamantine, elephantine, alexandrine, internecine, labyrinthine, Schleswig-Holstein

**And Noah he often said to his wife when he sat down to dine,**

**‘I don’t care where the water goes if it doesn’t get into the wine.’**

G. K. CHESTERTON

**21.23** bind, blind, dined, find, grind, hind, kind, lined, mind, mined, pined, rind, signed, whined, wind, \* combined, unbind, unkind, confined, aligned, maligned, unlined, unwind, unsigned, mankind, rewind, defined, refined, behind, inclined, entwined, remind, designed, resigned, \* Gradgrind, spellbind, purblind, streamlined, snow-blind, \* mastermind, misaligned,

intertwined, disinclined, wine and dine, nonaligned, womankind, *Golden Hind*, overwind, unconfined, underlined, colour-blind, undermined, undersigned, undefined, unrefined, undesigned, humankind, \* overrefined, etc.

**For Justice, though she's painted blind,  
Is to the weaker side inclined.**

SAMUEL BUTLER

**21.24** pint, \* Geraint, \* cuckoopint

**21.25** Fiennes, Heinz, Hines, lines, mines, pines, signs, tines, vines, \* hard lines, designs, \* Sabines, tramlines, land mines, airlines, headlines, Pennines, guidelines, sidelines, confines, outlines, road signs, \* Apennines, etc.

**21.26** gripe, hype, pipe, ripe, snipe, stripe, swipe, tripe, type, wipe, \* unripe, retype, mistype, \* standpipe, tailpipe, drainpipe, windpipe, pinstripe, sideswipe, hornpipe, downpipe, blowpipe, stovepipe, hosepipe, subtype, \* archetype, Teletype®, genotype, serotype, ecotype, phenotype, biotype, logotype, Monotype®, prototype, overripe, guttersnipe, underripe, \* daguerreotype, electrotype, \* stereotype

**21.27** cripes, gripes, pipes, stripes, types, wipes, \* bagpipes, panpipes, drainpipes, pinstripes, stovepipes, \* Stars and Stripes, etc.

**21.28** griped, hyped, piped, striped, swiped, typed, wiped, \* unstriped, unwiped, retyped, mistyped, \* stereotyped, etc.

**21.29** Brice, dice, gneiss, ice, lice, mice, nice, price, Price, rice, slice, spice, splice, thrice, trice, twice, vice, Zeiss, \* suffice, advice, concise, half-price, de-ice, entice, device, precise, \* pack ice, Jarndyce, fieldmice, titmice, choc-ice, allspice, dormice, woodlice, \* paradise, sacrifice, edelweiss, merchandise, imprecise, cockatrice, overnice, \* self-sacrifice

**It was a miracle of rare device,  
A sunny pleasure-dome with caves of ice.**

## SAMUEL TAYLOR COLERIDGE

**21.30** Christ, diced, heist, iced, priced, sliced, spiced, spliced, \* sufficed, unsliced, unpriced, de-iced, enticed, \* *Zeitgeist*, \* sacrificed, Antichrist, poltergeist, overpriced, underpriced

**21.31** bight, bite, blight, bright, Bright, byte, cite, Dwight, fight, flight, fright, height, kite, knight, Knight, krait, light, lite, might, mite, night, plight, quite, right, rite, shite, sight, site, skite, sleight, slight, smite, spite, sprite, tight, trite, twite, white, White, wight, wright, Wright, write

**Biting my truant pen, beating myself for spite,  
'Fool,' said my Muse to me; 'look in thy heart and write.'**

PHILIP SIDNEY

**21.32** alight, polite, uptight, aright, contrite, affright, tonight, Twelfth Night, relight, preflight, rewrite, despite, indict, skintight, invite, delight, in-flight, requite, ignite, recite, excite, incite, off-white, all right, outright, Snow White, goodnight, unite, \* Gileadite, Ishmaelite, Israelite, meteorite, spermatoocyte

**21.33** graphite, catfight, lamplight, fanlight, gaslight, flashlight, samite, campsite, starlight, Arkwright, cartwright, Cartwright, Marmite®, airtight, Blairite, snakebite, daylight, space flight, tail-light, playwright, wainwright, Wainwright, respite, headlight, Enright, website, perlite, earthlight, searchlight, birthright, termite, Shiite, fleabite, Levite, streetlight, wheelwright, Semite, weeknight, Hittite, shipwright, millwright, midnight, insight, firefight, prizefight, highlight, skylight, stylite, twilight, sidelight, night-light, limelight, typewrite, finite, eyesight, hindsight, frostbite, cockfight, dogfight, stoplight, spotlight, bomb site, gobshite, cordite, torchlight, Albright, forthright, fortnight, foresight, Forsyte, Plowright, downright, lowlight, ghostwrite, lovebite, Luddite, bunfight, gunfight, floodlight, sunlight, upright, bullfight, moonlight, \* apartheid, bipartite, tripartite, transvestite, *gesundheit*

**21.34** Jacobite, blatherskite, Araldite®, stalactite, halophyte, saprophyte, Fahrenheit, acolyte, satellite, candlelight, anchorite, Nazarite, Thatcherite,

black-and-white, catamite, stalagmite, aconite, ammonite, phagocyte, parasite, anthracite, appetite, Hashemite, landfill site, Carmelite, marcasite, Bakelite®, Labourite, Canaanite, Rechabite, megabyte, extradite, recondite, Hepplewhite, belemnite, expedite, epiphyte, eremite, Vegemite®, gelignite, plebiscite, erudite, cellulite, urbanite, coenobite, steatite, haematite, neophyte, Edomite, reignite, reunite, gigabyte, kilobyte, impolite, sybarite, lymphocyte, lily-white, disunite, trilobite, bryophyte, microlight, Isle of Wight, dynamite, fly-by-night, troglodyte, coprolite, dolerite, sodomite, dolomite, Trotskyite, proselyte, copyright, Bonfire Night, watertight, quarterlight, outasight, Moabite, overbite, oolite, socialite, overflight, overwrite, overnight, oocyte, oversight, Muscovite, underwrite, leucocyte, \* hermaphrodite, Pre-Raphaelite, McCarthyite, electrolyte, suburbanite, erythrocyte, theodolite, toxophilite, \* Areopagite

**21.35** bites, fights, kites, knights, lights, nights, rights, sights, tights, whites, \* delights, excites, \* campsites, daylights, tail-lights, headlights, searchlights, termites, streetlights, weeknights, highlights, sidelights, pyrites, floodlights, footlights, \* Jacobites, satellites, ammonites, Carmelites, Canaanites, megabytes, see the sights, gigabytes, kilobytes, civil rights, troglodytes, Dolomites, socialites, Golan Heights, human rights, \* Wuthering Heights, etc.

**And the milkmaid singeth blithe,  
And the mower whets his scythe.**

JOHN MILTON

**21.36** blithe, Blyth, Hythe, lithe, scythe, Smythe, tithes, withe, writhe, \* Rotherhithe

**21.37** chive, Clive, dive, drive, five, gyve, hive, I've, jive, live, rive, shrive, skive, strive, thrive, wive, \* survive, alive, arrive, contrive, connive, derive, deprive, revive, \* archive, endive, beehive, skydive, nose dive, ogive, \* eighty-five, twenty-five, MI5, thirty-five, fifty-five, sixty-five, ninety-five, four-wheel drive, forty-five, overdrive

**This is the law of the Yukon, that only the Strong shall thrive;**

**That surely the Weak shall perish, and only the Fit survive.**

ROBERT W. SERVICE

**21.38** chives, Clive's, dives, drives, fives, gyves, hives, Ives, knives, lives, wives, \* St Ives, \* archives, endives, penknives, midwives, fishwives, flick knives, housewives, \* paperknives, under-fives, etc.

**21.39** buys, cries, dies, Di's, dries, dyes, eyes, flies, fries, guise, guys, Guy's, highs, lies, lyse, pies, prise, prize, rise, sighs, size, skies, spies, thighs, tries, wise, etc.

**Early to bed and early to rise,  
Makes a man healthy, wealthy, and wise.**

SAYING

**21.40** advise, applies, supplies, arise, apprise, surprise, uprising, comprise, unwise, assize, baptize, chastise, capsize, surmise, despise, mince pies, disguise, defies, devise, revise, demise, denies, disprize, misprize, excise, incise, outsize, downsize, goodbyes, etc.

**21.41** rabbis, magpies, allies, Allies, crabwise, franchise, slantwise, neckties, stepwise, endwise, breadthwise, lengthwise, edgewise, excise, realize, Levi's®, streetwise, leastwise, widthwise, king-size, fireflies, stylize, high-rise, likewise, Popeye's, clockwise, longwise, crosswise, low-rise, nowise, somewise, sunrise, moonrise, \* aggrandize, enfranchise, idealize, synopsis, amortize, \* disenfranchise, anticlockwise, counterclockwise, etc.

**21.42** standardize, anodize, rhapsodize, advertise, dramatize, alkalize, scandalize, vandalize, catalyze, chaptalize, tantalize, paralyse, analyse, dragonflies, factorize, pasteurize, valorize, glamorize, randomize, atomize, agonize, fraternize, galvanize, patronize, canonize, fantasize, catechize, sanitize, magnetize, gratifies, amplifies, tranquillize, maximize, Latinize, satirize, plasticize, Gallicize, anglicize, bastardize, marmalize, carbonize, jargonize, harmonize, barbarize, nasalize, racialize, vaporize, plagiarize, paganize, stabilize, laicize, \* readvertise, metabolize, anatomize, antagonize, metastasize, analogize, demagnetize, beatifies, dissatisfies,

evangelize, romanticize, elasticize, italicize, contrariwise, containerize, destabilize, \* psychoanalyse, etc.

**21.43** jeopardize, methodize, empathize, metallize, breathalyse, centralize, specialize, temporize, slenderize, tenderize, terrorize, memorize, mesmerize, pressurize, enterprise, ebonize, mechanize, westernize, recognize, emphasize, exercise, energize, sensitize, terrifies, specifies, televise, sterilize, anywise, feminize, elegize, exorcize, ghettoize, deputize, merchandise, verbalize, burglarize, mercerize, urbanize, sermonize, circumcise, fertilize, worldly-wise, schematize, legalize, equalize, penalize, theorize, etherize, demonize, \* electrolyse, decentralize, extemporize, accessorize, depressurize, derecognize, desensitize, identifies, collectivize, incentivize, poeticize, parenthesize, eternalize, internalize, externalize, commercialize, diversifies, anaesthetize, \* departmentalize, compartmentalize, Orientalize, Occidentalize, sentimentalize, overemphasize, universalize, Europeanize, etc.

**21.44** stigmatize, hypnotize, sympathize, improvise, symbolize, crystallize, signalize, winterize, tyrannize, synchronize, liquidize, digitize, typifies, mystifies, civilize, victimize, minimize, criticize, mythicize, synthesize, immunize, iodize, privatize, dialyse, idolize, vitalize, hydrolyse, finalize, itemize, ionize, lionize, hybridize, \* initialize, transistorize, familiarize, soliloquize, epitomize, solidifies, legitimize, politicize, acclimatize, devitalize, revitalize, de-ionize, \* oversimplifies, depoliticize, photosynthesize, etc.

**21.45** dogmatize, moralize, novelize, hoverflies, sodomize, compromise, modernize, colonize, solemnize, ostracize, oxidize, modifies, qualifies, fossilize, optimize, occupies, communize, gormandize, traumatize, formalize, normalize, pauperize, cauterize, authorize, cornerwise, organize, pluralize, ruralize, bowdlerize, moisturize, robotize, globalize, localize, vocalize, totalize, socialize, motorize, polarize, Romanize, oversize, Nobel prize, mobilize, \* apostatize, democratize, bureaucratize, apostrophize, philosophize, monopolize, demoralize, dichotomize, economize, apologize, anthologize, homologize, prioritize, personifies, homogenize, eroticize,

hypothesize, catholicize, immortalize, reorganize, disorganize, deodorize, depolarize, demobilize, immobilize, \* demythologize, etc.

**21.46** lullabies, mongrelize, butterflies, rubberize, vulgarize, pulverize, summarize, otherwise, customize, vulcanize, subsidize, monetize, mummifies, multiplies, publicize, womanize, supervise, brutalize, neutralize, unionize, humanize, eulogize, putrefies, utilize, booby prize, euphemize, scrutinize, \* computerize, dehumanize, \* revolutionize, attitudinize, platitudinize, etc.

**21.47** alphabetize, naturalize, caramelize, nationalize, rationalize, emblemize, federalize, generalize, personalize, liberalize, mineralize, fictionalize, Lord of the Flies, Morecambe and Wise, bestialize, serialize, trivialize, cannibalize, capitalize, catheterize, characterize, categorize, allegorize, marginalize, lexicalize, decimalize, skeletonize, systematize, digitalize, criminalize, militarize, miniaturize, proselytize, hospitalize, polymerize, annualize, actualize, sexualize, ritualize, visualize, mutualize, communalize, tabularize, secularize, regularize, circularize, popularize, formularize, masculinize, \* denaturalize, denationalize, renationalize, sensationalize, professionalize, conventionalize, depersonalize, impersonalize, demineralize, Australianize, pedestrianize, materialize, memorialize, industrialize, Americanize, decriminalize, demilitarize, republicanize, desexualize, conceptualize, contextualize, demutualize, particularize, \* internationalize, institutionalize, dematerialize, editorialize, territorialize, overcapitalize, undercapitalize, individualize

**21.48** prized, sized, \* advised, surprised, unsized, baptized, chastised, despised, disguised, revised, excised, incised, \* franchised, pearlized, realized, stylized, \* enfranchised, unrealized, idealized, \* standardized, anodized, advertised, dramatized, vandalized, paralysed, Sanforized®, pasteurized, agonized, galvanized, sanitized, magnetized, anglicized, stabilized, well-advised, centralized, specialized, tenderized, terrorized, mesmerized, pressurized, mechanized, westernized, recognized, sensitized, televised, sterilized, mercerized, circumcised, fertilized, creolized, legalized, hypnotized, improvised, ill-advised, crystallized, synchronized, middle-sized, civilized, immunized, privatized, finalized, itemized,

modernized, ostracized, fossilized, formalized, authorized, organized, localized, motorized, polarized, oversized, mobilized, unadvised, rubberized, summarized, unsurprised, undersized, undisguised, subsidized, publicized, supervised, neutralized, unionized, \* readvertised, unpasteurized, demagnetized, romanticized, elasticized, unplasticized, italicized, depressurized, unrecognized, commercialized, uncircumcised, unfertilized, anaesthetized, uncivilized, politicized, de-ionized, demoralized, prioritized, immortalized, unauthorized, disorganized, unorganized, demobilized, unpublicized, unsupervised, computerized, \* naturalized, nationalized, personalized, serialized, characterized, decimalized, miniaturized, hospitalized, annualized, ritualized, popularized, \* denationalized, renationalized, sensationalized, demineralized, pedestrianized, industrialized, decriminalized, demilitarized, \* institutionalized, dematerialized, individualized, etc.

**22.1** stripy, crikey, Nike, psyche, spiky, Tyche, Bridie, Friday, Heidi, tidy, Blighty, flighty, Haiti, mighty, nightie, ninety, feisty, ivy, Ivy, dryly, Filey, Haile, highly, Kylie, Riley, shyly, slyly, smiley, Wiley, wily, likely, idly, widely, mildly, wildly, blindly, kindly, brightly, knightly, lightly, nightly, rightly, sightly, slightly, sprightly, tightly, Whiteley, lively, blithely, timely, finely, nicely, wisely, blimey, limey, limy, rimy, slimy, stymie, briny, gynae, Heiney, piny, shiny, spiny, tiny, whiny, winey, dicey, icy, pricey, spicy, \* untidy, almighty, Almighty, O'Reilly, unlikely, unkindly, Golightly, politely, unsightly, untimely, sublimely, divinely, concisely, precisely, unwisely, Hawaii, cor blimey, \* forthrightly, fortnightly, sunshiny, \* Ciba-Geigy, bona fide, Aphrodite, Amphitrite, high-and-mighty, impolitely, Berenice, etc.

**22.2** [[see also](#)] ayah, buyer, crier, drier, dryer, dyer, flyer, fryer, Gaia, higher, liar, Maia, Maya, Meyer, pryer, shyer, slyer, stria, trier, vier, wryer, \* papaya, Achaia, supplier, Aglaia, Maria, pariah, defier, spin-dryer, denier, Messiah, high-flyer, Isaiah, town crier, Sophia, Josiah, Uriah, \* hairdryer, Niemeyer, housebuyer, outlier, \* Obadiah, jambalaya, Zachariah, Black Maria, Zechariah, tumble-dryer, Zephaniah, deep-fat fryer, Zedekiah, Hezekiah, amplifier, magnifier, classifier, pacifier, rectifier, testifier, verifier, versifier, simplifier, signifier, modifier, quantifier, qualifier, fortifier, purifier, *Billy Liar*, multiplier, Jeremiah, Nehemiah, prophesier,

first-time buyer, occupier, \* preamplifier, identifier, intensifier, humidifier, emulsifier, \* Iphigenia, \* dehumidifier, owner-occupier, \* buy her, untie her, etc.

**22.3** briber, fibre, Khyber, Schreiber, Tiber, diaper, griper, hyper, piper, sniper, swiper, viper, wiper, \* subscriber, transcriber, imbiber, prescriber, inscriber, \* bagpiper, sandpiper, Pied Piper, \* microfibre, windscreen wiper, \* bribe her, describe her, etc.

**22.4** biker, hiker, liker, mica, Micah, pica, striker, Eiger, Geiger, liger, Steiger, tiger, \* Formica®, \* hitchhiker, \* balalaika, \* like her, strike her, etc.

**There came a big spider,  
Who sat down beside her.**

NURSERY RHYME

**22.5** cider, eider, glider, Guider, Ida, rider, Ryder, Schneider, slider, spider, strider, Wilder, binder, blinder, finder, grinder, hinder, kinda, kinder, minder, winder, biter, blighter, fighter, lighter, mitre, nitre, righter, sighter, slighter, tighter, titre, whiter, writer, shyster, rhymester, \* provider, al-Qaeda, divider, decider, insider, outsider, Oneida, rewinder, reminder, politer, igniter, all-nighter, \* hang-glider, backslider, nightrider, Tynesider, outrider, joyrider, pathfinder, rangefinder, spellbinder, ring binder, sidewinder, child minder, fault-finder, bookbinder, viewfinder, backbiter, lamplighter, nailbiter, screenwriter, scriptwriter, firefighter, firelighter, prizefighter, highlighter, typewriter, songwriter, Gauleiter, ghostwriter, uplighter, bullfighter, \* paraglider, override, organ-grinder, autowinder, copywriter, underwriter, capellmeister, \* guide her, fight her, etc.

**22.6** cipher, Haifa, knifer, lifer, diver, driver, fiver, Ivor, jiver, Liver, skiver, striver, viva, either, neither, \* decipher, encipher, Godiva, survivor, saliva, conniver, reviver, co-driver, \* slave-driver, skin-diver, skydiver, pile-driver, screwdriver, \* conjunctiva, \* knife her, deprive her, etc.

**22.7** filer, Isla, Islay, miler, phyla, smiler, styler, tiler, Tyler, idler, trifler, Chrysler, Lycra®, Hydra, ayah, \* compiler, beguiler, defiler, Delilah,

recycler, De Falla, \* stockpiler, Rottweiler, \* beguile her, revile her, etc.

**22.8** climber, mimer, primer, rhymer, timer, china, China, Dinah, diner, finer, Heine, liner, miner, minor, mynah, shiner, signer, Steiner, Viner, whiner, \* part-timer, Jemima, full-timer, two-timer, assignor, consignor, vagina, angina, hardliner, definer, refiner, diviner, recliner, designer, Regina, \* Hochheimer, airliner, jetliner, Niersteiner, eyeliner, coal miner, moonshiner, \* Maritimer, Oppenheimer, autotimer, Carolina, Ursa Minor, Liechtensteiner, Indochina, forty-niner, \* two-time her, malign her, etc.

**Dinner in the diner, nothing could be finer,  
Than to have your ham'n eggs in Carolina.**

MACK GORDON

**22.9** dicer, ISA, Neisse, nicer, pricer, ricer, slicer, splicer, Schweitzer, Dreiser, guiser, Kaiser, Liza, miser, Pfizer, riser, sizer, Tizer®, visor, Niger, \* conciser, de-icer, enticer, adviser, chastiser, despiser, devisor, divisor, reviser, Eliza, incisor, Elisha, obliger, Elijah, \* Budweiser®, \* advertiser, atomizer, appetizer, tranquillizer, vaporizer, stabilizer, Breathalyser®, tenderizer, exerciser, sterilizer, fertilizer, nebulizer, equalizer, sympathizer, improviser, liquidizer, synthesizer, dialyser, ionizer, moralizer, modernizer, organizer, bowdlerizer, moisturizer, womanizer, supervisor, neutralizer, \* economizer, deodorizer, immobilizer, \* entice her, advise her, etc.

**22.10** lilac, Isaac, Izaak, \* elegiac

**22.11** psychic, sidekick, cyclic, hydric, Heinrich, nitric, thymic, seismic, \* enzymic

**22.12** tidied, bifid, trifold, ivied, eyelid, hybrid, stymied

**22.13** dryad, triad, guided, blighted, lighted, mitred, sighted, slighted, whited, Twyford, skyward, sideward, \* provided, collided, misguided, divided, derided, decided, presided, resided, lopsided, unguided, one-sided, reminded, high-minded, like-minded, broad-minded, small-minded, alighted, unsighted, far-sighted, clear-sighted, near-sighted, invited, delighted, requited, benighted, excited, long-sighted, short-sighted, united,

deciphered, \* jeremiad, undivided, undecided, absent-minded, narrow-minded, simple-minded, single-minded, open-minded, uninvited, unrequited, unexcited, undeciphered, \* overexcited, etc.

**22.14** dryads, triads, skywards, sidwards

**22.15** triage, mileage, silage, Knightsbridge, lineage, signage

**22.16** Bible, libel, scribal, tribal, tydal, cycle, Michael, bridal, bridle, idle, idol, Rydal, sidle, tidal, title, vital, Eiffel, rifle, stifled, trifle, mindful, frightful, rightful, spiteful, rival, spiral, viral, fibril, mitral, Sizewell, primal, final, spinal, vinyl, Faisal, IJssel, sisal, trysail, Nigel, \* disciple, Carmichael, cervical, recycle, unbridle, entitle, retitle, requital, recital, unmindful, delightful, arrival, survival, arch-rival, aestival, revival, retiral, postviral, vaginal, doctrinal, urinal, reprisal, \* surtitle, subtitle, \* kilocycle, motorcycle, umbilical, unicycle, herbicidal, germicidal, spermicidal, intertidal, homicidal, fungicidal, suicidal, adjectival, antiviral, semifinal, intestinal, polyvinyl, quarterfinal, paradisal, \* cerebrospinal, \* gastrointestinal

**22.17** libelled, idled, titled, rifled, stifled, trifled, rivalled, \* recycled, unbridled, untitled, entitled, unrivalled, \* subtitled, etc.

**22.18** Higham, Priam, item, phylum, whilom, xylem, Lynam, \* asylum, \* sempervivum, antirrhinum, botulinum, \* ad infinitum, \* buy 'em, fight 'em, etc.

**Big fleas have little fleas upon their backs to bite 'em,**

**And little fleas have lesser fleas, and so ad infinitum.**

SAYING

**22.19** lie-in, tiepin, ninepin, wineskin, chitin, ricin, \* Aneurin, \* streptomycin, \* fightin', jivin', etc.

**22.20** Brian, cyan, ion, iron, lion, Lyon, Mayan, prion, Ryan, scion, Zion, ripen, lichen, liken, tigon, Dryden, Haydn, Leiden, Leyden, Phaidon, Sidon, widen, Blyton, brighten, Brighton, Crichton, frighten, heighten, Huyton,

lighten, tighten, Titan, Triton, whiten, hyphen, siphon, Ivan, liven, wyvern, python, Python, pylon, Byron, Chiron, siren, Siren, Nyman, pieman, Simon, Timon, Wyman, lineman, Weizmann, Wiseman, tribesman, linesman, Tynan, bison, Bryson, Dyson, Fison, grison, Meissen, Tyson, \* Orion, Hawaiian, cast iron, noniron, wrought iron, O'Brien, \* sadiron, andiron, cation, flatiron, antlion, anion, gridiron, Poseidon, enlighten, enliven, upsilon, epsilon, environ, horizon, bedizen, \* Paraguayan, dandelion, Geminian, zwitterion, Uruguayan, *Monty Python*

**Simple Simon met a pieman,  
Going to the fair.**

NURSERY RHYME

**22.21** ironed, viand, ripened, widened, brightened, frightened, lightened, whitened, highland, Highland, island, Thailand, Rhineland, Iceland, Streisand, \* unironed, enlightened, enlivened, \* unenlightened, etc.

**22.22** viands, Highlands, islands

**22.23** Brian's, irons, lions, Lyons, Huygens, Titans, Byron's, sirens, Sirens, \* environs, horizons, etc.

**22.24** Bryant, client, giant, pliant, strident, trident, Trident, mightn't, silent, tyrant, vibrant, migrant, hydrant, \* compliant, defiant, reliant, excitant, indictment, incitement, excitement, beguilement, defilement, revilement, confinement, alignment, assignment, consignment, refinement, enshrinement, enticement, advisement, chastisement, \* self-reliant, supergiant, realignment, reassignment, misalignment

**22.25** clients, giants, science, guidance, silence, tyrants, migrants, licence, license, \* affiance, alliance, appliance, compliance, defiance, reliance, subsidence, contrivance, connivance, refinements, \* misalliance, noncompliance, self-reliance, parascience, social science, neuroscience, pseudoscience, \* overreliance, etc.

**22.26** crying, drying, dyeing, dying, flying, lying, trying, bribing, griping, piping, sniping, typing, wiping, biking, hiking, liking, striking, Viking,

chiding, gliding, Guiding, hiding, riding, siding, sliding, striding, binding, finding, grinding, minding, winding, biting, fighting, lighting, righting, sighting, slighting, whitening, writing, knifing, diving, driving, jiving, skiving, striving, thriving, tithing, scything, writhing, filing, piling, smiling, styling, tiling, cycling, idling, sidling, rifling, stifling, trifling, hindwing, chiming, climbing, miming, rhyming, timing, dining, lining, mining, pining, shining, signing, twining, Twining, whining, frightening, lightning, icing, pricing, slicing, splicing, rising, \* undying, untying, transcribing, imbibing, describing, disliking, abiding, confiding, providing, subsiding, dividing, deciding, presiding, residing, self-winding, inviting, exciting, surviving, arriving, conniving, reviving, compiling, unsmiling, restyling, beguiling, defiling, two-timing, combining, confining, defining, refining, divining, declining, reclining, designing, resigning, enticing, surprising, chastising, revising, downsizing, obliging, \* outlying, fact-finding, bookbinding, fault-finding, backlighting, handwriting, playwriting, Speedwriting®, screenwriting, infighting, scriptwriting, firefighting, bullfighting, skywriting, typewriting, signwriting, songwriting, moonlighting, skydiving, realizing, stylizing, uprising, \* underlying, gratifying, edifying, terrifying, horrifying, paragliding, overriding, uninviting, unexciting, copywriting, motorcycling, interlining, intertwining, underlining, undermining, undesigning, appetizing, advertising, tantalizing, agonizing, patronizing, mesmerizing, enterprising, energizing, merchandising, fertilizing, sympathizing, improvising, civilizing, moralizing, compromising, authorizing, organizing, moisturizing, \* unsatisfying, unedifying, self-sacrificing, unappetizing, uncompromising, etc.

**He cursed him in sitting, in standing, in lying;  
He cursed him in walking, in riding, in flying,  
He cursed him in living, he cursed him in dying!**

R. H. BARHAM

22.27 Vikings, sidings, tidings, sightings, filings, etc.

22.28 ibis, iris, Iris, tigress, Tigris, crisis, Isis, lysis, phthisis, \* colitis, mastitis, gastritis, arthritis, bursitis, phlebitis, cystitis, rhinitis, bronchitis, neuritis, Osiris, \* hepatitis, dermatitis, enteritis, fibrositis, myelitis,

tonsillitis, laryngitis, pharyngitis, sinusitis, meningitis, \* encephalitis, peritonitis, conjunctivitis, appendicitis, \* gastroenteritis, osteoarthritis, diverticulitis, \* poliomyelitis

**22.29** bias, Caius, Gaius, pious, Pius, Midas, Titus, Vitus, typhus, eyeless, Silas, stylus, tieless, childless, mindless, flightless, sightless, lifeless, guileless, rhymeless, timeless, spineless, priceless, Cyrus, virus, fibrous, cypress, Cyprus, hydrous, Hydrus, nitrous, Primus®, thymus, dryness, Highness, Linus, minus, shyness, sinus, slyness, spinous, vinous, ripeness, likeness, mildness, wildness, blindness, kindness, brightness, lightness, rightness, tightness, triteness, whiteness, fineness, niceness, righteous, \* Matthias, Darius, impious, Elias, Tobias, Josias, St Vitus, detritus, tinnitus, pruritus, papyrus, Epirus, anhydrous, Aquinas, Plotinus, Longinus, Paulinus, unkindness, politeness, conciseness, unrighteous, \* Zacharias, Ananias, callipygous, Heraclitus, parvovirus, retrovirus, herpesvirus, Antoninus, Severinus, Dionysus, \* defy us, fine us, etc.

**22.30** typist, stylist, cyclist, \* motorcyclist, \* audiotypist

**22.31** biased, driest, highest, shyest, slyest, wryest, lightest, slightest, tightest, whitest, idlest, finest, nicest, \* unbiased, politest, divinest, concisest, etc.

**22.32** dryish, side dish, childish, whitish, whitefish, stylish, swinish

**22.33** eyelet, islet, twilit, pikelet, spikelet, \* file it, buy it, etc.

**22.34** Byatt, diet, fiat, quiet, riot, Wyatt, private, Pilate, pilot, pirate, climate, \* disquiet, \* copilot, \* Pontius Pilate, autopilot, macroclimate, microclimate

**22.35** eyelets, islets, pikelets, spikelets, Leibnitz

**22.36** Tynemouth, \* Goliath

**22.37** decisive, divisive, derisive, incisive, \* indecisive

**22.38** nineties, Kylie's, limeys, crises, Pisces, \* bona fides, etc.

**22.39** buyers, liars, pliers, fibres, snipers, wipers, bikers, strikers, spiders, minders, writers, divers, drivers, fivers, climbers, diners, miners, ices, prices, slices, vices, misers, prizes, \* suppliers, high-flyers, subscribers, dividers, insiders, outsiders, survivors, part-timers, devices, advisers, surprises, Devizes, \* housebuyers, hitchhikers, joyriders, firefighters, Alzheimer's, \* first-time buyers, windscreen wipers, sympathizers, etc.

**22.40** Niobe, tribally, vitally, writerly, frightfully, rightfully, spitefully, finally, miserly, quietly, privately, silently, piously, bribery, spidery, bindery, grindery, ivory, library, primary, binary, finery, pinery, vinery, winery, spicery, ribaldry, dietary, rivalry, bryony, Bryony, irony, privacy, piracy, vibrancy, primacy, piety, nicety, tidily, mightily, icily, strikingly, blindingly, bitingly, frighteningly, childishly, stylishly, daiquiri, \* delightfully, reliably, misguidedly, decidedly, defiantly, self-righteously, salivary, refinery, advisory, derisory, proprietary, psychiatry, podiatry, Alcyone, Hermione, satiety, variety, sobriety, propriety, society, anxiety, impiety, dubiety, untidily, designedly, resignedly, advisedly, disguisedly, derisively, decisively, invitingly, surprisingly, obligingly, \* suicidally, adjectivally, justifiably, undeniably, indefinably, single-mindedly, interlibrary, supervisory, insobriety, impropriety, inebriety, contrariety, notoriety, etc.

**A person of sobriety**

**Who cherishes propriety**

**Feels conscious of satiety**

**When in a clown's society.**

CLARENCE DAY

**22.41** Highlander, islander, Icelander, Viola, libeller, Iowa, isomer, frightener, tightener, whitener, silencer, licenser, Heidegger, dieter, rioter, \* proprietor, variola, \* Bandaranaike

**22.42** tidier, flightier, mightier, feistier, wilier, shinier, tinier, icier, spicier, \* untidier, \* forsythia, etc.

**22.43** buyable, dyeable, flyable, friable, pliable, liable, triable, viable, bribable, likable, ridable, findable, rightable, writable, drivable, climbable, finable, sliceable, sizable, Lionel, psychical, cyclical, bicycle, icicle, tricycle, \* reliable, deniable, describable, unridable, unwritable, indictable, excitable, undrivable, recyclable, unclimbable, definable, reclinable, advisable, realizable, maniacal, zodiacal, varietal, societal, \* classifiable, rectifiable, verifiable, specifiable, certifiable, quantifiable, qualifiable, notifiable, justifiable, unreliable, undeniable, indescribable, extraditable, reconcilable, indecipherable, indefinable, magnetizable, memorizable, recognizable, hypnotizable, inadvisable, ammoniacal, demoniacal, \* unclassifiable, identifiable, unverifiable, unquantifiable, unjustifiable, irreconcilable, unrecognizable, paradisiacal, \* unidentifiable

**22.44** quieten, Iowan, Chinaman, Heinemann, rifleman, glycogen, hydrogen, nitrogen, highwayman, Heineken®, Irishman, \* Goliathan, leviathan

**22.45** Stuyvesant, \* entitlement, enlightenment, environment

**22.46** riotous, libellous, riderless, driverless, quietness, idleness, childlessness, righteousness, tidiness, flightiness, kindness, sprightliness, liveliness, childishness, \* proprietress, short-sightedness, self-righteousness, untidiness, \* absent-mindedness, etc.

**22.47** scientist, finalist, Zionist, nihilist, \* revivalist, psychiatrist, \* semifinalist

**22.48** tidiest, flightiest, mightiest, feistiest, wiliest, shiniest, tiniest, iciest, spiciest, \* untidiest, etc.

**22.49** inviolable, decipherable, \* indecipherable

*The rhymes in this section have the 'o' sound of toss and copper as their main or final vowel sound.*

**23.1** bob, Bob, blob, cob, dob, fob, glob, gob, hob, job, knob, lob, mob, nob, rob, Rob, slob, snob, sob, squab, swab, throb, yob, \* McJob, demob, \* heartthrob, hobnob, corncob, doorknob, \* rent-a-mob, \* thingumabob, corn on the cob

**I could not dig: I dared not rob:  
Therefore I lied to please the mob.**  
RUDYARD KIPLING

**23.2** Bob's, blobs, Hobbes, Hobbs, knobs, mobs, nob, snobs, yobs, etc.

**23.3** bloc, Bloch, block, bock, brock, choc, chock, clock, cock, croc, crock, doc, dock, flock, frock, hock, jock, Jock, knock, loch, lock, Locke, lough, mock, pock, roc, rock, schlock, shock, smock, sock, Spock, stock, wok, \* unlock, unblock, o'clock, baroque, unfrock, amok, Bangkok, ad hoc, half-cock, *en bloc*, Médoc, defrock, restock, post hoc, \* Hancock, spatchcock, daglock, padlock, Matlock, Havelock, shamrock, matchlock, charlock, Bartók, airlock, kapok, haycock, gamecock, gemsbok, Belloc, deadlock, headlock, wedlock, fetlock, elflock, hemlock, bedrock, bed sock, shell shock, burdock, Murdoch, Sherlock, Reebok®, rhebok, epoch, Leacock, peacock, seacock, breeze block, pibroch, Enoch, springbok, Springbok, Hitchcock, ticktock, whipstock, drillstock, picklock, gridlock, flintlock, wristlock, windsock, livestock, Shylock, stopcock, Quantock, Bostock, Rostock, Vostok, Alcock, ball cock, Baldock, forelock, oarlock, Porlock, warlock, Warnock, moorcock, moloch, Moloch, roadblock, sun block,

gunlock, bloodstock, gunstock, woodcock, Woodstock, rootstock, Prufrock, \* alpenstock, Abersoch, Antioch, manioc, Tavistock, carriage clock, antiknock, Ragnarök, aftershock, laughing stock, weathercock, *belle époque*, speaking clock, interlock, monocoque, chock-a-block, poppycock, hollyhock, overstock, postman's knock, shuttlecock, double-lock, culture shock, stumbling block, \* Vladivostok

**Your Chablis is acid, away with the Hock,  
Give me the pure juice of the purple Médoc.**

ARTHUR HUGH CLOUGH

**23.4** Bloch, Koch, loch, lough, och, \* Van Gogh, \* pibroch

**23.5** blocks, box, chocs, clocks, cox, Cox, docks, flocks, fox, Fox, Jock's, knocks, Knox, locks, lox, MOX, Nox, ox, phlox, pox, rocks, socks, stocks, vox, \* Fort Knox, outfox, \* bandbox, sandbox, hatbox, cashbox, matchbox, mailbox, paintbox, brainbox, Radox®, dreadlocks, bed socks, gearbox, Xerox®, detox, Reeboks®, squeezebox, peacocks, breeze blocks, pillbox, Springboks, Wilcox, Simcox, firebox, icebox, Ibrox, strongbox, saltbox, Quantocks, horsebox, smallpox, oarlocks, aurochs, soapbox, postbox, Botox®, soundbox, cowpox, tuck box, snuffbox, lunchbox, shoebox, jukebox, toolbox, loosebox, boondocks, \* chatterbox, paradox, equinox, tinderbox, pillar box, chickenpox, building blocks, gogglebox, on the rocks, orthodox, Orthodox, Goldilocks, thunderbox, moneybox, \* nonorthodox, unorthodox, \* jack-in-the-box, heterodox, school of hard knocks, etc.

**23.6** blocked, cocked, docked, knocked, locked, mocked, rocked, shocked, stocked, \* concoct, unlocked, unblocked, unfrocked, half-cocked, defrocked, restocked, decoct, \* padlocked, landlocked, deadlocked, dreadlocked, shell-shocked, gridlocked, etc.

**23.7** blotch, botch, crotch, notch, scotch, Scotch, splotch, swatch, watch, \* top-notch, \* deathwatch, wristwatch, hotchpotch, hopscotch, stopwatch, dogwatch, doomwatch, \* butterscotch

**I am a sundial, and I make a botch  
Of what is done much better by a watch.**

## HILAIRE BELLQC

**23.8** bod, clod, cod, god, Dodd, God, hod, mod, nod, odd, plod, pod, prod, quad, quod, rod, Rod, shod, sod, squad, tod, Todd, trod, wad, \* ramrod, Nimrod, slipshod, bipod, iPod®, tripod, tightwad, odd bod, hot rod, godsquad, sun god, roughshod, pushrod, \* gastropod, cattle prod, arthropod, decapod, tetrapod, hexapod, Hesiod, demigod, Sweeney Todd, Ichabod, flying squad, octopod, monopod, Ormerod, goldenrod, \* cephalopod

**23.9** cough, doff, Gough, off, prof, quaff, scoff, toff, trough, \* Van Gogh, well-off, browned-off, \* Cracow, standoff, Markov, blastoff, castoff, Karloff, payoff, play-off, takeoff, Chekhov, Geldof, sendoff, rip-off, kickoff, liftoff, spin-off, show-off, cutoff, Khrushchev, \* Nabokov, Sakharov, Asimov, Glazunov, tellingoff, whooping cough, Molotov, stroganoff, Godunov, Gorbachov, Romanov, Ustinov, \* Kalashnikov, Rachmaninoff, \* Poliakov, Baader-Meinhof, \* Rimsky-Korsakov

**23.10** coughed, croft, doffed, loft, oft, quaffed, scoffed, soft, waft, \* aloft, \* Bancroft, Ashcroft, hayloft, cockloft, Cockcroft, Moorcroft, \* Microsoft®, Lowestoft

**23.11** blog, bog, clog, cog, dog, flog, fog, frog, glogg, Gog, grog, hog, Hogg, jog, log, nog, prog, quag, slog, smog, snog, sprog, tog, trog, wog, Zog, \* agog, unclog, befog, \* lapdog, hangdog, backlog, quahog, Magog, hedgehog, Kellogg, weblog, eclogue, eggnog, Herzog, seadog, sheepdog, leapfrog, phizog, firedog, hot dog, watchdog, warthog, groundhog, road hog, prologue, gundog, bulldog, footslog, bullfrog, gooselog, \* apologue, Tagalog, catalogue, travelogue, analogue, antilog, pedagogue, demagogue, Decalogue, pettifog, epilogue, synagogue, dialogue, homologue, monologue, golliwog, polliwog, underdog, duologue, \* Ffestiniog, \* Phileas Fogg, ideologue

**23.12** clogged, flogged, fogged, hogged, jogged, logged, snogged, \* unclogged, befogged, waterlogged, etc.

**23.13** Bloggs, cogs, dogs, frogs, logs, togs, \* hedgehogs, Kellogg's, etc.

**23.14** bodge, dodge, Hodge, lodge, Lodge, podge, splodge, stodge, wodge,  
\* dislodge, \* hodgepodge

**23.15** col, doll, loll, moll, Moll, Scholl, skol, sol, Sol, troll, \* Algol, atoll,  
Castrol®, AWOL, Dettol®, menthol, VTOL, obol, podzol, COBOL, Gogol,  
googol, \* Panadol®, alcohol, parasol, barcarole, aerosol, ethanol, methanol,  
Interpol, glycerol, Ingersoll, Limassol, vitriol, falderol, protocol,  
Cuprinol®, \* Sebastopol, cholesterol, \* Costa del Sol, \* paracetamol

**23.16** golf, Rolf, \* Adolf, Randolph, Botolph, Rudolph

**23.17** false, waltz

**23.18** fault, Galt, halt, malt, salt, SALT, vault, Walt, \* assault, default, exalt,  
\* Hainault, basalt, cobalt, pole vault, \* somersault

**23.19** salts, schmaltz, vaults, etc.

**23.20** solve, \* absolve, devolve, evolve, revolve, involve, dissolve, resolve

**23.21** solved, \* unsolved, absolved, devolved, evolved, revolved, involved,  
dissolved, resolved, \* uninvolved, undissolved, unresolved

**23.22** dolls, hols, Moll's, trolls, \* atolls, obols, consols, etc.

**23.23** bomb, dom, from, mom, pom, prom, rhomb, ROM, Somme, tom,  
Tom, \* aplomb, shalom, therefrom, wherefrom, \* maelstrom, stink bomb,  
sitcom, firebomb, pompom, condom, tom-tom, coulomb, Coulomb, \* atom  
bomb, CARICOM, telecom, CD-ROM, Peeping Tom, intercom, minicom,  
diatom, Uncle Tom

**23.24** chomp, clomp, comp, pomp, romp, stomp, swamp, yomp

**23.25** chomped, clomped, prompt, romped, stomped, swamped, yomped

**23.26** Omsk, Tomsk

**Diddle diddle dumpling, my son John,**

## **Went to bed with his trousers on.**

### NURSERY RHYME

**23.27** Bonn, con, don, Don, gone, Hon., john, John, on, phon, Ron, scone, shone, swan, Swann, wan, yon, \* Gabon, upon, Perón, Sharon, anon, hands-on, head-on, thereon, whereon, cretonne, hereon, Dion, Dionne, begone, Yvonne, Ceylon, Saigon, spot-on, won ton, odds-on, Sorbonne, foregone, outshone, Luzon, \* crampon, tampon, baton, Anton, canton, Canton, Danton, salon, Fablon®, Savlon®, Dacron®, macron, axon, taxon, argon, Sargon, air-con, crayon, kaon, rayon, radon, Avon, Dralon®, Teflon®, Revlon, bouillon, eon, Leon, neon, prion, piton, chignon, xenon, Nippon, Nikon, stick-on, krypton, chiffon, ion, icon, bygone, triton, nylon, pylon, Heilbronn, micron, bonbon, doggone, Oxon., walk-on, boron, moron, fleuron, Huron, neuron, zoon, photon, proton, colon, roll-on, gnomon, boson, coupon, Yukon, crouton, futon, neutron, Tucson, *soupçon*, \* decathlon, heptathlon, pentathlon, biathlon, triathlon, Cro-Magnon, liaison, electron, courtbouillon, \* mastodon, Avalon, Al-Anon, Algernon, hanger-on, cabochon, Papillon, baryon, carry-on, Macedon, antiphon, Babylon, magnetron, Parthenon, Barbizon, thereupon, whereupon, aileron, decagon, heptagon, pentagon, Pentagon, hexagon, echelon, Lebanon, Elton John, Benetton, telethon, epsilon, etymon, demijohn, Percheron, fermion, Myrmidon, hereupon, Simenon, sit-upon, synchrotron, cyclotron, dynatron, octagon, nonagon, Mogadon®, colophon, Comecon, polygon, positron, Audubon, Bourguignonne, Oberon, woebegone, goings-on, undergone, nucleon, Rubicon, \* iguanodon, dodecagon, Bellerophon, encephalon, automaton, Laocoon, emoticon, \* Agamemnon, interferon, filet mignon, oxymoron, protozoon, antiproton, semicolon, antineutron, \* sine qua non, \* spermatozoon

**23.28** bonk, clonk, conch, conk, gonk, honk, plonk, zonk, \* honky-tonk

**23.29** bonks, Bronx, gonks, honks, yonks, etc.

**23.30** blond, blonde, bond, Bond, conned, donned, fond, frond, Fronde, pond, sonde, wand, \* abscond, James Bond, despond, respond, second,

Gironde, beyond, beau monde, \* keeshond, millpond, \* vagabond, demimonde, Trebizond, correspond, overfond, Eurobond

**23.31** bong, Caen, dong, gong, long, pong, prong, song, strong, thong, throng, Wong, wrong, \* along, prolong, sarong, mah jong, erelong, chaise longue, Vietcong, Mekong, qigong, King Kong, belong, Geelong, Hong Kong, foo yong, \* Armstrong, daylong, plainsong, headlong, restaurant, headstrong, furlong, birdsong, yearlong, Ping-Pong®, dingdong, biltong, diphthong, livelong, singsong, sidelong, nightlong, lifelong, oblong, swan song, hourlong, folk song, dugong, bouffant, oolong, \* aide-de-camp, cradlesong, restaurant, evensong, billabong, Chittagong, sing-along, wobbeong, *bon vivant*, vol-au-vent, overlong, Wollongong, Goolagong, \* Lapsang Souchong

**Be the day weary or be the day long,  
At last it ringeth to evensong.**

SAYING

**23.32** gongs, longs, prongs, songs, throngs, tongs, wrongs, etc.

**23.33** bonce, nonce, ponce, sponce, fonts, wants, \* response, ensconce

**23.34** font, Quant, want, \* Lamont, Vermont, Dupont, \* Chalfont, Egmont, Belmont, restaurant, Piedmont, Stormont, Beaumont, \* restaurant, Hellespont, symbiont

**23.35** bronze, dons, Don's, Johns, John's, pons, Ron's, scones, swans, \* St John's, Yvonne's, mod cons, \* crayons, icons, croutons, goujons, etc.

**23.36** bop, chop, clop, cop, crop, drop, flop, fop, hop, kop, lop, mop, op, plop, pop, prop, shop, slop, sop, stop, strop, swap, top, wop, \* the Kop, atop, unstop, vox pop, nonstop, \* laptop, tank top, backstop, backdrop, hard top, palmtop, sharecrop, airdrop, raindrop, desktop, bellhop, hedgehop, sweatshop, worktop, Worksop, workshop, teardrop, treetop, eavesdrop, Aesop, sweetsop, teashop, sweetshop, Britpop, tiptop, clifftop, hilltop, hip-hop, clip-clop, flip-flop, Hislop, Winthrop, milksop, soft top, doorstop, Allsop, pawnshop, outcrop, soursop, coin-op, toyshop, Co-op, stonecrop,

snowdrop, rollmop, Dunlop, gumdrop, tuck shop, junk shop, bookshop, screw top, rooftop, dewdrop, \* Malaprop, paradrop, drag-and-drop, agitprop, alcopop, barbershop, escalope, megaflop, belly flop, Blenkinsop, turboprop, Ethiop, gigaflop, intercrop, Ribbentrop, whistle-stop, window-shop, lollipop, mountaintop, overtop, \* over the top

**Don't you wish you'd go on forever and you'd never stop?**

**In that shiny little surrey with the fringe on the top.**

RICHARD RODGERS

**23.37** chops, cops, copse, crops, drops, hops, ops, props, shops, stops, tops, \* raindrops, worktops, eardrops, teardrops, treetops, flip-flops, Cyclops, eyedrops, snowdrops, rooftops, \* Keystone Kops, lollipops, muttonchops, Woodentops, \* triceratops, etc.

**23.38** chopped, Copt, cropped, dropped, flopped, hopped, mopped, popped, opt, stopped, swapped, topped, \* adopt, unstopped, uncropped, co-opt, close-cropped, etc.

**23.39** boss, Bros, cos, cross, crosse, DOS, doss, dross, floss, Gosse, gloss, goss, Jos, joss, Kos, loss, moss, Moss, os, Ross, toss, \* across, lacrosse, uncross, recross, emboss, Kinross, \* Athos, Patmos, Naxos, Marcos, Argos, Carlos, Lagos, bathos, pathos, weight loss, Amos, Samos, chaos, Lesbos, Eros, reredos, Chios, Eos, EPOS, ethos, Delos, Melos, crisscross, tripos, mythos, cosmos, Knossos, Phobos, Cronos, kudos, bugloss, \* Dos Passos, Niarchos, Barbados, extradados, intrados, Domestos®, asbestos, \* Calvados, Thanatos, albatross, adios, candyfloss, rallycross, dental floss, MS-DOS®, Míkonos, autocross, motocross, double-cross, \* Los Alamos, Makarios, \* Ballesteros, Villa-Lobos, \* Torremolinos

**23.40** bosk, mosque, \* kiosk

**23.41** bossed, cost, crossed, dossed, flossed, frost, Frost, glossed, lost, Prost, tossed, wast, \* accost, uncrossed, Jack Frost, recrossed, defrost, embossed, riposte, \* *glasnost*, star-crossed, compost, provost, storm-tossed, hoarfrost, \* Van der Post, Pentecost, teleost, permafrost, double-crossed

**23.42** Boche, Bosch, bosh, cloche, cosh, dosh, gosh, josh, nosh, posh, quash, Roche, slosh, splosh, squash, swash, tosh, wash, Wash, \* awash, prewash, brioche, \* backwash, car wash, brainwash, prewash, kibosh, eyewash, whitewash, hogwash, mouthwash, musquash, Pugwash, \* Mackintosh, mackintosh, colourwash

**23.43** coshed, doshed, joshed, noshed, quashed, sloshed, squashed, washed, \* unwashed, prewashed, \* brainwashed, whitewashed, stonewashed

**23.44** blot, bot, clot, cot, dot, Dot, got, grot, hot, jot, knot, lot, Lot, mot, not, motte, plot, pot, rot, Scot, Scott, shot, slot, snot, sot, spot, squat, swat, swot, tot, trot, twat, Wat, watt, Watt, what, wot, yacht, \* cocotte, forgot, gavotte, allot, shallot, garrotte, red-hot, repot, begot, Pol Pot, \* crackpot, jackpot, black spot, mascot, backlot, sandlot, cannot, have-not, snapshot, Bagshot, wainscot, grapeshot, mailshot, space shot, despot, sexpot, earshot, teapot, tinpot, Phillipott, Didcot, inkblot, Wilmot, slipknot, slingshot, nightspot, eyeshot, stockpot, hotpot, tosspot, hot spot, Oflot, godslot, dogtrot, jog trot, foxtrot, Ofwat, topknot, whatnot, hotshot, pot shot, Alcott, flowerpot, boycott, Boycott, robot, bowshot, fusspot, sunspot, dovecot, subplot, kumquat, somewhat, upshot, buckshot, mug shot, bloodshot, gunshot, woodlot, moonshot, \* Camelot, cachalot, Paraquat®, carrycot, aliquot, sans-culotte, Lancelot, parking lot, parting shot, chamber pot, apricot, pepper pot, megawatt, melting pot, Bernadotte, Winalot®, bergamot, kilowatt, chimneypot, misbegot, diddly-squat, guillemot, Wyandotte, microdot, lobster pot, on the spot, polka dot, Hottentot, monoglot, coffeepot, ocelot, polyglot, tommyrot, Aldershot, Turandot, counterplot, go to pot, overshoot, trouble spot, undershot, honeypot, you-know-what, \* forget-me-not

**Ere Time and Place were, Time and Place were not,  
When primitive Nothing Something straight begot,  
Then all proceeded from the great united – What?  
JOHN WILMOT, EARL OF ROCHESTER**

**23.45** blots, clots, dots, Dot's, hots, knots, lots, Notts, pots, plots, Potts, Scots, spots, trots, Watts, \* shallots, the trots, culottes, \* crackpots, mascots,

snapshots, sexpots, fleshpots, teapots, robots, \* chimneypots, call the shots, \* forget-me-nots, etc.

**23.46** broth, cloth, froth, Goth, moth, Roth, swath, troth, wrath, wroth, \* backcloth, sackcloth, haircloth, J-cloth®, sailcloth, facecloth, cerecloth, cheesecloth, dishcloth, washcloth, floorcloth, broadcloth, hawk moth, oilcloth, loincloth, \* behemoth, \* tablecloth, Visigoth, tiger moth, Ostrogoth

**23.47** of, \* thereof, whereof, \* Cracow, Pavlov, Chekhov, Kirov, \* unheard-of, undreamt-of, \* Asimov, Ustinov

**23.48** Boz, cos, Oz, Ros, 'twas, was, \* because, \* tiz-woz

**24.1** bobby, Bobby, Gobbi, gobby, hobby, knobby, lobby, Robbie, snobby, Colby, Dolby®, combi, Dombey, zombie, Crosby, choppy, copy, floppy, kopje, poppy, sloppy, sippy, stropic, Pompey, swampy, \* jalopy, \* Mr Blobby, Abercrombie, photocopy

**24.2** choccy, cocky, gnocchi, hockey, jockey, rocky, Rocky, stocky, bronchi, donkey, wonky, Trotsky, Chomsky, boggy, doggy, foggy, groggy, moggy, quaggy, soggy, \* outjockey, Stokowski, Tchaikovsky, \* disc jockey, \* jabberwocky, pedagogy, demagogu

**24.3** body, cloddy, Noddy, Oddie, Roddy, shoddy, squaddie, toddy, wadi, Aldi, Caldly, Blondie, spondee, dotty, grotty, knotty, Lottie, potty, Scottie, snotty, spotty, swotty, totty, yachtie, zloty, lofty, softie, balti, faulty, malty, salty, Solti, Brontë, Conteh, Monte, Monty, frosty, \* Kirkcaldy, embody, Grimaldi, Menotti, Del Monte, full monty, \* Peabody, dogsbody, homebody, \* antibody, anybody, everybody, Irrawaddy, busybody, disembody, underbody, Pavarotti, Lanzarote, Megawati, Belafonte

**24.4** coffee, toffee, bothy, frothy, mothy, \* banoffee

**24.5** Bolly, broolly, Colley, collie, dolly, Dolly, folly, golly, Holi, holly, Holly, jolly, lolly, Molly, Ollie, Polly, poly, Solly, Tolley, trolley, volley, wally, Wally, Whalley, wolly, knobbly, wobbly, Bodley, godly, oddly, fondly, hotly, motley, Otley, promptly, softly, costly, Bromley, Swanley,

wanly, strongly, wrongly, crossly, Locksley, falsely, corrie, Corrie, Florrie, Laurie, lorry, MORI, quarry, Snorri, sorry, Daltrey, paltry, palfrey, Godfrey, Conwy, \* ungodly, Macquarie, Pitlochry, \* Barbirolli, melancholy, *fait accompli*, softly-softly, Buddy Holly, etc.

**Sweet bird that shunn'st the noise of folly,  
Most musical, most melancholy!**

JOHN MILTON

**24.6** commie, commis, mommy, pommy, Tommy, bonny, Bonny, Connie, Donny, Johnny, Lonnie, Ronnie, Swanee, cockney, Hockney, Rodney, Watney, Romney, pongy, \* bomb me, etc.

**24.7** bossy, Flossie, flossy, glossy, mossy, posse, Rossi, dropsy, popsy, Topsy, boxy, doxy, foxy, poxy, proxy, Roxy, schmaltzy, Rothesay, poncy, Aussie, cossie, mossie, Ozzy, was he, palsy, Romsey, Swansea, sloshy, squashy, washy, bolshie, blotchy, botchy, notchy, splotchy, conchie, dodgy, podgy, stodgy, splodgy, \* biopsy, epoxy, \* autopsy, \* orthodoxy, Pestalozzi, wishy-washy, pedagogy, demagogy, \* heterodoxy

**24.8** clobber, cobber, jobber, robber, slobber, swabber, ombre, sombre, bopper, chopper, copper, cropper, dropper, hopper, Hopper, Joppa, poppa, popper, Popper, proper, shopper, stopper, swapper, topper, whopper, comper, romper, stomper, RoSPA, prosper, \* improper, \* stockjobber, grasshopper, sharecropper, name-dropper, wife-swapper, gobstopper, froghopper, clodhopper, show stopper, \* teenybopper, window-shopper, \* rob her, swap her, etc.

**Pull out the stopper;  
Let's have a whopper;  
But get me to the church on time!**

ALAN JAY LERNER

**24.9** blocker, chocker, cocker, Cocker, Fokker, docker, knocker, locker, mocha, mocker, ocker, quokka, rocker, shocker, soccer, stocker, vodka, polka, conker, conquer, honker, plonker, stonker, Oscar, Tosca, Dogger, flogger, hogger, jogger, logger, slogger, brolga, Olga, Volga, conga, conger,

donga, longer, stronger, Tonga, \* Rioja, \* doorknocker, \* saltimbocca, beta-blocker, Willy Wonka, cataloguer, pettifogger, Wagga Wagga, Alba Longa, Rarotonga, \* mock her, shock her, etc.

**24.10** dodder, fodder, Hodder, plodder, prodder, alder, Balder, Calder, solder, blonder, Fonda, fonder, Honda, ponder, Rhondda, squander, Wanda, wander, yonder, blotter, cotter, gotta, hotter, jotter, knotter, lotta, otter, plotter, potter, Potter, rotter, spotter, squatter, swatter, swotter, totter, trotter, 'copter, prompter, doctor, proctor, crofter, softer, altar, alter, falter, halter, Malta, palter, Psalter, salter, vaulter, Volta, Walter, Costa, foster, Foster, Gloucester, hosta, roster, lobster, mobster, monster, songster, \* Isolde, Deronda, transponder, pelota, ricotta, adopter, dioptré, assaulter, Gibraltar, defaulter, Minolta, defroster, impostor, \* plane spotter, train spotter, fly swatter, bogtrotter, globetrotter, witch doctor, pole-vaulter, \* anaconda, *La Gioconda*, terracotta, helicopter, Teleprompter®, paternoster, herpes zoster, \* shot her, lost her, etc.

### **Doctor Foster went to Gloucester.**

#### NURSERY RHYME

**24.11** coffer, cougher, Offa, offer, proffer, quaffer, scoffer, golfer, phosphor, bovver, hover, solver, bother, pother, Rhondda, \* absolver, resolver, revolver, \* windhover, \* counteroffer, Hiawatha, \* off her, involve her, etc.

**24.12** cholera, collar, dollar, holler, loller, scholar, squalor, wallah, Waller, cobbler, gobbler, hobbler, nobbler, squabbler, wobbler, Doppler, poplar, toddler, waddler, bottler, ostler, horror, cobra, copra, opera, okra, contra, rostra, Lockyer, Sonia, \* corolla, Gomorrah, begorra, Bologna, \* white-collar, blue-collar, \* ayatollah, eurodollar, *amour-propre*, Cosa Nostra, etc.

**24.13** bomber, comma, mamma, dogma, dolma, Bonar, Bonner, Connor, doner, Donna, goner, gonna, honour, wanna, Bognor, Costner, \* Madonna, dishonour, O'Connor, \* Maradona, belladonna, prima donna, \* from her, con her, etc.

**24.14** crosser, dossier, fossa, Ossa, Prosser, tosser, boxer, Boxer, balsa, falser, waltzer, sponsor, rozzer, bonzer, Monza, cosher, posher, quassia,

washer, Shropshire, tonsure, botcher, gotcha, watcher, wotcher, posture, bodger, codger, dodger, lodger, loggia, roger, Roger, todger, \* imposture, \* kick-boxer, dishwasher, bird-watcher, \* Saragossa, Barbarossa, bobbysoxer, bottle-washer, \* fox her, watch her, etc.

**24.15** pollack, Pollock, rowlock, monarch

**24.16** topic, tropic, dropkick, Roddick, Coptic, optic, Bostik®, Gnostic, knobstick, chopstick, \* Canopic, atopic, ectopic, myopic, parodic, anodic, cathodic, spasmodic, rhapsodic, psalmodic, melodic, threnodic, prosodic, aquatic, narcotic, chaotic, nepotic, despotic, sclerotic, erotic, necrotic, demotic, hypnotic, exotic, quixotic, biotic, psychotic, thrombotic, osmotic, robotic, neurotic, synoptic, orthoptic, acrostic, agnostic, prognostic, \* macroscopic, endoscopic, spectroscopic, stethoscopic, presbyopic, telescopic, periscopic, Ethiopic, thixotropic, philanthropic, misanthropic, gyroscopic, microscopic, isotopic, psychotropic, lycanthropic, horoscopic, stroboscopic, episodic, periodic, amniotic, asymptotic, patriotic, semiotic, idiotic, diagnostic, orthodontic, probiotic, posthypnotic, subaquatic, \* stereoscopic, antispasmodic, antibiotic, antipsychotic, macrobiotic, homoerotic, autoerotic, autohypnotic, unpatriotic, \* kaleidoscopic

**24.17** strophic, trophic, Gothic, \* atrophic, dystrophic, eutrophic, \* apostrophic, catastrophic, philosophic, Ostrogothic, Visigothic

**24.18** colic, folic, frolic, rollick, choric, Doric, Warwick, Yorick, con trick, \* shambolic, carbolic, embolic, symbolic, systolic, hydraulic, bucolic, amphoric, camphoric, caloric, historic, dysphoric, pyloric, phosphoric, euphoric, dioptric, \* catabolic, parabolic, anabolic, apostolic, alcoholic, metabolic, melancholic, workaholic, vitriolic, diabolic, hyperbolic, diastolic, shopaholic, chocoholic, cataphoric, anaphoric, categoric, allegoric, paregoric, metaphoric, semaphoric, meteoric, prehistoric, hydrochloric, unhistoric, \* nonalcoholic, phantasmagoric

**Yes it's ironic –**

**I used to think all poets were Byronic.**

**They're mostly as wicked as a ginless tonic.**

## WENDY COPE

**24.19** comic, cosmic, chronic, clonic, conic, phonic, sonic, tonic, \* atomic, syndromic, Draconic, laconic, agonic, Platonic, subtonic, sulphonic, Slavonic, colonic, moronic, ammonic, canonic, masonic, subsonic, planktonic, carbonic, sardonic, harmonic, tectonic, sermonic, Miltonic, symphonic, synchronic, demonic, mnemonic, bionic, ionic, Ionic, iconic, cyclonic, Byronic, ironic, Brythonic, pythonic, ozonic, bubonic, Teutonic, euphonic, pneumonic, Dubrovnik, \* anatomic, agronomic, astronomic, gastronomic, taxonomic, macrocosmic, tragicomic, palindromic, economic, metronomic, ergonomic, microcosmic, autonomic, subatomic, catatonic, gramophonic, saxophonic, macaronic, Panasonic, halcyonic, pandemonic, avionic, pentatonic, megaphonic, embryonic, telephonic, electronic, thermionic, Freemasonic, Philharmonic, infrasonic, histrionic, diatonic, myotonic, isotonic, xylophonic, microphonic, hypersonic, monotonic, quadraphonic, homophonic, polyphonic, ultrasonic, supertonic, supersonic, \* seriocomic, physiognomic, uneconomic, radiophonic, stereophonic, animatronic, architectonic, anticyclonic, \* electrophonic, chameleonic, Napoleonic, \* socioeconomic

**24.20** fossick, coccic, toxic, logic, \* nontoxic, illogic, \* virtuosic, \* pathologic, astrologic, analogic, pedagogic, demagogic, ethnologic, geologic, hypnagogic, mythologic, philologic, hydrologic, horologic, chronologic, tautologic, \* archaeologic, radiologic, embryologic, etymologic, immunologic, gynaecologic, climatologic

**24.21** bollocks, Pollux, rowlocks, monarchs, Trossachs

**24.22** tropics, optics, chopsticks, frolics, oryx, comics, onyx, phonics, coccyx, \* aquatics, narcotics, exotics, robotics, neurotics, orthoptics, agnostics, hydraulics, sardonix, harmonics, tectonics, mnemonics, bionics, cryonics, \* semiotics, orthodontics, diagnostics, alcoholics, workaholics, shopaholics, chocoholics, agronomics, economics, ergonomics, hydroponics, quadraphonics, ultrasonics, supersonics, avionics, thermionics, histrionics, electronics, \* macrobiotics, antibiotics,

animatronics, architectonics, \* macroeconomics, microeconomics, microelectronics, etc.

**24.23** lobbied, copied, dogged, Ovid, solid, squalid, stolid, florid, forehead, horrid, quarried, torrid, palsied, \* embodied, carotid, \* photocopied, able-bodied, disembodied, semisolid, etc.

**There was a little girl  
Who had a little curl  
Right in the middle of her forehead,  
When she was good  
She was very, very good  
But when she was bad she was horrid.**  
HENRY WADSWORTH LONGFELLOW

**24.24** clobbered, slobbered, prospered, conquered, Goddard, nodded, plodded, Stoddard, bonded, pondered, squandered, wandered, blotted, dotted, knotted, potted, potted, rotted, spotted, opted, prompted, doctored, altered, faltered, halted, malted, salted, wanted, fostered, frosted, offered, Crockford, Rockford, Watford, Salford, Walford, Longford, Oxford, bothered, bollard, collared, hollered, Lollard, pollard, onward, honoured, \* unconquered, responded, unspotted, allotted, St Gotthard, besotted, adopted, unprompted, unaltered, assaulted, unsalted, exalted, unwanted, accosted, defrosted, \* time-honoured, \* unadopted, etc.

**24.25** bollards, Lollards, onwards, etc.

**24.26** stoppage, blockage, dockage, lockage, socage, bondage, cottage, pottage, wattage, Wantage, hostage, college, knowledge, borage, forage, Norwich, porridge, Stockbridge, Oxbridge, Longbridge, Bromwich, homage, Swanage, sausage, \* acknowledge, self-knowledge, West Bromwich, \* vagabondage, telecottage

**I am Master of this college:  
What I don't know isn't knowledge.**  
H. C. BEECHING

**24.27** bobble, cobble, gobble, hobble, nobble, squabble, wobble, topple, gospel, cockle, grockle, boggle, goggle, joggle, toggle, woggle, dongle, Mongol, coddle, doddle, Hoddle, model, noddle, swaddle, toddle, twaddle, waddle, fondle, bottle, Cottle, glottal, mottle, throttle, wattle, costal, hostel, offal, waffle, wrongful, watchful, grovel, hovel, novel, brothel, coral, laurel, Laurel, moral, Orrell, quarrel, sorrel, Worrall, cockerel, jonquil, doggerel, mongrel, Cottrell, dotterel, rostral, Bovril®, Cromwell, pommel, Rommel, Connell, Donnell, fossil, jostle, throstle, wassail, topsail, consul, tonsil, nozzle, schnozzle, \* Chernobyl, diphthongal, remodel, St Austell, Balmoral, amoral, immoral, McConnell, McDonnell, O'Connell, O'Donnell, apostle, colossal, foretopsail, vice-consul, proconsul, shemozzle, \* epochal, corncockle, hornswoggle, bluebottle, \* streptococcal, synagogal, mollycoddle, supermodel, axolotl, Aristotle, epiglottal, horizontal, Pentecostal, antinovel, equinoctial, \* staphylococcal, periodontal

**For I've read in many a novel that, unless they've souls that grovel,  
Folks prefer in fact a hovel to your dreary marble halls.**

C. S. CALVERLEY

**24.28** cobbled, hobbled, nobbled, boggled, coddled, modelled, waddled, bottled, throttled, quarrelled, Oswald, Donald, Ronald, jostled, sozzled, \* remodelled, Macdonald, etc.

**24.29** cobbles, wobbles, cockles, grockles, bottles, wattles, morals, quarrels, fossils, tonsils, \* apostles, \* collywobbles, supermodels, Aristotle's, etc.

**24.30** Cobham, wampum, Ockham, Sodom, Wadham, bottom, quantum, Swaffham, Gotham, Waltham, Colum, column, Gollum, solemn, problem, grogram, pogrom, Mottram, nostrum, rostrum, Bonham, blossom, possum, flotsam, balsam, Frodsham, dodgem, \* rock-bottom, colostrum, opossum, \* Ramsbottom, \* Higginbottom, macrocosm, microcosm, \* knock 'em, got 'em, etc.

**24.31** columns, problems, doldrums, Bonhams, dodgems, etc.

**24.32** bobbin, dobbin, robin, Robin, topspin, bodkin, Hopkin, Hodgkin, noggin, Austen, Austin, Mostyn, boffin, coffin, dolphin, Colin, goblin,

Joplin, poplin, Jocelyn, Corin, florin, foreign, doctrine, sovereign, Blodwen, Godwin, Colwyn, Olwen, Bronwen, tocsin, toxin, rosin, \* round robin, Algonquin, Kropotkin, Godolphin, hobgoblin, dioxin, Wisconsin, \* antitoxin, \* hobblin', boxin', etc.

**24.33** Alban, Balkan, falcon, Tongan, Flodden, modern, sodden, trodden, Cobden, Ogden, Alden, Malden, Longden, cotton, Cotton, gotten, rotten, Wotton, Brompton, Compton, Crompton, Stockton, Crofton, often, Alton, Dalton, Galton, Halton, saltern, Walton, wanton, Boston, postern, Oxton, Johnston, soften, Malvern, pollen, stollen, Lachlan, Coren, Lauren, Moran, sporran, warren, Warren, Cochrane, squadron, cauldron, roentgen, Roentgen, common, stockman, frogman, Hoffman, Hoffmann, Rothman, dolman, Longman, Scotsman, yachtsman, Osman, bondsman, Scotchman, watchman, wrong 'un, Dobson, Hobson, Robson, Thompson, coxswain, oxen, Oxon., Dodson, Hodson, Watson, Thomson, Johnson, Jonson, Ronson, Swanson, Dodgson, Hodgson, option, auction, sojourn, \* Moroccan, gyrfalcon, toboggan, Culloden, untrodden, postmodern, forgotten, begotten, ill-gotten, Carshalton, autochthon, McLachlan, uncommon, Roscommon, adoption, concoction, decoction, \* downtrodden, guncotton, \* ultramodern, Saffron Walden, misbegotten, polycotton, Hohenzollern, Eilean Donan, Hobson-Jobson, readoption

**And time remembered is grief forgotten,  
And frosts are slain and flowers begotten.**  
ALGERNON CHARLES SWINBURNE

**24.34** jocund, softened, Dollond, Holland, dockland, Gotland, Scotland, Osmond, auctioned, etc.

**24.35** Hollands, docklands, Osmonds

**24.36** Balkans, falcons, squadrons, commons, options, \* St Albans, Moroccans, House of Commons, etc.

**24.37** bobbins, robins, Robbins, Hopkins, Watkins, Pontin's, boffins, coffins, Collins, goblins, florins, etc.

**24.38** fondant, constant, solvent, convent, torrent, warrant, quadrant, oddment, lodgment, wasn't, \* despondent, respondent, inconstant, insolvent, abhorrent, remonstrant, secondment, allotment, ballottement, involvement, dislodgment, \* correspondent, co-respondent

**24.39** Constance, solvents, Florence, Laurence, Torrance, torrents, monstrance, conference, oddments, nonsense, conscience, \* abhorrence, St Lawrence, remonstrance, allotments, no-nonsense, \* correspondence, correspondents, guilty conscience, etc.

**24.40** bobbing, robbing, sobbing, throbbing, bopping, chopping, dropping, hopping, mopping, popping, shopping, sopping, swapping, topping, Wapping, whopping, chomping, stomping, blocking, docking, knocking, locking, mocking, rocking, shocking, smocking, stocking, twoccing, bonking, honking, stonking, flogging, hogging, jogging, logging, slogging, snogging, nodding, plodding, prodding, sodding, wadding, bonding, blotting, dotting, jotting, knotting, plotting, potting, rotting, spotting, squatting, swotting, trotting, yachting, opting, prompting, lofting, wafting, halting, malting, salting, vaulting, costing, frosting, coughing, offing, quaffing, scoffing, golfing, solving, frothing, lolling, hobbling, squabbling, toppling, codling, toddling, gosling, offspring, bombing, conning, donning, longing, thronging, crossing, flossing, tossing, boxing, foxing, waltzing, joshing, squashing, washing, botching, watching, bodging, dodging, lodging, \* unlocking, selflocking, defrocking, responding, adopting, concocting, defrosting, evolving, revolving, involving, dissolving, prolonging, belonging, embossing, dislodging, \* hobnobbing, wife-swapping, clodhopping, showstopping, bluestocking, leapfrogging, plane spotting, train spotting, globetrotting, mind-boggling, kick-boxing, brainwashing, bird-watching, \* teleshopping, interlocking, pettifogging, corresponding, cybersquatting, double-crossing, etc.

**In olden days a glimpse of stocking  
Was looked on as something shocking.**  
COLE PORTER

**24.41** collop, dollop, lollop, scallop, trollop, Trollope, wallop, \* codswallop

**24.42** coppice, hospice, bodice, goddess, glottis, solstice, office, novice, Hollis, polis, solace, Wallace, Wallis, Boris, Doris, Horace, Maurice, Morris, Norris, orris, commis, promise, Dolcis, \* Cornwallis, proboscis, synopsis, \* epiglottis, torticollis, deoch-an-doruis

**24.43** rhombus, thrombus, pompous, coccus, locus, bronchus, Aldous, Loftus, Pontus, Qantas, jobless, topless, Toklas, godless, spotless, faultless, coxless, monstrous, songstress, Thomas, oddness, fondness, hotness, Totnes, promptness, softness, Knossos, noxious, conscious, Pontius, \* Duns Scotus, Patroclus, colossus, obnoxious, subconscious, unconscious, self-conscious, \* streptococcus, Pocahontas, semiconscious, unselfconscious, \* staphylococcus, \* swamped us, watch us, etc.

**24.44** longest, strongest, blondest, promptest, provost, topmast, crossest, falsest, poshest, etc.

**24.45** coppiced, stockist, modest, sophist, solaced, florist, forest, Forrest, promised, honest, \* immodest, deforest, reforest, dishonest, \* rainforest, \* orthodontist

**24.46** foppish, snobbish, yobbish, blockish, doggish, hoggish, Scottish, hottish, offish, toffish, rockfish, stockfish, dogfish, codfish, polish, donnish, \* standoffish, abolish, demolish, astonish, admonish, \* spit and polish

**24.47** polished, \* abolished, unpolished, demolished, astonished, admonished

**24.48** Robert, nobbut, Talbot, Osbert, boggart, yogurt, Stoddart, Moffatt, Montfort, chocolate, stalwart, concert, \* Port Talbot, de Montfort

**24.49** Cobbett, gobbet, hobbit, obit, moppet, poppet, cockpit, Crockett, docket, locket, pocket, rocket, socket, sprocket, tomtit, profit, prophet, soffit, Colet, Smollett, wallet, goblet, droplet, omelette, floret, godwit, comet, Gromit, grommet, vomit, bonnet, sonnet, cosset, posset, whatsit, Consett, closet, posit, crotchet, \* Mahomet, deposit, \* pickpocket, skyrocket, sunbonnet, \* retrorocket, \* drop it, knock it, etc.

**All these are vile. But viler Wordsworth's sonnet  
On Dover. Dover! Who could write upon it?**

JOHN KEATS

**24.50** Toxteth, Bosworth, Wandsworth, Monmouth, \* Merioneth

**24.51** octave, costive, olive, \* adoptive, Palmolive®, responsive, \* unresponsive

**24.52** Bobby's, hobbies, zombies, copies, poppies, choccies, jockeys, Rockies, donkeys, bodies, squaddies, Frosties, toffees, follies, Molly's, trolleys, lorries, commies, cockneys, Aussies, falsies, \* synopses, etc.

**24.53** robbers, poppers, shoppers, jodhpurs, rompers, knockers, mockers, rockers, bonkers, conkers, Yonkers, joggers, plodders, squatters, trotters, Walters, Foster's, offers, dollars, scholars, horrors, bombers, commas, Connors, honours, bosses, crosses, boxes, foxes, washers, blotches, notches, watches, Hodges, lodgers, Rodgers, Rogers, splodges, \* galoshes, \* wife-swappers, gobstoppers, plane spotters, train spotters, Cockfosters, Weightwatchers®, bird-watchers, \* teenyboppers, knickerbockers, beta-blockers, helicopters, etc.

**24.54** Lockerbie, wallaby, Ponsonby, monarchy, Lombardy, property, Docherty, Fogarty, poverty, Cromarty, novelty, warranty, Dorothy, Mobberley, sombrely, Stromboli, properly, broccoli, Offaly, wrongfully, scholarly, morally, Connolly, Donnelly, probably, horribly, honourably, possibly, moderately, constantly, Bottomley, solemnly, rottenly, commonly, faultlessly, consciously, jobbery, robbery, snobbery, yobbery, Dogberry, Fosbury, coppery, foppery, crockery, mockery, rockery, doddery, quandary, lottery, Ottery, pottery, tottery, psaltery, contrary, colliery, Connery, swannery, glossary, Roddenberry, Conakry, offertory, oratory, Coventry, voluntary, commentary, promontory, Oswestry, monastery, hostelry, falconry, coronary, colloquy, obloquy, sodomy, Ptolemy, Albany, Alderney, botany, cottony, Zoffany, colony, Wallasey, constancy, solvency, \* endoscopy, spectroscopy, microscopy, horoscopy, Andromache, chiropody, topography, photography, stenography, mammography, cartography,

ethnography, geography, discography, cryptography, demography, filmography, biography, typography, holography, orthography, pornography, apostrophe, theosophy, philosophy, allopathy, hydrography, monopoly, Monopoly®, Thermopylae, improperly, duopoly, immorally, anomaly, colossally, improbably, demonstrably, impossibly, responsibly, immoderately, despondently, uncommonly, subconsciously, unconsciously, self-consciously, corollary, Montgomery, derogatory, bardolatry, idolatry, laboratory, exploratory, involuntary, monogamy, phlebotomy, dichotomy, lobotomy, colostomy, agronomy, astronomy, gastronomy, taxonomy, economy, autonomy, mahogany, cosmogony, monotony, cacophony, theophany, quadraphony, homophony, controversy, hypocrisy, democracy, autocracy, bureaucracy, plutocracy, apostasy, despondency, inconstancy, insolvency, \* laparoscopy, hagiography, radiography, lexicography, crystallography, bibliography, iconography, choreography, chromatography, oceanography, naturopathy, osteopathy, homeopathy, horizontally, irresponsibly, demagoguery, pettifoggery, interrogatory, hagiolatry, Mariolatry, demonolatry, tracheotomy, physiognomy, Deuteronomy, stereophony, aristocracy, meritocracy, anthropophagy, \* encephalopathy, \* cinematography, etc.

**There was an old man of Thermopylae,  
Who never did anything properly.**

EDWARD LEAR

24.55 ology, \* apology, pathology, astrology, chronology, phonology, scatology, graphology, anthology, psephology, necrology, technology, ethnology, sexology, geology, theology, ecology, kidology, histology, mythology, philology, phrenology, hymnology, biology, bryology, mycology, psychology, cytology, virology, seismology, oncology, ontology, horology, cosmology, doxology, tautology, morphology, neurology, urology, zoology, ufology, \* anthropology, campanology, pharmacology, archaeology, cardiology, Mariology, radiology, phraseology, escapology, methodology, eschatology, entomology, embryology, etymology, gerontology, dermatology, herpetology, terminology, haematology, demonology, reflexology, aetiology, speleology, semiology, Egyptology, ichthyology, physiology, criminology, immunology, climatology,

Scientology, ideology, gynaecology, ophthalmology, volcanology, toxicology, ornithology, sociology, numerology, musicology, \* bacteriology, epistemology, phenomenology, \* meteorology, dendrochronology, dialectology, nanotechnology, biotechnology, parasitology, endocrinology, microbiology, parapsychology, palaeontology, \* epidemiology, anaesthesiology

**And therefore it chimes with the word's etymology**

**That the sons of Apollo are great on apology.**

OLIVER WENDELL HOLMES

**24.56** gossipy, colicky, holiday, comedy, oddity, quantity, jollity, polity, quality, comity, falsity, crotchety, modesty, honesty, sloppily, stockily, foggily, groggily, bodily, shoddily, frostily, homily, bossily, topically, optically, comically, logically, prodigally, doggedly, solidly, modestly, honestly, shockingly, longingly, snobbishly, dromedary, coquetry, rocketry, solitary, sophistry, forestry, orangery, dominie, hominy, progeny, Odyssey, prophecy, policy, Morrissey, porridgy, prodigy, \* commodity, equality, frivolity, sonority, sorority, majority, priority, minority, authority, ferocity, atrocity, verbosity, precocity, viscosity, velocity, pomposity, monstrosity, porosity, dishonesty, immodesty, toxophily, spasmodically, methodically, chaotically, erotically, hypnotically, symbolically, hydraulically, rhetorically, historically, laconically, sardonically, ironically, illogically, dishonestly, apothecary, chronometry, geometry, optometry, admonitory, premonitory, suppository, depository, repository, expository, synonymy, metonymy, Mnemosyne, misogyny, geodesy, theodicy, \* tragicomedy, inequality, seniority, mediocrity, grandiosity, animosity, generosity, preciousness, reciprocity, virtuosity, sinuosity, curiosity, luminosity, microscopically, periodically, patriotically, idiotically, catastrophically, philosophically, diabolically, categorically, metaphorically, anatomically, astronomically, ergonomically, economically, histrionically, pathologically, technologically, geologically, theologically, ecologically, biologically, psychologically, chronologically, correspondingly, trigonometry, \* inferiority, superiority, impetuosity, voluminosity, \* archaeologically, etymologically, physiologically, ideologically, etc.

**24.57** walloper, onager, colander, Hollander, orator, Golgotha, Coppola, gossamer, modeller, gondola, hosteller, groveller, quarreller, opera, conqueror, dodderer, squanderer, wanderer, cholera, posturer, Ottawa, gossamer, monomer, softener, coroner, commoner, Gloucestershire, Oxfordshire, onager, swastika, frolicker, Honecker, Monica, moniker, Honegger, Florida, provender, monitor, Rossiter, chorister, forester, Forester, Rochester, Potiphar, conifer, Oliver, chronicler, polymer, Modena, foreigner, officer, promiser, polisher, Warwickshire, cottager, forager, Bollinger, porringer, Joshua, Yoruba, globular, lobular, copula, popular, ocular, jocular, modular, nodular, scrofula, consular, \* Cadwallader, idolater, automata, photographer, stenographer, cartographer, geographer, cryptographer, biographer, typographer, pornographer, phylloxera, astronomer, gastronomer, horologer, astrologer, sockdologer, erotica, exotica, majolica, nux vomica, japonica, Salonika, Veronica, harmonica, Andromeda, Hippolyta, barometer, thermometer, chronometer, manometer, clapometer, tachometer, planometer, gasometer, spectrometer, geometer, speedometer, pedometer, kilometre, clinometer, swingometer, pyrometer, mileometer, cyclometer, micrometer, micrometre, hygrometer, hydrometer, odometer, optometer, Comptometer®, photometer, Uttoxeter, compositor, depositor, expositor, Apocrypha, gypsophila, Hiroshima, phenomena, abolisher, demolisher, unpopular, binocular, monocular, \* Hagiographa, hagiographer, radiographer, lexicographer, bibliographer, choreographer, oceanographer, Thessalonica, tacheometer, anemometer, pluviometer, ovipositor, Herzegovina, interlocutor, \* cinematographer, historiographer

**24.58** choppiest, copier, floppier, sloppier, soppier, cockier, rockier, stockier, boggier, foggier, groggier, shoddier, dottier, grottier, pottier, spottier, loftier, saltier, frostier, Ostia, frothier, collier, jollier, volleyer, cochlea, cochlear, costlier, quarrier, sorrier, warrior, Austria, bonnier, Bothnia, Bosnia, dossier, bossier, glossier, squashier, blotchier, dodgier, podgier, stodgier, \* crocospina, anosmia, insomnia, anoxia, hypoxia, \* photocopier, hypochondria, mitochondria, etc.

**24.59** warranted, pocketed, rocketed, profited, forested, vomited, cosseted, closeted, \* unwarranted, deposited, deforested, reforested

24.60 propertied, hominid

24.61 probable, stoppable, lockable, solvable, horrible, operable, comparable, honourable, possible, squashable, washable, watchable, obstacle, coracle, oracle, monocle, cockerel, doggerel, doctoral, postural, coronal, optional, bronchial, topical, tropical, optical, follicle, comical, chronicle, conical, ossicle, dropsical, Popsicle®, logical, prodigal, hospital, optimal, proximal, nominal, soluble, voluble, conjugal, communal, \* improbable, unstoppable, unshockable, unsolvable, resolvable, inoperable, incomparable, demonstrable, dishonourable, impossible, responsible, unwatchable, McGonagall, hebdomadal, postdoctoral, orthogonal, subtropical, methodical, symbolical, rhetorical, historical, canonical, ironical, illogical, apocryphal, abdominal, prenominal, phenomenal, binominal, pronominal, dissoluble, insoluble, \* unresolvable, irresponsible, microscopical, semitropical, periodical, philosophical, theosophical, diabolical, categorical, allegorical, metaphorical, oratorical, anatomical, astronomical, gastronomical, economical, paradoxical, pedagogical, demagogical, scatological, pathological, analogical, astrological, gastrological, technological, ethnological, geological, theological, ecological, histological, mythological, philological, biological, psychological, seismological, topological, homological, cosmological, chronological, oncological, horological, tautological, morphological, zoological, phonological, neurological, urological, \* uneconomical, anthropological, pharmacological, archaeological, phraseological, methodological, entomological, embryological, etymological, dermatological, terminological, aetiological, genealogical, mineralogical, physiological, criminological, immunological, ideological, gynaecological, climatological, ophthalmological, toxicological, nonbiological, ornithological, sociological, numerological, \* bacteriological, \* meteorological, microbiological

**I know the kings of England, and I quote the fights historical,  
From Marathon to Waterloo, in order categorical.**

W. S. GILBERT

24.62 obstacles, follicles, Chronicles, hospitals, \* canonicals, etc.

**24.63** poppadom, Rotherham, Tottenham, bothersome, quarrelsome, modicum, optimum, Nottingham, Altrincham, Walsingham, frolicsome

**24.64** octagon, nonagon, Todmorden, Alderton, Salterton, Gordonstoun, colophon, Donovan, Jonathan, alderman, ottoman, Ottoman, Solomon, Alderson, Donaldson, Robertson, collagen, congressman, Bodleian, Austrian, Bosnian, Ossian, Corrigan, Oregon, oppidan, Honiton, Boddington, Waddington, Donington, Norrington, Warrington, Washington, Coniston, quarryman, Orangeman, Groningen, Morrison, Robinson, Collinson, Tomlinson, orison, oxygen, \* automaton, Algonquian, Colossian, phenomenon, diocesan, \* metropolitan, Neapolitan, cosmopolitan

**24.65** Rosamund, moribund, orotund

**24.66** Jonathan's, Austrians, Bosnians, orisons, \* Colossians, etc.

**24.67** combatant, somnolent, nonchalant, tolerant, operant, consonant, toxicant, congregant, confident, provident, Occident, oxidant, competent, Protestant, Oliphant, consequent, condiment, complement, compliment, continent, Continent, dominant, prominent, cognizant, congruent, occupant, opulent, flocculent, postulant, document, monument, \* preponderant, intolerant, emollient, intoxicant, self-confident, improvident, incompetent, concomitant, inconsequent, embodiment, impoverishment, astonishment, admonishment, acknowledgment, subcontinent, incontinent, subdominant, predominant, incognizant, emolument, \* overconfident, antioxidant, disembodiment

**24.68** somnolence, nonchalance, conference, tolerance, consonants, confidence, providence, competence, Protestants, consequence, compliments, continence, provenance, dominance, prominence, cognizance, confluence, congruence, opulence, documents, \* preponderance, intolerance, self-confidence, improvidence, incompetence, inconsequence, acknowledgments, incontinence, predominance, reconnaissance, incognizance, \* teleconference, overconfidence, etc.

**24.69** lolloping, walloping, bollocking, fosterling, hostelling, clobbering, conquering, doddering, pondering, wandering, offering, bothering,

posturing, Godalming, frolicking, rollicking, coppicing, promising, cottaging, \* unpromising

**24.70** octopus, obolus, collarless, bottomless, Bosphorus, prosperous, ponderous, Bosphorus, phosphorous, phosphorus, dolorous, onerous, sonorous, commonness, consciousness, obvious, osseous, Roscius, omnibus, solidus, obelus, choppiness, sloppiness, cockiness, ominous, doggedness, snobbishness, yobbishness, nocuous, congruous, populace, populous, modulus, scrofulous, Romulus, posthumous, \* diplodocus, sarcophagus, oesophagus, homologous, tautologous, Herodotus, discobolus, anomalous, preposterous, rhinoceros, idolatrous, monogamous, dichotomous, autonomous, monotonous, cacophonous, homophonous, autochthonous, homogenous, subconsciousness, unconsciousness, self-consciousness, Autolycus, Hippolytus, Theocritus, Democritus, Herophilus, Theophilus, anonymous, antonymous, eponymous, synonymous, Hieronymus, euonymus, pseudonymous, androgynous, endogenous, exogenous, erogenous, misogynous, hydrogenous, nitrogenous, innocuous, incongruous, convolvulus, \* Areopagus, adipoceros, hippopotamus, acidophilus, etc.

**Hogamus, higamous**

**Man is polygamous**

**Higamus, hogamous**

**Woman monogamous.**

WILLIAM JAMES

**24.71** choppiest, floppiest, sloppiest, soppiest, cockiest, rockiest, stockiest, boggiest, foggiest, groggiest, shoddiest, dottiest, grottiest, pottiest, spottiest, loftiest, saltiest, frostiest, frothiest, jolliest, costliest, sorriest, bonniest, bossiest, glossiest, squashest, blotchiest, dodgiest, podgiest, stodgiest, etc.

**24.72** monarchist, novelist, moralist, modernist, botanist, colonist, columnist, copyist, lobbyist, Trotskyist, optimist, populist, oculist, communist, \* chiropractist, economist, *Economist*, saxophonist, xylophonist, apologist, pathologist, graphologist, technologist, ethnologist, sexologist, geologist, ecologist, philologist, biologist, psychologist, horologist,

neurologist, zoologist, ufologist, optometrist, Soroptimist, misogynist, \* lepidopterist, anthropologist, campanologist, pharmacologist, archaeologist, cardiologist, radiologist, escapologist, entomologist, etymologist, dermatologist, reflexologist, Egyptologist, physiologist, Scientologist, gynaecologist, ophthalmologist, ornithologist, sociologist, musicologist, \* bacteriologist, \* endocrinologist, microbiologist, palaeontologist

**24.73** collocate, chocolate, moderate, doctorate, obdurate, consummate, coronet, laureate, proximate, obstinate, postulate, consulate, quadruplet, \* immoderate, conglomerate, approximate, innominate, \* Poet Laureate

**24.74** wanderers, choristers, foreigners, Joshua's, \* photographers, astrologers, binoculars, etc.

**24.75** wallabies, properties, novelties, robberies, Potteries, colonies, oddities, qualities, obsequies, prophecies, policies, \* apostrophes, apologies, anthologies, commodities, minorities, authorities, etc.

**24.76** optionally, optimally, nominally, popularly, contumely, communally, tolerably, honourably, profitably, knowledgeably, obstinately, competently, consequently, prominently, positively, promisingly, prosperously, ponderously, obviously, ominously, posthumously, honorary, commissary, promissory, ossuary, obduracy, profligacy, obstinacy, occupancy, \* abdominally, phenomenally, intolerably, abominably, incorrigibly, disconsolately, approximately, predominantly, provocatively, pejoratively, astonishingly, monotonously, preposterously, anonymously, incongruously, etc.

**24.77** warrantable, comparable, conquerable, alterable, tolerable, honourable, conscionable, hospitable, profitable, knowledgeable, \* unwarrantable, incomparable, unconquerable, imponderable, unalterable, intolerable, dishonourable, unconscionable, inhospitable, unprofitable, indomitable, abominable, incorrigible

## -or-

*The rhymes in this section have the 'or' sound of ford and daughter as their main or final vowel sound.*

**25.1** aw, awe, boar, Boer, Bohr, bore, braw, caw, chore, claw, cor, core, corps, crawl, door, draw, drawer, faugh, flaw, floor, for, fore, four, gnaw, gore, Gore, haw, hoar, jaw, law, lor', lore, maw, moor, Moor, Moore, more, nor, o'er, oar, or, ore, paw, poor, pore, pour, pshaw, raw, roar, saw, score, Shaw, shore, slaw, snore, soar, sore, spoor, spore, squaw, store, straw, sure, swore, tau, taw, thaw, Thor, tor, tore, war, Waugh, whore, wore, yaw, yore, your, you're

**Stately as a galleon, I sail across the floor,  
Doing the Military Two-step, as in the days of yore.**  
JOYCE GRENFELL

**25.2** Gabor, rapport, macaw, Tagore, adore, afore, guffaw, Lahore, abhor, galore, unmoor, tussore, ashore, assure, next door, señor, Dior, rebore, heehaw, redraw, prewar, before, restore, deplore, implore, explore, withdraw, signor, ignore, ensure, inshore, insure, Mysore, offshore, onshore, forbore, foreswore, foresaw, outpour, prowar, postwar, unsure, *du jour*, \*esprit de corps, toreador, plesiosaur, ichthyosaur, George Bernard Shaw, father-in-law, daughter-in-law, brother-in-law, mother-in-law, sister-in-law, Ollerenshaw, underinsure

**25.3** trapdoor, jackdaw, Blackmore, Nassau, hacksaw, Bradshaw, handsaw, Fanshawe, hardcore, Dartmoor, therefore, wherefore, décor, claymore, chain saw, emptor, centaur, mentor, stentor, Mentmore, Exmoor, Sedgemoor, bedstraw, bed sore, fret saw, Eeyore, Dior, threescore, fetor,

Seymour, Timor, Esau, seesaw, seashore, indoor, ripsaw, whipsaw, jigsaw, rickshaw, scrimshaw, bylaw, Whitelaw, eyesore, condor, Choctaw, Roquefort, cocksure, lockjaw, Haw-Haw, forepaw, pawpaw, Cawnpore, fourscore, Broadmoor, Hawksmoor, foreshore, downpour, southpaw, outdoor, outlaw, ground floor, folklore, coleslaw, Cold War, cold sore, drugstore, uproar, bookstore, footsore, smoothbore, dewclaw

**25.4** matador, Salvador, Labrador, battledore, guarantor, Bangalore, antiwar, Aviemore, Barrymore, Arkansas, carnivore, theretofore, eighty-four, Ecuador, metaphor, semaphore, evermore, nevermore, stegosaur, pterosaur, Melchior, hellebore, petit four, twenty-four, anymore, Elsinore, furthermore, thermidor, thirty-four, herbivore, heretofore, Theodore, stevedore, reassure, Singapore, picador, pinafore, interwar, sycamore, Michelmere, Chickasaw, Wichita, fifty-four, sixty-four, Minotaur, either-or, cyberwar, dinosaur, ninety-four, commodore, warrantor, common-law, sophomore, brontosaur, corridor, omnivore, door-to-door, mortgagor, forty-four, Baltimore, overawe, overdraw, oversaw, underscore, underfloor, tug-of-war, usquebaugh, *Ruddigore*, son-in-law, superstore, louis d'or, humidor, \* San Salvador, El Salvador, tyrannosaur, forevermore, excelsior, insectivore, conquistador, hereinbefore, Securicor®

**Take thy beak from out my heart, and take thy form from off my door!  
Quoth the Raven, 'Nevermore'.**

EDGAR ALLAN POE

**25.5** daub, orb, \* absorb, adsorb, bedaub, \* reabsorb

**25.6** auk, balk, baulk, caulk, chalk, cork, Cork, dork, fork, gawk, hawk, Hawke, nork, orc, pork, squawk, stalk, stork, talk, torc, torque, walk, York, \* uncork, Dundalk, New York, \* catwalk, hayfork, jaywalk, spacewalk, pep talk, sweet-talk, beanstalk, sleepwalk, pitchfork, nighthawk, sidewalk, shoptalk, crosstalk, goshawk, small talk, boardwalk, Mohawk, ropewalk, uptalk, newshawk, \* tomahawk, sparrowhawk, tuning fork

**25.7** Fawkes, forks, hawks, Hawks, lawks, squawks, talks, etc.

**25.8** porch, scorch, torch, \* debauch, \* blowtorch

**25.9** baud, bawd, board, bored, broad, cawed, chord, Claude, clawed, cord, fjord, flawed, floored, ford, Ford, fraud, Gawd, gnawed, gored, hoard, horde, laud, lord, Lord, Maud, moored, oared, pawed, poured, roared, scored, snored, soared, stored, sward, sword, thawed, ward, \* aboard, accord, adored, afford, guffawed, abhorred, applaud, abroad, maraud, award, toward, assured, record, restored, defraud, milord, deplored, implored, explored, reward, ignored, ensured, insured, \* blackboard, dashboard, splashboard, landlord, starboard, cardboard, hardboard, dartboard, draughtboard, bargeboard, skateboard, pasteboard, sailboard, tailboard, pegboard, breadboard, headboard, chessboard, record, surfboard, freeboard, keyboard, leeboard, seaboard, cheeseboard, greensward, chipboard, clipboard, shipboard, billboard, inboard, springboard, switchboard, ripcord, whipcord, discord, sideboard, whiteboard, signboard, blockboard, washboard, concord, Concorde, floorboard, scoreboard, warlord, broadsword, outboard, outlawed, snowboard, duckboard, footboard, \* clapperboard, clavichord, plasterboard, harpsichord, scraperboard, tape-record, chequerboard, centreboard, weatherboard, skirting board, leaderboard, Ouija board®, needlecord, reassured, fingerboard, disaccord, spinal cord, diving board, bodyboard, mortarboard, smorgasbord, storyboard, overawed, overboard, overlord, notice board, motherboard, underscored, untoward, unexplored, uninsured, \* ironing board, underinsured

**Mine eyes have seen the glory of the coming of the Lord:  
He is trampling out the vintage where the grapes of wrath are stored;  
H hath loosed the fateful lightning of his terrible swift sword:  
His truth is marching on.**

JULIA WARD HOWE

**25.10** boards, Claude's, cords, hordes, Lord's, wards, \* towards, defrauds, \* keyboards, sideboards, floorboards, \* Norfolk Broads, House of Lords, vocal cords, \* Madame Tussauds, etc.

**25.11** Corfe, dwarf, morph, orfe, Orff, swarf, wharf, \* Waldorf, \* endomorph, ectomorph, mesomorph, polymorph, Düsseldorf

25.12 Borg, morgue, \* Cherbourg, cyborg, \* Helsingborg, Swedenborg

25.13 forge, George, gorge, \* St George, engorge, disgorge

25.14 all, awl, ball, bawl, brawl, call, caul, crawl, drawl, fall, gall, Gaul, hall, haul, mall, maul, pall, Paul, Saul, scrawl, shawl, small, sprawl, squall, stall, tall, thrall, trawl, wall, waul, yawl, \* appal, Bacall, Bengal, Nepal, recall, de Gaulle, install, befall, withal, enthrall, Porthcawl, forestall, town hall, \* blackball, handball, catcall, bradawl, landfall, pratfall, Blackwall, catch-all, fastball, dancehall, hairball, paintball, baseball, rainfall, netball, Threlfall, meatball, sleazeball, keelhaul, pinball, windfall, pitfall, guildhall, Milwall, fireball, firewall, eyeball, highball, Naipaul, nightfall, Whitehall, sidewall, oddball, softball, mothball, Rockall, long-haul, Vauxhall, shortfall, short-haul, Cornwall, Walsall, outfall, Southall, downfall, outhaul, downhaul, no-ball, snowball, holdall, snowfall, stonewall, Rosewall, puffball, punchball, Nuttall, thumbstall, pub crawl, football, Goodall, bookstall, footfall, screwball, goofball, \* trackerball, cannonball, caterwaul, Tattersall, carryall, basketball, Aspinwall, Charles de Gaulle, Senegal, market stall, wherewithal, evenfall, free-for-all, reinstall, fingerstall, disenthral, off-the-wall, Montreal, volleyball, Donegal, waterfall, wall-to-wall, warts and all, all in all, rollerball, overhaul, overall, know-it-all, butterball, coverall, \* belle of the ball, Vincent de Paul

**Mirror, mirror on the wall,**

**Who is the fairest of them all?**

JACOB & WILHELM GRIMM

25.15 auld, bald, called, scald, sprawled, stalled, walled, \* appalled, recalled, installed, enthralled, forestalled, \* blackballed, keelhailed, piebald, snowballed, so-called, close-hailed, skewbald, \* caterwailed, Archibald, Theobald, reinstalled, disenthralled, overhauled, Cumbernauld, etc.

25.16 false, waltz

25.17 fault, Galt, halt, malt, salt, SALT, vault, Walt, \* assault, default, exalt, \* asphalt, Hainault, basalt, cobalt, pole vault, \* somersault

25.18 salts, schmaltz, vaults, etc.

25.19 balls, calls, crawls, falls, mauls, smalls, stalls, walls, Walls, etc.

25.20 Baum, corm, dorm, form, haulm, Maugham, norm, Norm, Orme, shawm, storm, swarm, warm, \* perform, conform, aswarm, transform, reform, deform, reform, inform, \* sandstorm, landform, platform, barnstorm, Cairngorm, hailstorm, brainstorm, rainstorm, waveform, windstorm, firestorm, snowstorm, lukewarm, \* gasiform, Benidorm, misinform, chloroform, Cominform, outperform, oviform, thunderstorm, multiform, spongiform, uniform, cuneiform, cruciform

25.21 formed, stormed, swarmed, warmed, \* unformed, unwarmed, malformed, transformed, deformed, reformed, informed, \* well-informed, ill-informed, uninformed, uniformed, etc.

25.22 awn, Bjorn, born, borne, bourn, Braun, brawn, corn, dawn, Dawn, drawn, faun, fawn, horn, Horne, lawn, lorn, morn, mourn, Mourne, pawn, porn, prawn, Quorn®, sawn, scorn, Sean, shorn, SORN, spawn, sworn, thorn, torn, Vaughan, warn, Warne, worn, yawn, \* suborn, unborn, adorn, Siobhan, forlorn, unworn, Cape Horn, well-worn, reborn, dehorn, redrawn, inborn, withdrawn, indrawn, forborne, forewarn, forsworn, outworn, \* blackthorn, alphorn, Langhorne, saxhorn, ramshorn, airborne, chairborne, careworn, Ayckbourn, baseborn, acorn, Melbourne, Leghorn, firstborn, earthborn, freeborn, seaborne, Eastbourne, sweetcorn, greenhorn, stillborn, inkhorn, stinkhorn, Bighorn, highborn, Glyndebourne, tricorn, timeworn, Osborne, Osbourne, frogspawn, popcorn, foghorn, longhorn, shopworn, war-torn, hawthorn, Hawthorne, Rawsthorne, shorthorn, lowborn, Runcorn, buckthorn, crumhorn, lovelorn, newborn, shoehorn, \* Matterhorn, alpenhorn, Capricorn, barleycorn, weatherworn, peppercorn, leprechaun, winterbourne, Sittingbourne, waterborne, overdrawn, flugelhorn, unicorn

**This is the farmer sowing his corn,  
That kept the cock that crowed in the morn,  
That waked the priest all shaven and shorn,  
That married the man all tattered and torn,**

**That kissed the maiden all forlorn, That milked the cow with the crumpled horn.**

NURSERY RHYME

25.23 graunch, haunch, launch, paunch, staunch, \* relaunch

25.24 dawned, horned, mourned, pawned, scorned, \* suborned, adorned, dehorned, forewarned, \* unadorned, etc.

25.25 chaunt, daunt, flaunt, gaunt, haunt, jaunt, taunt, vaunt, \* avaunt

25.26 Corp., gawp, Thorpe, warp, \* Scunthorpe

25.27 corpse, gawps, warps, \* Cleethorpes

25.28 coarse, course, force, gorse, hoarse, horse, Morse, Norse, sauce, source, \* perforce, unhorse, recourse, endorse, enforce, divorce, remorse, resource, outsource, \* dampcourse, packhorse, carthorse, racecourse, gale force, drayhorse, racehorse, workforce, workhorse, seahorse, discourse, concourse, forecourse, sawhorse, warhorse, clotheshorse, downforce, \* Ladislaus, Stanislaus, reinforce, intercourse, Wilberforce, hobbyhorse, rocking horse, watercourse, *tour de force*, vaulting horse, Trojan horse

**I know two things about the horse**

**And one of them is rather coarse.**

NAOMI ROYDE-SMITH

25.29 coursed, forced, horst, sourced, \* unforced, unhorsed, endorsed, enforced, divorced, exhaust, outsourced, \* holocaust, reinforced, hypocaust, unenforced

25.30 borsch, Porsche

25.31 aught, bought, brought, caught, court, fort, fought, fraught, Mort, naught, nought, ought, port, quart, short, snort, sort, sought, sport, taught, taut, thought, thwart, tort, torte, wart, wrought, \* abort, support, comport, contort, untaught, cavort, athwart, assort, consort, unsought, transport, hard-

fought, self-taught, purport, rethought, re-sort, deport, report, import, disport, export, escort, retort, distort, extort, methought, distraught, besought, resort, exhort, \* transport, carport, airport, Fairport, spaceport, export, escort, dreadnought, seaport, import, Bridgeport, hillfort, Stockport, Gosport, onslaught, Connaught, consort, forecourt, lawcourt, forethought, Southport, spoilsport, Coalport, Beaufort, cohort, Newport, \* aforethought, \* Davenport, Hampton Court, astronaut, alphasort, Agincourt, afterthought, Argonaut, aeronaut, Devonport, heliport, teleport, reimport, re-export, Inns of Court, misreport, life-support, hoverport, cosmonaut, overwrought, juggernaut, worrywart

**25.32** courts, forts, noughts, orts, ports, quartz, Schwartz, shorts, sorts, sports, thoughts, warts, \* aborts, supports, cavorts, Cinque Ports, imports, exports, retorts, distorts, \* astronauts, Argonauts, second thoughts, winter sports, water sports, juggernauts, undershorts, etc.

**25.33** forth, Forth, fourth, north, swath, \* henceforth, thenceforth, \* Carnforth, Seaforth, Bridgnorth, \* back and forth, Ampleforth, Perranporth

**25.34** dwarves, wharves

**25.35** cause, chores, clause, claws, doors, Dors, drawers, floors, gauze, hawse, jaws, *Jaws*, laws, moors, oars, pause, paws, shores, stores, tawse, wars, Waugh's, whores, yaws, yours, \* adores, applause, Azores, indoors, implores, ignores, outdoors, outpours, plus-fours, \* trapdoors, jackdaws, jackstraws, hacksaws, \* matadors, Santa Claus, metaphors, menopause, out of doors, \* Louis Quatorze

**With first-rate sherry flowing into second-rate whores,  
And third-rate conversation without one single pause:**

**Just like a young couple**

**Between the wars.**

WILLIAM PLOMER

**26.1** corbie, Corby, dauby, Formby, Hornby, Moresby, chalky, corky, gawky, Gorky, pawky, porky, stalky, talkie, Yorkie, corgi, porgy, bawdy, gaudy, Geordie, lordy, Saudi, Aldi, baldy, Caldy, Maundy, Corti, forty,

haughty, naughty, shorty, sortie, sporty, warty, balti, faulty, Fawly, malty, salty, flaunty, jaunty, Morphy, wharfie, swarthy, Haughey, Cawley, Chorley, Crawley, Fawley, Morley, Pauli, poorly, Raleigh, scrawly, squally, sorely, surely, Audley, broadly, lordly, baldly, courtly, portly, shortly, tautly, fourthly, Gormley, warmly, Thornley, coarsely, hoarsely, falsely, Maudsley, staunchly, Corey, dory, Florey, fury, glory, gory, hoary, lory, MORI, Rory, storey, story, Tory, Aubrey, strawberry, Audrey, Cawdrey, bawdry, tawdry, Baldry, laundry, Hawtrey, Daltrey, paltry, palfrey, dormie, stormy, brawny, corny, horny, scrawny, tawny, thorny, tourney, Orkney, Courtney, Dorsey, Glauce, gorsy, horsey, saucy, torsi, Orczy, schmaltzy, gauzy, ballsy, palsy, paunchy, raunchy, orgy, Georgie, \* Treorchy, Milwaukee, Sikorsky, Mussorgsky, cum laude, Kirkcaldy, Grimaldi, Macaulay, Bengali, Nepali, unsurely, forlornly, Maggiore, satori, vainglory, tandoori, John Dory, furore, Trelawney, \* centaury, clerestory, blindstorey, outlawry, \* walkie-talkie, garibaldi, Garibaldi, pianoforte, creepy-crawly, uniformly, cacciatore, yakitori, a priori, *West Side Story*, con amore, Montessori, Tobermory, hunky-dory, multistorey, \* memento mori, a fortiori, \* Alpha Centauri, mulligatawny, etc.

**26.2** dauber, Zorba, gawper, pauper, torpor, \* absorber, Micawber, \* shock absorber, \* daub her, absorb her, etc.

**26.3** Chalker, corker, hawker, Lorca, orca, porker, squawker, stalker, talker, walker, Walker, auger, augur, \* Majorca, Minorca, New Yorker, \* jaywalker, deerstalker, sleepwalker, streetwalker, \* kwashiorkor, babywalker, \* stalk her, sweet-talk her, etc.

**26.4** boarder, border, broader, hoarder, Korda, Lauder, order, warder, alder, balder, Balder, Calder, launder, maunder, daughter, mortar, oughta, porter, Porter, quarter, shorter, slaughter, snorter, sorter, tauter, torte, water, altar, alter, falter, halter, Malta, palter, Psalter, salter, vaulter, Walter, flaunter, gaunter, saunter, taunter, vaunter, Forster, fraudster, \* marauder, reorder, defrauder, recorder, disorder, tall order, suborder, supporter, transporter, aorta, three-quarter, reporter, importer, exporter, extorter, hot water, assaulter, Gibraltar, defaulter, \* camcorder, mail order, sailboarder, skateboarder, keyboarder, backwater, granddaughter, manslaughter,

breakwater, rainwater, meltwater, stepdaughter, freshwater, shearwater, sea water, Piesporter, Drinkwater, ripsnorter, dishwater, ditchwater, Bridgwater, firewater, tidewater, hindquarter, goddaughter, colporteur, forequarter, saltwater, Bowater, Ullswater, \* una corda, tape recorder, postal order, teleporter, Derwentwater, underwater, \* ignored her, caught her

**This is the Night Mail crossing the Border,  
Bringing the cheque and the postal order.**

W. H. AUDEN

26.5 Forfar, author

26.6 bawler, brawler, caller, crawler, drawler, faller, hauler, maunder, Paula, scrawler, smaller, sprawler, taller, trawler, warbler, dawdler, aura, borer, Cora, corer, Dora, flora, Flora, Laura, Norah, Morar, poorer, pourer, roarer, scorer, snorer, sorer, surer, Thora, Torah, \* mandorla, installer, adorer, Atora®, Andorra, Pandora, angora, fedora, menorah, restorer, explorer, señora, signora, insurer, aurora, \* kerb crawler, footballer, \* kia ora, Leonora, Theodora, Isadora, Bora Bora, Tuscarora, \* call her, ignore her, etc.

26.7 dormer, former, Norma, korma, ormer, stormer, trauma, warmer, corner, fauna, fawner, Horner, Lorna, Morna, mourner, sauna, scorer, Warner, yawner, Faulkner, \* performer, conformer, transformer, reformer, informer, pro forma, \* barnstormer, legwarmer, bedwarmer, sixth-former, \* inform her, forewarn her, etc.

**Little Jack Horner  
Sat in the corner,  
Eating a Christmas pie.**

NURSERY RHYME

26.8 coarser, courser, Chaucer, dorsa, forcer, hoarser, saucer, balsa, falser, waltzer, causer, hawser, Porsche, Portia, Yorkshire, scorcher, torture, launcher, stauncher, Borgia, forger, Georgia, gorger, \* endorser, enforcer, debaucher, \* reinforcer, flying saucer, \* force her, adores her, etc.

**26.9** Nordic, Baltic, caustic, swordstick, Orphic, Jorvik, Norvic, salt lick, boric, chloric, baldric, Baldrick, formic, georgic, \* aortic, hydraulic, McCormick, \* metamorphic, endomorphic, ectomorphic, mesomorphic, polymorphic, hydrochloric

**26.10** swordsticks, salt licks, Horlicks®, Baldrick's, \* hydraulics, etc.

**26.11** morbid, torpid, orchid, sordid, gloried, lurid, storied, palsied, \* three-storeyed, two-storeyed

**26.12** halberd, boarded, bordered, corded, hoarded, ordered, laundered, courted, quartered, sorted, thwarted, watered, altered, faltered, halted, malted, salted, daunted, haunted, taunted, sauntered, vaunted, Orford, Salford, Walford, Crawford, Mordred, forward, shoreward, awkward, northward, orchard, tortured, \* applauded, reordered, defrauded, recorded, rewarded, disordered, supported, assorted, contorted, deported, reported, distorted, unaltered, assaulted, unsalted, exalted, undaunted, exhausted, straightforward, henceforward, thenceforward, three-cornered, \* prerecorded, unrecorded, unrewarded, unsupported, unreported, unescorted, etc.

**26.13** halberds, forwards, shorewards, northwards, orchards, etc.

**26.14** corkage, mortgage, cordage, shortage, wharfage, haulage, moorage, storage, drawbridge, Aldridge, \* remortgage

**26.15** bauble, corbel, warble, snorkel, caudal, dawdle, Wardle, chortle, mortal, portal, Borstal, awful, lawful, thoughtful, mournful, scornful, forceful, formal, normal, aural, choral, floral, oral, corporal, rorqual, dorsal, foresail, morsel, causal, \* withdrawal, aortal, immortal, St Austell, unlawful, remorseful, resourceful, abnormal, informal, subnormal, \* paranormal, menopausal

**Guns aren't lawful;**

**Nooses give;**

**Gas smells awful;**

**You might as well live.**

## DOROTHY PARKER

**26.16** baubles, Gorbals, mortals, portals, morsels, etc.

**26.17** boredom, Fordham, whoredom, autumn, Waltham, Fortnum, sorghum, forum, quorum, Shoreham, awesome, foursome, balsam, \* postmortem, decorum, \* Karakoram, ad valorem, variorum, indecorum, \* sanctum sanctorum, \* brought 'em, wore 'em, etc.

**26.18** Corbin, Dworkin, walk-in, foreskin, Aldrin, Austen, Austin, dauphin, Magdalen, Magdalene, maudlin, porcelain, Baldwin, \* endorphin, tarpaulin, \* talkin', fallin', etc.

**26.19** auburn, Bourbon, Alban, saucepan, Lorcan, Balkan, falcon, Gorgon, Morgan, organ, Auden, Borden, bourdon, broaden, cordon, Gordon, Hordern, Jordan, Norden, warden, Alden, Malden, Bourton, Broughton, Houghton, Laughton, Moreton, Morton, Naughton, Norton, Orton, quartan, quartern, shorten, Stoughton, tauten, Wharton, Alton, Chorlton, Dalton, Galton, Halton, saltern, Walton, Taunton, Thornton, Launceston, orphan, Malvern, northern, fallen, Coren, Lauren, Moran, cauldron, doorman, foreman, Gorman, lawman, Mormon, Norman, storeman, Walkman®, Kaufman, horseman, Norseman, sportsman, oarsman, swordsman, coarsen, Dawson, hoarsen, Lawson, Orson, Porson, whoreson, caution, portion, torsion, auction, fortune, Georgian, \* Majorcan, Minorcan, gyrfalcon, Glamorgan, Brize Norton, Throgmorton, foreshorten, Carshalton, Andorran, abortion, apportion, proportion, contortion, precaution, distortion, extortion, absorption, misfortune, exhaustion, \* churchwarden, firewarden, crestfallen, \* traffic warden, Saffron Walden, Salvadoran, Ecuadoran, disproportion, proabortion, malabsorption, self-absorption

**26.20** broadened, cordoned, shortened, orphaned, foreland, moorland, Auckland, Falkland, Portland, Ormond, gourmand, Dortmund, coarsened, cautioned, auctioned, \* North Foreland, South Foreland, apportioned, proportioned, etc.

**26.21** saucepans, Balkans, falcons, Gorgons, wardens, orphans, Mormons, Normans, portions, \* St Albans, abortions, proportions, precautions, etc.

**26.22** Dawkins, Hawkins, foreskins, Baldwin's, \* endorphins, tarpaulins, etc.

**26.23** mordant, mordent, oughtn't, portent, dormant, Stormont, \* absorbent, accordant, concordant, discordant, important, informant, comportment, assortment, department, instalment, enthrallment, adornment, endorsement, enforcement, divorcement, engorgement, disgorgement, \* self-important, all-important, unimportant, reinforcement

**26.24** portents, ordnance, \* accordance, concordance, discordance, importance, performance, conformance, informants, instalments, adornments, assurance, insurance, \* self-importance, unimportance, reassurance, \* underperformance, etc.

**26.25** drawing, gnawing, sawing, thawing, corking, Dorking, Hawking, squawking, stalking, talking, walking, boarding, hoarding, balding, scalding, Spalding, courting, sorting, sporting, halting, malting, salting, vaulting, daunting, haunting, taunting, bawling, brawling, calling, crawling, falling, galling, hauling, mauling, Pauling, scrawling, sprawling, stalling, trawling, dawdling, lordling, Maudling, chortling, boring, flooring, Goring, mooring, pouring, roaring, scoring, snoring, soaring, storing, warring, drawstring, forewing, forming, storming, swarming, warming, awning, dawning, fawning, morning, mourning, warning, yawning, coursing, forcing, waltzing, causing, pausing, scorching, torching, forging, gorging, \* guffawing, withdrawing, absorbing, uncorking, according, applauding, marauding, recording, rewarding, supporting, cavorting, transporting, reporting, importing, exporting, escorting, ripsnorting, distorting, unsporing, assaulting, exalting, exhausting, appalling, enthralling, adoring, assuring, skijoring, imploring, exploring, rip-roaring, outpouring, performing, conforming, transforming, reforming, informing, adorning, forewarning, endorsing, enforcing, divorcing, outsourcing, debauching, disgorging, \* jaywalking, sleepwalking, sweet-talking, hillwalking, bushwalking, sailboarding, skateboarding, keyboarding, snowboarding, blackballing, name-calling, paintballing, kerb crawling, keelhauling, snowballing, stonewalling, footballing, barnstorming, heart-warming, brainstorming, housewarming, \* tape-recording, weatherboarding,

bodyboarding, unrewarding, self-supporting, caterwauling, overhauling, reassuring, underflooring, underscoring, reinforcing, etc.

**Come in the evening, or come in the morning,  
Come when you're looked for, or come without warning.**

THOMAS DAVIS

**26.26** auspice, Aldis, jaundice, mortise, loris, cornice, \* aqua fortis, rigor mortis

**26.27** corpus, porpoise, Malpas, Aldous, Plautus, tortoise, caucus, Dorcas, glaucous, raucous, clawless, flawless, lawless, scoreless, stalkless, cordless, thoughtless, faultless, dauntless, formless, gormless, hornless, thornless, horseless, causeless, chorus, porous, Taurus, torus, wardress, laundress, fortress, walrus, poorness, rawness, soreness, sureness, baldness, shortness, tautness, smallness, tallness, coarseness, hoarseness, cautious, tortious, gorgeous, \* amorphous, remorseless, Dolores, sonorous, Centaurus, thesaurus, nonporous, enormous, ginormous, incautious, \* polymorphous, stegosaurus, Epidaurus, brontosaurus, \* tyrannosaurus, \* habeas corpus, ichthyosaurus, \* fought us, bore us, etc.

**26.28** Yorkist, jaundiced, flautist, shortlist, \* conformist, \* nonconformist

**26.29** August, shortest, tautest, smallest, tallest, chorused, warmest, coarsest, hoarsest, falsest, etc.

**26.30** hawkish, mawkish, shortish, crawfish, dwarfish, swordfish, warmish, Cornish, Dawlish, Gaulish, smallish, tallish, Moorish, moreish

**26.31** Korbut, Norbert, Talbot, Alcott, curate, stalwart, \* Port Talbot

**26.32** Corbett, orbit, chalkpit, audit, plaudit, forfeit, gauntlet, torchlit, floret, cornet, hornet, corset, Dorset, faucet, Fawcett, \* what-do-you-call-it, \* hoard it, worn it, etc.

**26.33** Morpeth, Bournemouth, Portsmouth

**26.34** sportive, \* abortive, supportive, exhaustive

**26.35** talkies, walkies, corgis, Geordies, forties, Furies, glories, storeys, stories, Tories, strawberries, Audrey's, Orkneys, falsies, orgies, \* creepy-crawlies

**26.36** stalkers, walkers, boarders, orders, Saunders, daughters, porters, quarters, waters, Waters, Walters, authors, callers, Paula's, corners, mourners, courses, forces, horses, saucers, causes, clauses, pauses, torches, \* marauders, recorders, three-quarters, reporters, supporters, headquarters, performers, armed forces, St George's, \* sleepwalkers, stepdaughters, headwaters, hindquarters, forequarters, footballers, legwarmers, sixth-formers, \* tape recorders, flying saucers, etc.

**26.37** organdie, Normandy, orderly, daughterly, mortally, quarterly, awfully, lawfully, thoughtfully, mournfully, scornfully, forcefully, northerly, orally, formally, formerly, normally, audibly, forcibly, awkwardly, awesomely, faultlessly, cautiously, strawberry, Salisbury, cautery, watery, psaltery, augury, sorcery, mortuary, forgery, laudatory, falconry, cautionary, Albany, Alderney, Shaughnessy, normalcy, dormancy, paucity, falsity, gaudily, haughtily, naughtily, jauntily, stormily, saucily, morbidly, sportingly, porphyry, auditory, dormitory, corsetry, ordinary, \* disorderly, immortally, unlawfully, resourcefully, abnormally, informally, deplorably, reportedly, remorselessly, debauchery, reformatory, precautionary, O'Shaughnessy, absorbency, conformity, deformity, enormity, hydraulically, assuredly, exhaustively, accordingly, rewardingly, unsportingly, appallingly, extraordinary, \* nonconformity, uniformity, reassuringly, etc.

**There's an Irishman, Arthur O'Shaughnessy –  
On the chessboard of poets a pawn is he.**

DANTE GABRIEL ROSSETTI

**26.38** Córdoba, forwarder, Cordova, snorkeller, Aldeburgh, Marlborough, corpora, orderer, launderer, slaughterer, sorcerer, torturer, northerner, Corsica, orbiter, auditor, Dorchester, orchestra, Gordimer, Mortimer, forfeiture, mortgagor, wharfinger, formula

**26.39** chalkier, bawdier, Claudia, gaudier, courtier, haughtier, naughtier, sportier, saltier, jauntier, morphia, swarthier, haulier, gloria, Gloria, gorier, scoria, stormier, brawnier, cornea, cornier, hornier, scrawnier, thornier, saucier, nausea, raunchier, \* euphorbia, primordia, consortia, saintpaulia, Astoria, emporia, Pretoria, Victoria, dysphoria, euphoria, \* sanatoria, crematoria, moratoria, auditoria, California, \* phantasmagoria, etc.

**26.40** Waterford, orbited, audited, \* unaudited

**26.41** audible, fordable, laudable, portable, sortable, forcible, plausible, corporal, cordial, corneal, boreal, oriel, cortical, nautical, vortical, ordinal, orbital, Portugal, \* affordable, recordable, inaudible, supportable, transportable, exhaustible, adorable, restorable, deplorable, implausible, inaugural, proportional, primordial, manorial, factorial, arboreal, armorial, marmoreal, sartorial, Escorial, memorial, pictorial, corporeal, authorial, uxorial, tutorial, \* unaffordable, insupportable, inexhaustible, unenforceable, lavatorial, janitorial, senatorial, equatorial, editorial, territorial, dictatorial, immemorial, incorporeal, professorial, aeronautical, astronautical, \* ambassadorial, subequatorial, conspiratorial, inquisitorial

**26.42** laudanum, organum, Altrincham, Walsingham, \* exordium, consortium, emporium, scriptorium, \* californium, sanatorium, crematorium, in memoriam, moratorium, auditorium

**26.43** Worplesdon, Warburton, Alderton, Salterton, Auberon, alderman, Yorkshireman, Cornishman, Alderson, Sorbian, Scorpion, scorpion, Claudian, Gordian, Orphean, chorion, Dorian, saurian, Taurean, Corsican, Orpington, Mornington, Rawlinson, \* accordion, Edwardian, stentorian, Gregorian, Victorian, historian, praetorian, Ivorian, \* Perigordian, Capricornian, Californian, Salvadorian, Ecuadorean, Terpsichorean, Singaporean

**26.44** scorpions, \* Edwardians, Victorians, New Orleans, \* Californians, etc.

**26.45** cormorant, ornament, tournament, orient, Orient, corpulent, fraudulent, \* apportionment, reorient, disorient, euphoriant, exorbitant

**26.46** ornaments, tournaments, audience, ordinance, corpulence, fraudulence, etc.

**26.47** daughterless, waterless, slaughterous, sorceress, sorcerous, torturous, Uranus, forwardness, awkwardness, thoughtfulness, mournfulness, lawlessness, thoughtlessness, cautiousness, Caucasus, Claudius, Morpheus, Orpheus, glorious, nauseous, nautilus, haughtiness, naughtiness, jauntiness, tawdriness, sauciness, tortuous, \* straightforwardness, laborious, notorious, vainglorious, censorious, Nestorius, inglorious, Pretorius, victorious, uproarious, uxorious, \* meritorious, etc.

**Send her victorious,  
Happy, and glorious,  
Long to reign over us:  
God save the queen!**  
NATIONAL ANTHEM

**26.48** formalist, organist, pluralist, \* abortionist, contortionist, extortionist

**26.49** chalkiest, bawdiest, gaudiest, haughtiest, naughtiest, sportiest, saltiest, jauntiest, swarthiest, goriest, stormiest, brawniest, corniest, horniest, scrawniest, thorniest, sauciest, raunchiest, etc.

**26.50** corporate, fortunate, aureate, laureate, ordinate, \* proportionate, extortionate, unfortunate, subordinate, inordinate, coordinate, \* disproportionate, baccalaureate, Poet Laureate, professoriate, insubordinate, superordinate

**26.51** alterable, formidable, \* unalterable

## -oor-

*The rhymes in this section have the ‘oor’ sound of cure and purely as their main or final vowel sound. Many of these words can also be rhymed with words in the – or – section.*

**27.1** Boer, boor, cure, dour, lure, moor, Moor, Moore, Muir, poor, pure, Ruhr, spoor, sure, tour, Tours, Ure, your, you’re, \* velour, McClure, procure, gravure, allure, manure, amour, unmoor, assure, unsure, mature, adjure, abjure, conjure, tandoor, Latour, Cavour, coiffure, Namur, hachure, Kanpur, Darfur, guipure, impure, liqueur, secure, endure, immure, demure, inure, ensure, insure, obscure, couture, du jour, \* tambour, grandeur, Dartmoor, tenure, Exmoor, Sedgemoor, detour, Tweedsmuir, concours, Goncourt, contour, cocksure, tonsure, ordure, Broadmoor, Hawksmoor, brochure, \* Aznavour, amateur, aperture, Lammermuir, paramour, Jamshedpur, manicure, plat du jour, armature, Réaumur, premature, epicure, pedicure, sepulture, curvature, reassure, prefecture, reinsure, ligature, immature, sinecure, insecure, cynosure, Pompadour, Yom Kippur, confiture, commissure, embouchure, *hors concours*, overture, Côte d’Azur, Kohinoor, *haute couture*, troubadour, \* caricature, magistrature, photogravure, musculature, underinsure

**How small, of all that human hearts endure,  
That part which laws or kings can cause or cure!**  
OLIVER GOLDSMITH

**27.2** cured, gourd, Lourdes, lured, moored, \* procured, manured, unmoored, assured, matured, coiffured, secured, immured, inured, insured, obscured, \* manicured, self-assured, reassured, reinsured, unsecured, uninsured, \* caricatured, underinsured, etc.

**27.3** Boers, boors, cures, lures, moors, tours, yours, \* matures, allures, amours, Elburz, liqueurs, endures, etc.

**28.1** dourly, Gourlay, poorly, purely, surely, curie, Curie, Drury, fury, houri, Jewry, jury, Lurie, Newry, Uri, \* Kalgoorlie, securely, demurely, obscurely, tandoori, Venturi, Mercouri, Missouri, potpourri, \* prematurely, Dioscuri, etc.

**28.2** curer, Dürer, *Führer*, Jura, juror, lurer, pleura, poorer, purer, surer, tourer, \* assurer, procurer, bravura, insurer, securer, caesura, nonjuror, \* Angostura, El Mansûra, tessitura, \* acciaccatura, appoggiatura, \* coloratura, Bonaventura, \* camera obscura, \* cure her, lure her, etc.

**28.3** uric, Zürich, \* telluric, mercuric, sulphuric

**28.4** mural, neural, pleural, plural, rural, Ural, \* extramural, epidural

**28.5** Purim, Urim

**28.6** Van Buren, Honduran

**28.7** burin, urine, \* moorin', allurin', etc.

**28.8** moorland, gourmand

**28.9** procurement, allurement

**28.10** durance, \* assurance, insurance, endurance, \* self-assurance, reassurance

**28.11** curing, during, luring, mooring, touring, Turing, \* procuring, alluring, assuring, maturing, securing, enduring, ensuring, insuring, obscuring, \* manicuring, reassuring, \* caricaturing, underinsuring, etc.

**28.12** poorness, sureness, Arcturus, mercurous, Honduras, sulphurous, \* Epicurus, \* lure us, assure us, etc.

**28.13** poorest, purest, surest, \* securest, etc.

**28.14** jurist, purist, tourist, \* manicurist, pedicurist, \* caricaturist

**28.15** boorish, Moorish, \* amateurish

**28.16** Curies, Furies, juries

**28.17** gourami, curacy, purity, surety, touristy, urinary, pleurisy, \* incurably, maturity, impurity, security, obscurity, futurity, assuredly, \* immaturity, insecurity, reassuringly, etc.

**28.18** curia, \* Manchuria, Etruria, Liguria, dysuria, \* haematuria, glycosuria, etc.

**28.19** curable, durable, thurible, Muriel, \* procurable, insurable, incurable, endurable, Escorial, centurial, tenurial, mercurial, \* uninsurable, unendurable

**28.20** curium, \* tellurium

**28.21** puritan, juryman, \* Manchurian, Arthurian, Ben-Gurion, tellurian, centurion, Etrurian, Ligurian, Missourian, Silurian, \* Khachaturian, holothurian

**28.22** prurient, \* parturient, esurient, luxuriant

**28.23** prurience, \* luxuriance

**28.24** curious, furious, spurious, \* penurious, perjurious, incurious, injurious, sulphureous, luxurious, usurious

## -OW-

*The rhymes in this section have the 'ow' sound of cow and louder as their main or final vowel sound.*

**29.1** bough, bow, brow, chow, *ciao*, cow, Dão, dhow, Dow, Frau, how, Howe, Lao, Mao, now, ow, plough, Plough, prow, row, scow, slough, Slough, sough, sow, Tao, tau, thou, vow, wow, \* cacao, Macao, avow, allow, meow, Bilbao, endow, enow, kowtow, \* Cracow, Spandau, Nassau, pilau, eyebrow, highbrow, Moldau, hausfrau, bow-wow, powwow, Mau Mau, know-how, nohow, snowplough, lowbrow, somehow, Lucknow, Jungfrau, moo-cow, \* anyhow, disavow, disallow, middlebrow, Mindanao, Löwenbräu, Curaçao, \* Concertgebouw, Guinea-Bissau, \* Oberammergau

**Come, friendly bombs, and fall on Slough**

**It isn't fit for humans now,**

**There isn't grass to graze a cow.**

**Swarm over, Death!**

JOHN BETJEMAN

**29.2** couch, crouch, grouch, ouch, pouch, slouch, vouch

**29.3** bowed, cloud, cowed, crowd, loud, Oudh, ploughed, proud, rowed, Saud, shroud, Stroud, vowed, \* unbowed, avowed, aloud, Macleod, unploughed, endowed, becloud, enshroud, O'Dowd, kowtowed, \* in-crowd, \* beetlebrowed, ibn-Saud, overcloud, overcrowd, thundercloud

**29.4** [[see also](#)] cowl, foul, fowl, growl, howl, jowl, owl, prowl, Raoul, scowl, yowl, \* afoul, befoul, \* peafowl, wildfowl, moorfowl, \* waterfowl, cheek by jowl

**29.5** Braun, brown, Brown, Browne, clown, crown, Crown, down, Down, drown, frown, gown, noun, town, \* run-down, uptown, sit-down, renown, lie-down, von Braun, downtown, \* clampdown, crackdown, Sandown, Lansdowne, Ashdown, splashdown, markdown, breakdown, shakedown, Cape Town, Jamestown, letdown, meltdown, Freetown, Queenstown, Piltown, Kingstown, Bridgetown, climb-down, nightgown, swan's-down, Yorktown, Georgetown, countdown, Southdown, toytown, hoedown, lowdown, showdown, slowdown, close-down, Motown, pronoun, rubdown, shutdown, comedown, rundown, sundown, thumbs-down, touchdown, nutbrown, put-down, Cookstown, Newtown, boom town, \* Campbeltown, Camden Town, hand-me-down, shantytown, dressing-down, dressing gown, thistledown, Tinseltown, eiderdown, Chinatown, Portadown, broken-down, tumbledown, dumbing down, upside down, one-horse town

**Wee Willie Winkie runs through the town,  
Upstairs and downstairs in his nightgown.**

NURSERY RHYME

**29.6** bound, found, ground, hound, mound, pound, Pound, round, sound, Sound, wound, \* abound, unbound, propound, compound, astound, profound, dumbfound, confound, around, surround, uncrowned, aground, unwound, unsound, rewind, re-sound, rebound, impound, expound, redound, renowned, resound, \* wraparound, background, hardbound, brassbound, chairbound, fairground, casebound, greyhound, playground, changeround, westbound, spellbound, elkhound, hellhound, earthbound, turnround, deerhound, rebound, eastbound, windbound, inbound, whip-round, milk round, strikebound, hidebound, ice-bound, fogbound, pot-bound, softbound, frostbound, clothbound, compound, foxhound, northbound, stormbound, horehound, foreground, all-round, outbound, southbound, housebound, showground, snowbound, homebound, stoneground, bloodhound, wolfhound, sleuthhound, newshound, \* wraparound, battleground, Afghan hound, stamping ground, Sensurround®, turnaround, infrasound, ironbound, Outward Bound®, overground, overwound, run-around, underground, ultrasound, \* superabound, merry-go-round, \* theatre-in-the-round, happy hunting ground

**Come, knit hands, and beat the ground,  
In a light fantastic round.**

JOHN MILTON

**29.7** bounds, grounds, hounds, pounds, sounds, zounds, \* abounds, surrounds, resounds, etc.

**29.8** lounge, scrounge

**29.9** bounce, flounce, jounce, ounce, pounce, trounce, counts, founts, mounts, \* accounts, amounts, announce, pronounce, denounce, enounce, renounce, \* mispronounce

**29.10** bounced, flounced, jounced, pounced, trounced, \* announced, pronounced, denounced, enounced, renounced, \* unannounced, mispronounced

**29.11** Blount, count, fount, mount, \* account, amount, surmount, re-count, remount, recount, discount, miscount, dismount, \* head count, re-count, discount, viscount, \* bank account, catamount, tantamount, paramount

**We all know a kitten, but come to a catamount  
The beast is a stranger when grown up to that amount.**

OLIVER WENDELL HOLMES

**29.12** douse, gauss, Gauss, grouse, house, Klaus, Laos, louse, mouse, nous, Rowse, scouse, Scouse, souse, spouse, Strauss, \* degauss, delouse, in-house, \* taphouse, madhouse, sandgrouse, guardhouse, bathhouse, farmhouse, glasshouse, almshouse, warehouse, playhouse, bakehouse, steakhouse, gatehouse, alehouse, jailhouse, deckhouse, penthouse, guesthouse, henhouse, workhouse, birdhouse, teahouse, treehouse, wheelhouse, greenhouse, fieldmouse, Brighthouse, titmouse, lighthouse, White House, ice house, lobscouse, chophouse, flophouse, doghouse, hothouse, dosshouse, doll's house, wash house, Moorhouse, poorhouse, storehouse, whorehouse, courthouse, dormouse, Bauhaus, roundhouse, outhouse, town house, powerhouse, smokehouse, roadhouse, boathouse, oast house, tollhouse, coach house, clubhouse, bunkhouse, Monkhouse,

roughhouse, cookhouse, Wodehouse, Woodhouse, woodlouse, woodgrouse, schoolhouse, \* chapterhouse, manor house, Ladislaus, Charterhouse, Lévi-Strauss, clearing house, Peterhouse, meeting house, flittermouse, Mickey Mouse, porterhouse, slaughterhouse, Waterhouse, bawdyhouse, boarding house, house-to-house, summerhouse, custom house, \* *Die Fledermaus*, \* Holyroodhouse

**29.13** doused, Faust, frowst, groused, joust, oust, roust, soused, \* degaussed, deloused, etc.

**29.14** bout, clout, doubt, drought, flout, gout, grout, lout, nowt, out, owt, pout, Prout, rout, scout, Scout, shout, snout, spout, sprout, stout, tout, trout, \* about, mahout, clapped out, way-out, spaced out, self-doubt, redoubt, devout, without, washed out, all-out, throughout, \* blackout, hand-out, hang-out, payout, break-out, stakeout, checkout, sellout, workout, turnout, clear-out, eelpout, readout, bean sprout, printout, buyout, hide-out, whiteout, time-out, cop-out, dropout, knockout, lockout, opt-out, walkout, fallout, sauerkraut, blowout, foldout, dugout, cutout, lookout, umlaut, shoot-out, \* gadabout, carry-out, lager lout, layabout, turnabout, litter lout, ticket tout, knockabout, walkabout, waterspout, well-thought-out, inside out, long-drawn-out, roundabout, roustabout, out-and-out, down-and-out, runabout, Brussels sprout

**Ne'er cast a clout till May be out.**

**Saying**

**29.15** doubts, grouts, louts, Scouts, shouts, sprouts, touts, \* blackouts, bean sprouts, dropouts, \* lager louts, layabouts, thereabouts, whereabouts, hereabouts, Brussels sprouts, etc.

**29.16** Louth, mouth, Routh, south, \* bad-mouth, Grangemouth, bigmouth, Tynemouth, loudmouth, goalmouth, \* blabbermouth, hand-to-mouth, Avonmouth, Lossiemouth, mouth-to-mouth

**29.17** blouse, boughs, bows, brows, browse, Cowes, cows, dowse, drowse, house, Mao's, ploughs, rouse, rows, spouse, vows, \* allows, arouse,

carouse, meows, rehouse, espouse, endows, \* eyebrows, \* disavows, disallows, overblouse, etc.

**30.1** Audi, cloudy, dowdy, howdy, rowdy, Saudi, doughty, gouty, bounty, *Bounty*, county, Mountie, frowsty, mouthy, Southey, Cowley, foulie, Pauli, loudly, proudly, roundly, soundly, stoutly, cowrie, dowry, floury, Gowrie, Lowry, Maori, Cowdrey, foundry, Rowntree, Bowie, Cowie, Howie, brownie, Brownie, downy, townie, mousy, bouncy, blowsy, drowsy, frowzy, lousy, grouchy, slouchy, \* profoundly, devoutly, Blairgowrie, Dalhousie, \* housey-housey

**30.2** Glauber, Cowper, chowder, Gouda, howdah, powder, Lauda, louder, prouder, bounder, flounder, founder, pounder, rounder, sounder, doubter, grouter, outer, pouter, router, Scouter, shouter, spouter, stouter, touter, counter, mounter, ouster, jouter, Crowther, mouther, fouler, Fowler, growler, howler, prowler, scowler, Bowdler, browner, crowner, downer, frowner, grouser, Hausa, mouser, Scouser, schnauzer, bouncer, browser, dowser, Mauser, rouser, trouser, voucher, gouger, lounge, scrounger, \* profounder, encounter, announcer, denouncer, arouser, carouser, \* gunpowder, rev counter, wildfowler, sundowner, sun-lounge, \* Geiger counter, rabble-rouser, \* found her, rouse her, etc.

**We two should be like clams in a dish of chowder,  
But we just fizz like parts of a Seidlitz powder.**  
DOROTHY FIELDS

**30.3** clouded, crowded, powdered, shrouded, bounded, founded, grounded, pounded, rounded, sounded, doubted, flouted, grouted, outed, routed, shouted, spouted, sprouted, counted, mounted, josted, ousted, outward, southward, downward, \* unclouded, uncrowded, enshrouded, unbounded, compounded, astounded, confounded, unfounded, surrounded, unsounded, impounded, resounded, undoubted, uncounted, unmounted, re-counted, recounted, dismounted, \* overcrowded, unaccounted, etc.

**30.4** outwards, southwards, downwards

**30.5** groundage, poundage, Routledge

**30.6** Oundle, poundal, roundel, doubtful, scoundrel, council, counsel, groundsel, Mousehole, spousal, tousle, \* arousal, carousal, espousal

**30.7** fountain, mountain, \* shoutin', countin', etc.

**30.8** Cowan, Gowan, rowan, louden, Plowden, bounden, Broughton, Houghton, Rowton, Stoughton, cowman, ploughman, Hauptmann, Kaufman, houseman, Housman, groundsman, roundsman, townsman, \* McCowan, McGowan, \* Stockhausen, Munchausen

**30.9** Dowland, thousand, \* Newfoundland

**30.10** couchant, \* accountant, endowment, impoundment, announcement, pronouncement

**30.11** accountants, allowance, endowments, announcements, pronouncements

**30.12** bowing, ploughing, vowing, clouding, crowding, Dowding, shrouding, bounding, grounding, hounding, pounding, sounding, doubting, flouting, grouting, outing, pouting, Scouting, shouting, spouting, sprouting, touting, counting, mounting, jousting, ousting, cowling, Dowling, fouling, growling, howling, prowling, scowling, foundling, groundling, downswing, browning, Browning, clowning, crowning, Downing, drowning, frowning, bouncing, flouncing, trouncing, browsing, dowsing, housing, rousing, crouching, grouching, slouching, lounging, scrounging, \* allowing, endowing, kowtowing, enshrouding, abounding, astounding, surrounding, resounding, accounting, amounting, discounting, announcing, pronouncing, befouling, arousing, carousing, \* wildfowling, \* disavowing, overcrowding, antifouling, etc.

**30.13** Powys, prowess, countess

**30.14** cloudless, boundless, groundless, soundless, doubtless, countless, foundress, loudness, roundness, soundness, stoutness, \* bound us, count us, etc.

**30.15** Maoist, Taoist

**30.16** loudest, proudest, stoutest, foulest, brownest, \* profoundest, etc.

**30.17** roundish, loutish, owlsh, brownish, clownish

**30.18** Jowett, outfit, Howlett, owlet, \* found it, drown it, etc.

**30.19** outfits, Auschwitz, owlets, etc.

**30.20** counties, Mounties, Maoris, Brownies, townies, etc.

**30.21** powders, rounders, prowlers, browsers, trousers, vouchers, scroungers, etc.

**30.22** doubtfully, scoundrelly, outwardly, downwardly, Chaudhury, powdery, boundary, drowsily, \* undoubtedly, accountancy, avowedly, astoundingly, \* unaccountably, etc.

**30.23** counsellor, flounderer, Gautama, dowager, councillor, howitzer, \* Newfoundland

**30.24** countable, bountiful, \* allowable, redoubtable, accountable, uncountable, surmountable, pronounceable, \* unaccountable, insurmountable, unputdownable, unpronounceable

**30.25** countenance, \* discountenance

**30.26** trouserless, bounteous, cloudiness, mountainous, drowsiness, etc.

## -ower-

*The rhymes in this section have the 'ower' sound of hour and towering as their main or final vowel sound.*

**31.1** bower, cower, dour, dower, flour, flower, glower, Gower, hour, lour, our, power, scour, shower, sour, Stour, tower, \* half-hour, Glendower, deflower, empower, devour, \* man-hour, manpower, brainpower, mayflower, Mayflower, plain flour, watchtower, bell tower, willpower, windflower, fire power, horsepower, wallflower, cornflour, cornflower, sunflower, rush-hour, moonflower, \* candlepower, passionflower, Adenauer, staying power, Beckenbauer, elderflower, Penmaenmawr, sweet-and-sour, disempower, gillyflower, Eisenhower, Schopenhauer, cauliflower, overpower, superpower, \* ivory tower, self-raising flour, kilowatt-hour

**Not Heaven itself upon the past has power;  
But what has been, has been, and I have had my hour.**

JOHN DRYDEN

**31.2** coward, Coward, cowered, flowered, glowered, Howard, loured, powered, scoured, showered, soured, towered, \* deflowered, empowered, devoured, \* Frankie Howerd, Castle Howard, overpowered, solar-powered, Noël Coward, underpowered

**31.3** [[see also](#)] bowel, Cowal, Cowell, dowel, Dowell, Howell, Hywel, Powell, rowel, towel, trowel, vowel, \* McDowell, avowal, \* Baden-Powell, semivowel, Enoch Powell, disavowal, disembowel

**31.4** bowels, Howells, towels, vowels, etc.

**31.5** flowers, hours, ours, Powers, showers, towers, \* Alton Towers, *Fawlty Towers*, superpowers, etc.

**Here the youthful Giorgione gazed upon the domes and towers,  
And interpreted his era in a way which pleases ours.**

JOHN BETJEMAN

**32.1** dourly, hourly, sourly, cowardly, bowery, Bowery, dowry, floury, flowery, showery

**32.2** flowerer, scourer, \* devourer, \* shower her, empower her, etc.

**32.3** cowering, flowering, glowering, louring, powering, scouring, showering, towering, dowelling, towelling, \* deflowering, empowering, devouring, \* overpowering, etc.

## -oy-

*The rhymes in this section have the 'oy' sound of toy and noisy as their main or final vowel sound.*

**33.1** boy, buoy, cloy, coy, Fowey, goy, joy, Joy, koi, oi, ploy, Roy, soy, toy, Troy, \* McCoy, Savoy, ahoy, alloy, Molloy, Amoy, annoy, Hanoi, deploy, employ, destroy, enjoy, Rob Roy, \* sandboy, alloy, Tannoy®, dayboy, playboy, pageboy, rent boy, envoy, bellboy, sepoy, decoy, Leroy, Kilroy, killjoy, choirboy, life buoy, viceroy, tomboy, Tolstoy, Conroy, Bolshoi, ball boy, tallboy, Korchnoi, borzoi, cowboy, houseboy, toy boy, Khoikhoi, doughboy, lowboy, homeboy, Lovejoy, schoolboy, newsboy, \* attaboy, saveloy, paperboy, stableboy, ladyboy, real McCoy, redeploy, Iroquois, didicoy, Illinois, pride and joy, altar boy, Fauntleroy, corduroy, hoi polloi, bullyboy, blue-eyed boy, \* hobbledehoy, Old Man of Hoy

**The Harbour of Fowey  
Is a beautiful spot,  
And it's there I enjoyey  
To sail in a yot;  
Or to race in a yacht  
Round a mark or a buoy –  
Such a beautiful spacht  
Is the Harbour of Fuoy!**  
SIR ARTHUR QUILLER-COUCH

**33.2** Hawick, hoick, oik

**33.3** hoicks, oiks, yoicks

**33.4** Boyd, buoyed, cloyed, Floyd, Freud, Lloyd, toyed, void, \* avoid, annoyed, devoid, deployed, employed, Pink Floyd, destroyed, enjoyed, \* tabloid, Ackroyd, android, steroid, Negroid, typhoid, thyroid, colloid, Holroyd, ovoid, cuboid, Boothroyd, \* anthropoid, alkaloid, aneroid, asteroid, paranoid, planetoid, amyloid, adenoid, metalloid, haemorrhoid, Betws-y-Coed, self-employed, celluloid, dermatoid, Murgatroyd, redeployed, crystalloid, myeloid, Mongoloid, Australoid, hominoid, Caucasoid, Polaroid®, overjoyed, solenoid, unalloyed, unemployed, rheumatoid, humanoid, \* meteoroid, underemployed

**33.5** Lloyd's, \* tabloids, steroids, \* adenoids, haemorrhoids, etc.

**33.6** boil, Boyle, broil, coil, Doyle, foil, Foyle, Hoyle, moil, Moyle, noil, oil, roil, Royle, soil, spoil, toil, voile, \* uncoil, despoil, recoil, embroil, \* parboil, gargoyle, trefoil, jetfoil, turmoil, tinfoil, topsoil, gumboil, subsoil, \* castor oil, aerofoil, disembroil, hydrofoil, olive oil, counterfoil, Conan Doyle, undersoil, \* cod liver oil

**Whence is thy learning? Hath thy toil  
O'er books consumed the midnight oil?**

JOHN GAY

**33.7** boiled, oiled, soiled, spoiled, toiled, \* unspoiled, uncoiled, despoiled, recoiled, embroiled, \* parboiled, hard-boiled, soft-boiled, shopsoiled, etc.

**33.8** Boyne, coin, groin, groyne, join, loin, quoin, \* Des Moines, adjoin, conjoin, Ardoyne, Burgoyne, purloin, rejoin, enjoin, disjoin, Dordogne, Boulogne, \* Gascoigne, sirloin, \* tenderloin

**33.9** boink, oink

**33.10** joint, point, \* appoint, anoint, conjoint, reappoint, disjoint, \* standpoint, cashpoint, flash point, waypoint, breakpoint, checkpoint, endpoint, clip joint, strip joint, midpoint, pinpoint, knifepoint, strong point, sore point, ballpoint, power point, gunpoint, dew point, viewpoint, \* vantage point, reappoint, needlepoint, freezing point, silverpoint, disappoint, boiling point, counterpoint

**33.11** Boyce, choice, Joyce, Royce, voice, \* rejoice, Rolls-Royce, pro-choice, \* invoice

**33.12** foist, hoist, joist, moist, voiced, \* unvoiced, rejoiced

**33.13** quoit, \* dacoit, adroit, exploit, Detroit, Bayreuth, \* maladroit

**33.14** quoits, \* dacoits, exploits, \* *Hakenkreuz*

**33.15** boys, buoys, Joy's, noise, poise, Roy's, toys, \* annoys, employs, destroys, enjoys, \* pageboys, turquoise, decoys, choirboys, cowboys, schoolboys, \* paperboys, stableboys, equipoise, redeploys, altar boys, corduroys, counterpoise, bullyboys, etc.

**Secrets with girls, like loaded guns with boys,  
Are never valued till they make a noise.**

GEORGE CRABBE

**34.1** Toynbee, pointy, coyly, doily, oily, jointly, noisy, \* dacoity, adroitly, \* hoity-toity

**34.2** Boyer, coyer, foyer, Goya, lawyer, sawyer, Sawyer, soya, Toyah, troika, broider, moider, joinder, goitre, loiter, Reuter, jointer, pointer, cloister, moister, oyster, roister, boiler, broiler, Euler, oiler, spoiler, toiler, Moira, coiner, joiner, choicer, moisture, \* employer, sequoia, destroyer, Tom Sawyer, embroider, avoider, rejoinder, exploiter, appointer, anointer, despoiler, purloiner, rejoicer, \* potboiler, Tannhäuser, \* paranoia, *perestroika*, *Schadenfreude*, reconnoitre, \* employ her, avoid her, etc.

**34.3** jointed, pointed, foisted, hoisted, \* avoided, embroidered, exploited, appointed, anointed, disjointed, \* unexploited, well-appointed, self-appointed, reappointed, disappointed, etc.

**34.4** buoyage, voyage, soilage, spoilage, coinage

**34.5** loyal, royal, foible, Brueghel, joyful, \* disloyal, \* adenoidal, haemorrhoidal

**34.6** noisome, toilsome, \* destroys 'em, spoils 'em, etc.

**34.7** oilskin, hoisin, \* boilin', pointin', etc.

**34.8** doyen, Croydon, hoyden, Royston, Boyson, moisten, foison, poison, \* Iroquoian, Illinoisan

**34.9** buoyant, poignant, ointment, \* flamboyant, clairvoyant, deployment, employment, enjoyment, appointment, \* self-employment, redeployment, unemployment, disappointment

**34.10** annoyance, flamboyance, clairvoyance, clairvoyants, avoidance, appointments, etc.

**34.11** cloying, toying, pointing, foisting, hoisting, boiling, broiling, oiling, soiling, spoiling, toiling, coining, joining, voicing, \* annoying, destroying, enjoying, avoiding, appointing, anointing, recoiling, adjoining, purloining, rejoicing, \* soul-destroying, disappointing, etc.

**34.12** joyous, joyless, Troilus, pointless, voiceless, noiseless, boisterous, coyness, \* adroitness, \* annoy us, spoil us, etc.

**34.13** toilet, \* oil it, spoil it, etc.

**34.14** loyalty, royalty, royally, loyally, joyfully, pointedly, poignantly, joyously, pointlessly, boisterously, joinery, buoyancy, poignancy, moiety, noisily, boyishly, toiletry, \* disloyalty, vicerealty, flamboyantly, embroidery, flamboyancy, annoyingly, \* disappointingly, etc.

**34.15** loiterer, roisterer, poisoner, Drogheda, voyager, \* embroiderer

**34.16** boilable, joinable, coital, \* employable, destroyable, enjoyable, avoidable, exploitable, \* unemployable, unavoidable

**34.17** Freudian, Moynihan, Joycean

**34.18** boisterous, roisterous, poisonous, joyfulness, coitus, etc.

**34.19** loyalist, royalist, pointillist

**34.20** pointiest, oiliest, noisiest, etc.

## -oe-

*The rhymes in this section have the 'oe' sound of boat and grocer as their main or final vowel sound.*

**35.1** beau, blow, bow, bro, Co., Coe, crow, Crowe, doe, doh, dough, Flo, floe, flow, foe, fro, glow, go, grow, ho, hoe, Jo, Joe, know, lo, low, Mo, mo', mow, no, O, oh, owe, po, Po, Poe, pro, roe, row, Rowe, sew, show, sloe, slow, snow, so, soh, sow, stow, Stowe, though, throe, throw, toe, tow, woe, yo

**Let your little verses flow**

**Gently, sweetly, row by row.**

HENRY CAREY

**35.2** ago, gung-ho, hullo, aglow, Moreau, Thoreau, *de trop*, Monroe, Munro, dunno, just so, Lascaux, Margaux, Bardot, bravo, heigh-ho, Glencoe, hello, per pro, BO, CO, regrow, bestow, Defoe, below, skid row, righto, John Doe, forego, forgo, Bordeaux, although, foreknow, foreshow, go-slow, outgrow, good-oh

**35.3** Abo, jabot, sabot, flambeau, mambo, Rambo, Rimbaud, Tambo, ASBO, capo, cachepot, Franco, NALGO, Django, mango, quango, tango, Tango®, saddo, shadow, bandeau, Brando, chateau, gateau, plateau, alto, canto, panto, Padstow, salvo, aloe, Boileau, callow, fallow, hallow, mallow, sallow, shallow, tallow, Pablo, tableau, cash flow, arrow, barrow, farrow, harrow, Harrow, Jarrow, marrow, narrow, sparrow, tarot, yarrow, macro, aggro, Afro, ammo, piano, fatso, matzo, chat show, macho, banjo, \* wheelbarrow, \* foreshadow, glissando, Orlando, annatto, mulatto, de facto, contralto, Rialto, Taranto, bel canto, portmanteau, impasto, tobacco,

Tabasco, fiasco, hidalgo, fandango, marshmallow, piano, sargasso, El Paso, Picasso, gazpacho, \* overshadow, rallentando, San Fernando, Palo Alto, Esperanto, antipasto, paparazzo

**I, said the Sparrow,  
With my bow and arrow,  
I killed Cock Robin.**  
NURSERY RHYME

**35.4** Garbo, Marco, taco, Argo, argot, cargo, Fargo, largo, Margot, Glasgow, Prado, arvo, bravo, Barlow, Carlo, Carlow, Harlow, Marlow, Marlowe, Arnaud, Arno, Carnot, guano, Kano, \* Gestapo, farrago, embargo, Chicago, Zhivago, virago, bravado, Barnardo, Bernardo, Mikado, Ricardo, commando, staccato, tomato, castrato, legato, vibrato, St Malo, Pissarro, soprano, Meccano®, Cinzano®, Locarno, \* Santiago, Pago Pago, avocado, muscovado, desperado, El Dorado, Colorado, Leonardo, bastinado, moderato, pizzicato, obbligato, Monte Carlo, Marciano, oregano, \* aficionado, amontillado, innamorato, Kilimanjaro, \* incommunicado

**35.5** scarecrow, airflow, Aero®, faro, Pharaoh, airshow, \* caballero

**35.6** Mayo, rainbow, sago, credo, dado, Cato, NATO, Plato, halo, Day-Glo®, peso, \* Tobago, lumbago, Diego, Toledo, Laredo, tornado, potato, Soweto, Delano, volcano, \* Bulawayo, Galileo, San Diego, Winnebago, Valparaiso, \* Alfa Romeo, Montevideo, \* Tierra del Fuego

**35.7** elbow, depot, tempo, dekho, echo, Eco, gecko, fresco, Tesco, Lego®, meadow, kendo, ghetto, Steptoe, recto, lento, pesto, presto, Chepstow, bellow, cello, fellow, Jell-o®, mellow, yellow, Pueblo, deathblow, Velcro®, escrow, metro, retro, Jethro, hedgerow, demo, memo, Renault, Esso, gesso, Enzo, \* bedfellow, Oddfellow, Longfellow, schoolfellow, \* Aleppo, Art Deco, El Greco, re-echo, flamenco, Lysenko, alfresco, UNESCO, Marengo, Nintendo®, crescendo, Soweto, stiletto, libretto, falsetto, Sorrento, trecento, memento, pimento, Novello, Othello, morello, Martello, Marcello, Costello, bordello, Uccello, allegro, espresso, Lorenzo, Vincenzo, \* Timoshenko, Yevtushenko, Ionesco, innuendo, Canaletto, vaporetto, amaretto, amoretto,

Tintoretto, allegretto, Sacramento, quattrocento, pentimento, cinquecento, manifesto, Portobello, Pirandello, Donatello, PUNCHINELLO, intermezzo, \* diminuendo, divertimento, Risorgimento, violoncello

**35.8** turbo, ergo, Virgo, Merlot, furlough, Pernod®, verso, Peugeot, \* Umberto, concerto, Alberto, Palermo, Salerno, inferno, bolero, sombrero

**35.9** weirdo, hero, Nero, Pierrot, Spiro, zero, \* Shapiro, subzero, De Niro, Pinero, \* antihero, superhero, \* Rio de Janeiro

**35.10** brio, Cleo, Clio, Leo, Rio, trio, cheapo, repo, Biko, Chico, pekoe, picot, ego, credo, lido, speedo, Tito, veto, filo, kilo, Negro, bistro, chemo, beano, *Beano*, chino, fino, Gino, Reno, vino, peepshow, \* con brio, Trujillo, placebo, gazebo, Enrico, amigo, Rodrigo, tuxedo, libido, torpedo, graffito, Benito, magneto, mosquito, yo-heave-ho, El Niño, supremo, Aquino, Latino, Trevino, merino, amino, casino, Pacino, albino, bambino, neutrino, \* Puerto Rico, alter ego, superego, Hirohito, incognito, Borodino, Tarantino, Valentino, Bardolino, San Marino, palomino, maraschino, Filipino, cappuccino

**35.11** bimbo, Chrimbo, limbo, gyppo, hippo, sicko, thicko, wilco, gingko, pinko, disco, bingoo, dingo, gringo, jingo, lingo, Ringo, widow, dildo, window, ditto, tiptoe, pinto, Shinto, Bisto®, Bristow, nympho, info, billow, pillow, willow, Wicklow, whitlow, inflow, limo, gizmo, minnow, winnow, dipso, schizo, \* akimbo, Francisco, flamingo, Murillo, machismo, calypso, \* San Francisco, Monte Cristo, armadillo, peccadillo, Amarillo, cigarillo, \* Santo Domingo, \* in flagrante delicto

**35.12** hypo, typo, psycho, Tycho, Sligo, Dido, Fido, litho, Lilo®, Milo, Shiloh, silo, Biro®, Cairo, giro, tyro, maestro, lino, rhino, wino, sideshow, \* Ohio, Hokkaido, \* impetigo

**35.13** yobbo, fogbow, combo, longbow, crossbow, oxbow, oppo, bronco, Moscow, doggo, bongo, Congo, drongo, Pongo, condo, rondeau, rondo, blotto, Giotto, grotto, lotto, motto, Otto, potto, Watteau, pronto, Volvo, follow, hollow, Rollo, swallow, wallow, Oslo, borrow, Corot, morrow, sorrow, cockcrow, Cointreau®, mono, tonneau, Oxo®, honcho, poncho, \*

Morocco, sirocco, Belmondo, risotto, Toronto, Apollo, tomorrow, Alfonso,  
\* Mato Grosso

**Eagerly I wished the morrow, – vainly had I sought to borrow  
From my books surcease of sorrow – sorrow for the lost Lenore.**  
EDGAR ALLAN POE

**35.14** Waldo, auto, quarto, porno, torso, also, \* Oporto, Livorno

**35.15** bureau, Douro, euro, Truro, \* Politburo, chiaroscuro

**35.16** hobo, oboe, Coco, cocoa, loco, logo, Togo, dodo, Frodo, photo, Toto, Soho, polo, Polo, Rolo®, solo, yo-yo, Tokyo, Como, homo, promo, slo-mo, no-no, so-so, bozo, \* Limpopo, rococo, iroko, *ex voto*, Kyoto, *in toto*, con moto, Barolo, kimono, \* Orinoco, Quasimodo, telephoto, Marco Polo, major-domo, Ecce Homo, Perry Como, amoroso, doloroso, oloroso, mafioso, virtuoso

**35.17** dumbo, Dumbo, gumbo, jumbo, stucco, Mungo, gusto, Ludlow, burrow, furrow, \* Colombo, Columbo, \* mumbo jumbo

**35.18** duo, Hugo, Cluedo®, judo, ludo, pseudo, Trudeau, Bhutto, Pluto, rouleau, sumo, Bruno, Gounod, Juno, Clouseau, Crusoe, Rousseau, trousseau, whoso, ouzo, \* escudo, testudo, prosciutto, Profumo

**35.19** apropos, hammertoe, Navaho, Scapa Flow, Alamo, aquashow, patio, cameo, Anzio, tally-ho, calico, haricot, aristo, McEnroe, Maginot, afterglow, Martineau, Art Nouveau, status quo, Status Quo, radio, ratio, pedalo, tremolo, ebb and flow, Blériot, stereo, embryo, NCO, medico, Jellicoe, Jericho, Mexico, Bendigo, Eskimo, Herstmonceux, vertigo, furbelow, cheerio, PLO, VSO, PTO, Felixstowe, mistletoe, piccolo, gigolo, Figaro, Cicero, tick-tack-toe, Scipio, video, billyo, indigo, quid pro quo, Idaho, dynamo, tae kwon do, Monaco, Kosovo, contraflow, Prospero, comme il faut, Fontainebleau, domino, Scorpio, audio, Claudio, Borneo, Curaçao, curio, tournedos, overflow, overthrow, oversee, so-and-so, Tokyo, rodeo, folio, polio, Romeo, do-si-do, blow-by-blow, undergo, touch and go, undertow, bungalow, buffalo, bummalo, underflow, nuncio, to and fro,

Huguenot, UFO, studio, Boucicault, subito, \* malapropos, Arapaho, diablo, Ajaccio, DiMaggio, simpatico, seraglio, intaglio, scenario, Lothario, mustachio, pistachio, Boccaccio, adagio, Correggio, arpeggio, solfeggio, Abednego, presidio, puntilio, capriccio, politico, magnifico, fortissimo, continuo, Geronimo, Pinocchio, imbroglio, portfolio, Antonio, \* Michelangelo, impresario, archipelago, ex officio, pianissimo, oratorio, San Antonio, braggadocio, \* generalissimo

**35.20** daube, globe, Job, lobe, probe, robe, strobe, \* enrobe, disrobe, \* bathrobe, aerobe, ear lobe, microbe, wardrobe, \* Francophobe, Anglophobe, xenophobe, technophobe, homophobe, claustrophobe, Europhobe, Russophobe, \* agoraphobe

**35.21** bloke, broke, choke, cloak, coke, Coke®, croak, folk, joke, make, oak, poke, smoke, soak, spoke, stoke, stroke, woke, yoke, yolk, \* provoke, convoke, baroque, awoke, unyoke, decoke, bespoke, evoke, revoke, invoke, \* backstroke, Greystoke, menfolk, Pembroke, breaststroke, keystroke, heatstroke, kinfolk, kinsfolk, in-joke, cowpoke, townsfolk, downstroke, slowpoke, upstroke, sunstroke, \* masterstroke, artichoke, Basingstoke, gentlefolk, womenfolk, counterstroke, Roanoke, Holyoake, stony-broke, okey-doke

**35.22** coax, chokes, cloaks, folks, hoax, Noakes, oaks, Oakes, stokes, yolks, \* artichokes, Sevenoaks, etc.

**35.23** choked, cloaked, croaked, smoked, stoked, stroked, \* provoked, unyoked, unsoaked, unsmoked, evoked, revoked, \* unprovoked, unrevoked, etc.

**35.24** broach, brooch, coach, Loach, poach, roach, Roach, \* approach, reproach, encroach, \* stagecoach, mailcoach, cockroach, slowcoach, \* motorcoach, self-reproach

**35.25** blowed, bode, bowed, code, crowed, flowed, glowed, goad, load, lode, mode, mowed, node, ode, owed, road, rode, rowed, snowed, Spode, strode, toad, towed, woad, \* abode, unload, upload, corrode, commode, decode, reload, encode, bestowed, explode, implode, erode, off-load,

forebode, Morse code, download, \* cathode, hallowed, vanload, arrowed, narrowed, bar code, cartload, payload, railroad, echoed, mellowed, yellowed, shedload, freeload, workload, zip code, widowed, tiptoed, shipload, diode, triode, byroad, highroad, sideroad, followed, swallowed, borrowed, sorrowed, download, postcode, boatload, coachload, toll road, truckload, burrowed, furrowed, \* foreshadowed, unhallowed, re-echoed, electrode, \* wagonload, à la mode,, nematode, anyroad, episode, pigeon-toed, incommode, discommode, lorryload, overload, overflowed, overrode, \* mustachioed, etc.

**Before the Roman came to Rye or out to Severn strode,  
The rolling English drunkard made the rolling English road.**

G. K. CHESTERTON

**35.26** codes, goads, loads, Rhodes, toads, \* cartloads, inroads, byroads, highroads, crossroads, truckloads, etc.

**35.27** loaf, oaf

**35.28** brogue, drogue, Pogue, rogue, vogue, *Vogue*, \* Minogue, prorogue, \* disemboque

**35.29** doge, loge, Vosges, \* Limoges

**35.30** bole, boll, bowl, coal, Cole, dole, droll, foal, goal, hole, Knole, knoll, Knowle, kohl, Kohl, mole, pole, Pole, poll, prole, role, roll, Scholl, scroll, Seoul, shoal, skol, sole, soul, stole, stroll, toll, troll, vole, whole, \* condole, parole, patrol, control, unroll, console, cajole, Nicole, de Gaulle, pistole, extol, Tyrol, enrol, North Pole, South Pole, \* flagpole, tadpole, manhole, asshole, bankroll, bargepole, charcoal, armhole, arsehole, air hole, maypole, payroll, hellhole, bedroll, wormhole, earhole, Creole, Sheol, beanpole, keyhole, kneehole, peephole, fishbowl, Wimpole, ridgepole, pinhole, sinkhole, rissole, insole, dipole, eyehole, spyhole, foxhole, knothole, pothole, logroll, console, straw poll, Walpole, borehole, porthole, mousehole, rose bowl, blowhole, dust bowl, punchbowl, Rumpole, lughole, plughole, loophole, \* Gallup poll, caracole, farandole, banderole, casserole, cabriole, dariole, Nat King Cole, camisole, vacuole, barcarole, Charles de

Gaulle, self-control, Seminole, pigeonhole, rigmarole, hidy-hole, rock'n'roll, bronchiole, MORI poll, sausage roll, water hole, aureole, gloriole, oriole, glory hole, totem pole, buttonhole, cubbyhole, multirole, \* arteriole, profiterole

**Old King Cole was a merry old soul.**

NURSERY RHYME

**35.31** bold, bowled, cold, fold, gold, hold, mould, old, polled, rolled, scold, sold, soled, strolled, told, wold, \* unpolled, untold, unfold, uphold, paroled, patrolled, controlled, unrolled, unsold, consoled, cajoled, retold, remould, extolled, enfold, behold, withhold, enrolled, ice-cold, foretold, stone-cold, \* mangold, scaffold, handhold, bankrolled, eightfold, gatefold, Penfold, tenfold, threshold, threefold, sheepfold, freehold, leasehold, remould, sixfold, billfold, blindfold, fivefold, ninefold, Reinhold, potholed, stronghold, Cotswold, Courtauld, fourfold, household, toehold, Rumbold, foothold, twofold, \* stranglehold, casserole, marigold, manifold, centrefold, sevenfold, self-controlled, semibold, Leopold, pigeonholed, hundredfold, buttonholed, uncontrolled, multifold, \* remote-controlled, \* lo and behold, Stow-on-the-Wold, etc.

**The Assyrian came down like the wolf on the fold,  
And his cohorts were gleaming in purple and gold.**

LORD BYRON

**35.32** bolt, Bolt, Boulton, colt, Colt, dolt, holt, jolt, moult, poult, smolt, volt, \* unbolt, revolt, \* eyebolt, ringbolt, Northolt, Humboldt, U-bolt, \* megavolt, kilovolt, thunderbolt, \* electronvolt

**35.33** Bowles, bowls, coals, holes, Knowles, poles, rolls, Rolls, Scholes, voles, etc.

**35.34** chrome, comb, dome, foam, Frome, gnome, holm, home, loam, ohm, Ohm, Om, pome, roam, Rome, tome, \* Jerome, backcomb, rehome, \* maelstrom, Beerbohm, genome, syndrome, biome, rhizome, cockscomb, coxcomb, Stockholm, Bornholm, prodrome, \* astrodome, gastronome, palindrome, aerodrome, velodrome, metronome, hippodrome, liposome,

Styrofoam®, ribosome, fine-tooth comb, monochrome, polychrome, Kodachrome®, chromosome, tumblehome, currycomb, honeycomb, Wolstenholme

**Mid pleasures and palaces though we may roam,  
Be it ever so humble, there's no place like home.**

J. H. PAYNE

**35.35** combs, gnomes, Holmes, Soames, tomes, etc.

**35.36** Beaune, blown, bone, clone, cone, crone, drone, flown, groan, grown, hone, Joan, known, loan, lone, moan, mown, none, own, phone, pone, prone, Rhône, roan, scone, sewn, shown, Sloane, sown, stone, throne, thrown, tone, zone, \* Capone, condone, atone, alone, cologne, Cologne, Malone, Stallone, unknown, unsewn, well-known, dethrone, intone, ingrown, enthrone, bemoan, Simone, disown, Tyrone, trombone, outgrown, postpone, home-grown, full-blown, \* backbone, Rathbone, capstone, Blackstone, flagstone, sandstone, halftone, cardphone, whalebone, aitchbone, Maidstone, gravestone, hailstone, payphone, breastbone, headstone, whetstone, gemstone, cellphone, kerbstone, birthstone, turnstone, earphone, cheekbone, keystone, freephone, hipbone, shinbone, fishbone, wishbone, millstone, brimstone, clingstone, windblown, firestone, thighbone, pine cone, grindstone, milestone, limestone, rhinestone, flyblown, cyclone, jawbone, gallstone, hormone, warzone, neurone, nose cone, copestone, soapstone, lodestone, ozone, bloodstone, touchstone, two-tone, tombstone, moonstone, \* anklebone, Al Capone, staddlestone, Francophone, Anglophone, gramophone, saxophone, stand-alone, chaperone, baritone, acetone, marrowbone, answerphone, barbitone, methadone, megaphone, pheromone, herringbone, semitone, stepping-stone, entryphone, telephone, Yellowstone, skin and bone, Silverstone, Dictaphone®, Linguaphone®, pick-your-own, silicone, bridging loan, ironstone, xylophone, vibraphone, microphone, collarbone, monotone, cobblestone, homophone, cornerstone, cortisone, eurozone, overtone, home-alone, overblown, Toblerone®, overgrown, overthrown, holystone, mobile phone, knucklebone, cuttlebone, undertone, undergrown, unbeknown, fully grown, sousaphone, Movietone®, \* Rosetta Stone,

progesterone, testosterone, \* eau de Cologne, accident-prone, Marylebone, anticyclone, radiophone, videophone, \* Sierra Leone, \* hydrocortisone

**There may be times when couples need a chaperone,  
But mothers ought to learn to leave a chap alone.**

DION TITHERAGE

**35.37** boned, cloned, groaned, moaned, owned, phoned, stoned, \* unboned, condoned, atoned, unstoned, dethroned, intoned, enthroned, bemoaned, disowned, postponed, \* state-owned, rawboned, \* chaperoned, telephoned, \* unchaperoned, etc.

**35.38** don't, wont, won't

**35.39** bones, clones, Joan's, Jones, nones, phones, stones, Stones, zones, \* condones, atones, Simone's, trombones, Tom Jones, postpones, Dow-Jones, \* flagstones, hailstones, headphones, gemstones, fishbones, Flintstones, pine cones, rhinestones, crossbones, sawbones, hormones, \* lazybones, Davy Jones, pheromones, cobblestones, Rolling Stones, knucklebones, \* skull and crossbones, etc.

**35.40** cope, dope, grope, hope, lope, mope, nope, pope, rope, scope, slope, soap, taupe, tope, trope, \* aslope, elope, Bob Hope, soft-soap, \* tightrope, towrope, \* gastroscope, allotope, antipope, antelope, endoscope, stethoscope, spectroscope, envelope, telescope, periscope, philanthrope, misanthrope, skipping rope, gyroscope, microscope, isotope, lycanthrope, horoscope, docu-soap, stroboscope, zoetrope, \* ophthalmoscope, electroscope, oscilloscope, \* laparoscope, stereoscope, CinemaScope®, heliotrope

**35.41** hopes, mopes, ropes, Stopes, etc.

**And scribbled lines like fallen hopes  
On backs of tattered envelopes.**

FRANCIS HOPE

**35.42** close, dose, gross, \* jocose, morose, verbose, engross, \* lactose, dextrose, viscose, ribose, fructose, glucose, sucrose, \* grandiose, adipose, varicose, lachrymose, bellicose, cellulose, overdose, comatose, otiose

**35.43** boast, coast, dosed, ghost, host, most, oast, post, roast, toast, \* riposte, engrossed, \* lamppost, backmost, gatepost, bedpost, endmost, sternmost, rearmost, Freepost®, seacoast, midmost, inmost, guidepost, milepost, signpost, hindmost, topmost, doorpost, foremost, almost, soundpost, outpost, outmost, goalpost, upmost, utmost, \* lattermost, aftermost, farthestmost, nethermost, westernmost, furthermost, easternmost, innermost, middlemost, bottommost, northernmost, outermost, overdosed, lowermost, uppermost, undermost, uttermost, southernmost, newel post

**35.44** gauche, Roche

**35.45** bloat, boat, coat, dote, float, gloat, goat, groat, moat, mote, note, oat, quote, rote, smote, stoat, throat, tote, vote, wrote, \* afloat, promote, connote, unquote, refloat, rewrote, devote, misquote, demote, emote, remote, denote, outvote, \* catboat, flatboat, banknote, sailboat, whaleboat, greatcoat, waistcoat, tailcoat, raincoat, scapegoat, redcoat, endnote, turncoat, speedboat, keelboat, dreamboat, steamboat, sheepcote, keynote, swingboat, lifeboat, zygote, whitethroat, longboat, topcoat, sauce boat, houseboat, housecoat, powerboat, rowboat, showboat, tugboat, gunboat, doveote, cut-throat, footnote, U-boat, Bluecoat, \* nanny goat, antidote, anecdote, asymptote, narrow boat, table d'hôte, gravy boat, sailing boat, ferry boat, petticoat, redingote, creosote, billy goat, entrecôte, motorboat, overcoat, overwrote, rowing boat, undercoat, underwrote

**The llama is a woolly sort of fleecy hairy goat,  
With an indolent expression and an undulating throat.**

HILAIRE BELLOC

**35.46** Coates, coats, floats, goats, groats, notes, Oates, oats, votes, \* banknotes, redcoats, speedboats, lifeboats, footnotes, \* anecdotes, ferry boats, John o'Groats, motorboats, etc.

**35.47** both, growth, loath, oath, quoth, sloth, troth, \* Arbroath, regrowth, ingrowth, outgrowth, \* overgrowth, undergrowth

**35.48** clothe, loathe, \* unclothe, reclothe, betroth

**35.49** clothes, loathes, \* unclothes, plain clothes, reclothes, betroths, \* bedclothes, nightclothes, \* underclothes

**35.50** clove, cove, drove, grove, hove, Hove, Jove, mauve, rove, shrove, stove, strove, throve, trove, wove, \* behove, \* alcove, mangrove, Bromsgrove, Musgrove, \* treasure trove, interwove, Primus stove®, olive grove

**35.51** cloves, droves, groves, Groves, loaves, stoves, etc.

**35.52** blows, chose, close, crows, doze, flows, foes, froze, gloze, goes, hose, Joe's, Mo's, nose, pose, prose, rose, Rose, shows, snows, those, throes, toes, woes, \* oppose, propose, suppose, compose, arose, transpose, depose, refroze, repose, impose, dispose, expose, bestows, enclose, disclose, Montrose, foreclose, outgrows, \* lactose, aloes, gallows, arrows, narrows, sparrows, Ambrose, cargoes, Margot's, Faeroes, scarecrows, rainbows, Plato's, Waitrose, elbows, echoes, bellows, Fellowes, mellows, Melrose, windows, pillows, primrose, minnows, crossbows, bongos, follows, swallows, sorrows, rockrose, hobos, photos, bulldoze, hooknose, glucose, mucose, Hugo's, \* foreshadows, marshmallows, Allhallows, Picasso's, \* adipose, pantihose, lachrymose, granulose, guelder-rose, quelquechose, bellicose, pettitoes, cellulose, Berlioz, furbelows, presuppose, decompose, recompose, reimpose, predispose, interpose, discompose, indispose, diagnose, Comoros, bottlenose, dominoes, curios, comatose, stone the crows, otiose, juxtapose, bungalows, come to blows, shovelnose, superpose, tuberoses, studios, \* arpeggios, misdiagnose, portfolios, \* photocompose, superimpose, overexpose, underexpose, \* metamorphose, etc.

**Whilst Adam slept, Eve from his side arose:  
Strange his first sleep should be his last repose.**

ANONYMOUS

**35.53** closed, dozed, hosed, nosed, posed, \* opposed, proposed, supposed, composed, unposed, deposed, imposed, disposed, exposed, enclosed, disclosed, \* well-disposed, decomposed, predisposed, discomposed, ill-disposed, indisposed, snotty-nosed, toffee-nosed, unopposed, unexposed, undisclosed, superposed, \* undiagnosed, misdiagnosed, \* superimposed, overexposed, underexposed, etc.

**36.1** Chloe, doughy, joey, Joey, showy, snowy, Zoe, dhobi, Gobi, goby, obi, Robey, Roby, Scobie, Toby, dopey, Hopi, mopy, Opie, ropey, soapy, topee, blokey, chokey, croaky, jokey, Loki, oaky, poky, smoky, trochee, bogey, Bogie, dogie, fogey, Logie, yogi, Yogi, Brodie, Cody, Jodie, roadie, toady, Goldie, mouldy, oldie, dhoti, floaty, goaty, oaty, throaty, postie, toasty, Brophy, Kofi, Sophie, strophe, trophy, Povey, Tovey, coaly, coley, Foley, goalie, holey, holy, lowly, Rowley, slowly, nobly, Oakley, Mowgli, boldly, coldly, ghostly, mostly, solely, wholly, homely, lonely, only, Stoneleigh, closely, grossly, Knowsley, Mosley, snowberry, poultry, blowy, Bowie, foamy, homey, know me, loamy, bony, coney, crony, phony, pony, stony, Toni, Tony, Josie, folksy, cosy, dozy, Losey, mosey, nosy, posy, prosy, Rosie, rosy, ogee, \* adobe, Nairobi, Capote, coyote, unholy, aïoli, ignobly, remotely, jocosely, morosely, Dahomey, Salome, Naomi, Bodoni, Mahoney, baloney, Maloney, Mulroney, Marconi, Leonie, Oenone, Giorgione, \* shadowy, willowy, shallowly, narrowly, sorrowfully, \* kalanchoe, karaoke, hokey-cokey, okey-dokey, golden oldie, Don Quixote, guacamole, ravioli, roly-poly, Gaborone, mascarpone, panettone, abalone, cannelloni, zabaglione, macaroni, Annigoni, Castiglione, Albinoni, pepperoni, Berlusconi, cicerone, minestrone, virtuosi, \* Antonioni, \* Sierra Leone, \* Obi-Wan Kenobi, *conversazione*, etc.

**36.2** blower, boa, Boer, Goa, goer, grower, lower, moa, mower, Noah, o'er, rower, sewer, slower, sower, stoa, thrower, zoa, \* aloha, Samoa, Balboa, jerboa, \* racegoer, flamethrower, churchgoer, winegrower, Hornblower, lawn mower, snowblower, woolgrower, \* Alloa, shallower, narrower, mellower, genoa, Genoa, widower, follower, borrower, \* Shenandoah, Krakatoa, theatregoer, partygoer, concertgoer, protozoa, \* cinemagoer, Mies van der Rohe, spermatozoa, \* know her, throw her, etc.

**A million million spermatozoa,  
All of them alive:  
Out of their cataclysm but one poor Noah  
Dare hope to survive.**

ALDOUS HUXLEY

**36.3** lobar, sober, dopa, groper, hoper, moper, Roper, Soper, toper, \*  
October, jojoba, eloper, Europa, no-hoper, \* Manitoba, interloper, \* probe  
her, dope her, etc.

**36.4** broker, choker, coca, croaker, joker, ochre, poker, smoker, stoker,  
Stoker, ogre, toga, yoga, \* provoker, invoker, nonsmoker, \* shipbroker,  
stockbroker, pawnbroker, \* tapioca, mediocre, Saratoga, hatha yoga, \*  
Ticonderoga, \* woke her, provoke her, etc.

**36.5** Clodagh, coda, coder, loader, Oder, odour, Rhoda, Skoda, soda, bolder,  
boulder, colder, folder, Golda, holder, moulder, older, polder, shoulder,  
smoulder, solder, bloater, boater, floater, gloater, motor, quota, rota, rotor,  
scoter, scrota, voter, moulter, Poulter, boaster, coaster, poster, roaster,  
toaster, Towcester, bolster, holster, pollster, \* pagoda, decoder, encoder,  
beholder, cold-shoulder, Dakota, promoter, iota, nonvoter, Toyota, four-  
poster, upholster, \* freeloader, gasholder, cardholder, shareholder,  
stakeholder, freeholder, keyholder, leaseholder, stockholder, bondholder,  
smallholder, stallholder, householder, fundholder, billposter, \* candleholder,  
titleholder, record-holder, Minnesota, roller-coaster, \* policyholder, \* told  
her, promote her, etc.

**36.6** chauffeur, gofer, goffer, gopher, loafer, sofa, clover, Dover, drover,  
Grover, nova, ova, over, rover, Rover, loather, \* Pavlova, Markova, ars  
nova, Jehovah, Moldova, moreover, \* Hanover, handover, hangover, Land  
Rover, flashover, Passover, makeover, takeover, changeover, Range Rover,  
Wendover, leftover, turnover, sleepover, slipover, tick-over, flyover,  
stopover, crossover, Bolsover, walkover, voice-over, rollover, once-over,  
pullover, pushover, \* Casanova, bossa nova, supernova, going-over, \*  
Navratilova, \* drove her, loathe her, etc.

**There'll be bluebirds over  
The white cliffs of Dover.**  
NAT BURTON

**36.7** bola, bowler, coaler, cola, droller, Lola, molar, polar, roller, solar, stroller, Zola, nobler, ogler, cobra, Oprah, Bowyer, \* aloha, patroller, controller, Angola, payola, premolar, viola, bipolar, tombola, Loyola, \* steamroller, potholer, roadroller, \* alveolar, Pepsi-Cola®, Pianola®, minneola, rock'n'roller, bronchiolar, Gorgonzola, Coca-Cola®, Motorola, Moviola®, unipolar, \* Hispaniola, \* stole her, console her, etc.

**36.8** coma, comber, Cromer, Gomer, homer, Homer, Omagh, omer, roamer, Roma, soma, stoma, boner, donor, groaner, Jonah, krona, krone, loner, moaner, Mona, owner, Rhona, Shona, stoner, toner, Grosvenor, \* Tacoma, aroma, sarcoma, diploma, lymphoma, misnomer, fibroma, glaucoma, neuroma, corona, Verona, Pomona, Ramona, Ancona, Pamplona, Daytona, persona, Fiona, cinchona, Cremona, Winona, Iona, co-owner, \* beachcomber, landowner, shipowner, homeowner, \* papilloma, adenoma, carcinoma, melanoma, haematoma, Oklahoma, Arizona, Barcelona, Desdemona, \* phone her, disown her, etc.

**36.9** closer, grocer, grosser, hoaxer, dozer, poser, Rosa, closure, brochure, kosher, poacher, loggia, soldier, \* samosa, mimosa, Formosa, mucosa, opposer, proposer, composer, sub rosa, Mendoza, Spinoza, composure, exposure, disclosure, enclosure, foreclosure, \* greengrocer, bulldozer, \* Nova Scotia, apologia, \* underexposure, overexposure, \* anorexia nervosa, \* knows her, reproach her, etc.

**36.10** stoic, Stoic, phobic, strobic, \* echoic, heroic, aerobic, \* Mesozoic, Cenozoic, unheroic, acrophobic, aquaphobic, anaerobic, aquaerobic, xenophobic, technophobic, necrophobic, hydrophobic, photophobic, homophobic, claustrophobic, Europhobic, yogic, strophic, folic, bromic, chromic, gnomic, homesick, \* achromic, dichromic, \* polychromic, photochromic, \* arachnophobic, \* agoraphobic, Islamophobic

**36.11** prolix, \* heroics, aerobics, \* aquaerobics

**36.12** froward, brokered, boded, coded, goaded, loaded, folded, mouldered, smouldered, soldered, bloated, coated, dotard, doted, floated, gloated, noted, quoted, voted, wonted, posted, toasted, roasted, bolstered, chauffeured, homeward, soldiered, \* uncoded, unloaded, uploaded, corroded, decoded, reloaded, exploded, encoded, spring-loaded, eroded, downloaded, outmoded, unfolded, round-shouldered, promoted, demoted, denoted, devoted, misquoted, outvoted, unwonted, \* railroaded, freeloaded, steamrollered, \* overloaded, colour-coded, unexploded, creosoted, sugar-coated, etc.

**36.13** dotards, homewards

**36.14** flowage, stowage, towage, soakage, dotage, flotage, voltage, postage, dosage, Trowbridge, tollbridge, \* anecdotage, overdosage

**36.15** Joel, Lowell, Noel, Powell, Froebel, global, Mobil®, noble, opal, focal, local, socle, vocal, yokel, bogle, mogul, ogle, modal, nodal, yodel, scrotal, total, coastal, postal, woeful, hopeful, boastful, slothful, doleful, soulful, oval, Oval, Yeovil, tonal, zonal, fo'c's'le, social, \* bestowal, Chernobyl, ennoble, Grenoble, ignoble, bifocal, nonlocal, subtotal, teetotal, reproachful, betrothal, coronal, atonal, hormonal, proposal, deposal, disposal, unsocial, asocial, \* Adrianople, Constantinople, varifocal, sacerdotal, anecdotal, chromosomal, monoclonal, antisocial, \* counterproposal

**36.16** Roald, ogled, yodelled, \* ennobled, etc.

**36.17** Joel's, nobles, locals, yokels, \* bifocals, \* varifocals, etc.

**36.18** Noam, poem, phloem, hokum, locum, Oakham, oakum, Slocombe, Oldham, popedom, scrotum, totem, ovum, Botham, Bolam, Mowlem, loathsome, wholesome, lonesome, \* Siloam, factotum, unwholesome, \* Jeroboam, Rehoboam, \* grow 'em, wrote 'em, etc.

**36.19** Bowen, Cohen, Owen, throw-in, Tobin, goatskin, moleskin, Odin, bowline, Goldwyn, Cronin, phone-in, \* pangolin, \* haemoglobin, melatonin, serotonin, \* rollin', moanin', etc.

**36.20** rowan, Oban, Woburn, open, broken, oaken, spoken, token, woken, brogan, Cogan, Grogan, Hogan, Logan, shogun, slogan, Wogan, loden, Snowdon, Woden, golden, Holden, olden, oaten, Stoughton, Bolton, Boulton, Douulton, molten, Poulton, Folkestone, cloven, proven, woven, colon, Nolan, Solon, stolen, stollen, swollen, bowman, foeman, omen, Roman, showman, yeoman, Goldman, boatman, postman, coalman, Coleman, Colman, coachman, Conan, Onan, Ronan, bosun, Robeson, Jolson, chosen, frozen, Rosen, plosion, lotion, motion, notion, ocean, potion, Trojan, \* Samoan, Virgoan, Minoan, Iowan, reopen, unspoken, unbroken, awoken, plain-spoken, well-spoken, betoken, foretoken, outspoken, beholden, embolden, Dakotan, unproven, Moldovan, Angolan, abdomen, patrolman, unfrozen, well-chosen, refrozen, corrosion, explosion, implosion, erosion, commotion, promotion, demotion, emotion, devotion, \* heartbroken, Hoboken, Beethoven, Eindhoven, \* protozoan, Manitoban, Minnesotan, ibuprofen, interwoven, semicolon, Oklahoman, Arizonan, lederhosen, locomotion, Nova Scotian, theologian

**And many a word, at random spoken,  
May soothe or wound a heart that's broken.**  
SIR WALTER SCOTT

**36.21** opened, jocund, lowland, Poland, Roland, Copeland, Copland, \* unopened, betokened, emboldened, ill-omened, Loch Lomond, etc.

**36.22** rodent, potent, Solent, moment, quotient, cogent, \* elopement, cajolment, enrolment, atonement, enthronement, postponement, encroachment, opponent, proponent, component, exponent

**36.23** rodents, moments, \* condolence, opponents, components, etc.

**36.24** Boeing, bowing, flowing, glowing, going, growing, knowing, owing, rowing, sewing, snowing, probing, robing, coping, groping, hoping, moping, sloping, choking, croaking, joking, smoking, soaking, Woking, boding, coding, goading, loading, folding, Golding, holding, moulding, scolding, boating, coating, doting, floating, gloating, quoting, voting, jolting, moulting, boasting, coasting, ghosting, hosting, posting, roasting,

toasting, bowstring, loafing, coving, roving, clothing, loathing, bowling, polling, rolling, Rowling, scrolling, strolling, tolling, ogling, O-ring, nose ring, coaming, combing, foaming, gloaming, homing, roaming, boning, cloning, droning, groaning, moaning, owning, phoning, stoning, closing, dozing, hosing, posing, broaching, coaching, poaching, \* unknowing, bestowing, foregoing, enrobing, disrobing, eloping, provoking, no-smoking, unloading, uploading, corroding, decoding, reloading, exploding, encoding, eroding, foreboding, downloading, unfolding, upholding, enfolding, beholding, promoting, denoting, misquoting, nonvoting, revolting, patrolling, controlling, unrolling, consoling, cajoling, extolling, enrolling, condoning, intoning, bemoaning, disowning, postponing, opposing, proposing, supposing, composing, reposing, imposing, enclosing, disclosing, foreclosing, approaching, reproaching, encroaching, \* glass-blowing, ingoing, ingrowing, mind-blowing, ongoing, foregoing, outgoing, stockbroking, pawnbroking, railroading, freeloading, breech-loading, shareholding, smallholding, roadholding, fundholding, billposting, flyposting, potholing, logrolling, backcombing, Wyoming, landowning, homeowning, bulldozing, \* shadowing, harrowing, echoing, bellowing, seagoing, billowing, winnowing, following, borrowing, sorrowing, burrowing, \* easy-going, ocean-going, overflowing, thoroughgoing, undergoing, thought-provoking, autoloading, overloading, underclothing, casseroling, tenpin bowling, pigeonholing, buttonholing, chaperoning, telephoning, presupposing, decomposing, diagnosing, juxtaposing, etc.

### **He that goes a-borrowing, goes a-sorrowing.**

#### **SAYING**

**36.25** loess, Lois, Powys, notice, Otis, poultice, Bovis, Hovis®, Clovis, gnosis, ptosis, \* Adonis, sclerosis, narcosis, necrosis, cirrhosis, stenosis, hypnosis, fibrosis, meiosis, psychosis, mitosis, thrombosis, osmosis, prognosis, lordosis, neurosis, \* allantois, stephanotis, myosotis, Issigonis, anthracosis, psittacosis, cyanosis, diagnosis, asbestosis, silicosis, toxicosis, acidosis, halitosis, brucellosis, scoliosis, symbiosis, \* myxomatosis, anastomosis, misdiagnosis, autohypnosis, psychoneurosis, apotheosis, tuberculosis, \* osteoporosis, endometriosis, pneumoconiosis, mononucleosis, \* arteriosclerosis

**36.26** globus, opus, crocus, focus, hocus, locus, bogus, lotus, Scotus, bolus, solus, toeless, hopeless, smokeless, goalless, soulless, homeless, boneless, stoneless, bonus, Cronus, Jonas, lowness, slowness, onus, tonus, boldness, coldness, wholeness, closeness, \* Canopus, refocus, Duns Scotus, Aeolus, remoteness, atrocious, ferocious, precocious, \* shadowless, shallowness, narrowness, mellowness, yellowness, windowless, hollowness, \* magnum opus, diplodocus, autofocus, hocus-pocus, ceanothus, gladiolus, \* pithecanthropus, \* know us, told us, etc.

**Supercalifragilisticexpialidocious**

**Even though the sound of it is something quite atrocious**

**If you say it loud enough, you'll always sound precocious.**

**Supercalifragilisticexpialidocious!**

RICHARD & ROBERT SHERMAN

**36.27** noticed, Fauvist, Gaullist, \* unnoticed, trombonist

**36.28** goest, knowest, slowest, focused, locust, boldest, coldest, oldest, drollest, noblest, closest, grossest, \* unfocused, refocused, \* narrowest, shallowest, mellowest, etc.

**36.29** slowish, modish, soapdish, oldish, roguish, voguish, oafish, toadfish, goldfish, stonefish, Polish

**36.30** poet, obit, Tobit, notelet, bowsprit, \* inchoate, \* know it, hold it, etc.

**Sir, I admit your gen'ral rule**

**That every poet is a fool:**

**But you yourself may serve to show it,**

**That every fool is not a poet.**

ALEXANDER POPE

**36.31** poets, obits, Colditz, notelets, bowsprits

**36.32** motive, votive, plosive, \* emotive, corrosive, explosive, implosive, \* locomotive, automotive

**36.33** Toby's, showbiz, fogeys, oldies, trophies, Chloe's, cronies, ponies, posies, \* litotes, psychoses, prognoses, neuroses, \* golden oldies, diagnoses, \* holy of holies, etc.

**36.34** mowers, rowers, Sobers, brokers, jokers, smokers, boulders, shoulders, voters, coasters, Klosters, molars, rollers, owners, Rhona's, doses, grocers, closes, dozes, Moses, noses, posers, roses, Joneses, coaches, poachers, soldiers, \* no-hopers, nonsmokers, opposes, proposes, \* churchgoers, stockbroker, shareholders, householders, leftovers, homeowners, greengrocers, cockroaches, \* theatregoers, interlopers, etc.

**36.35** nobody, prosody, Ogilvy, globally, Moberly, soberly, locally, vocally, totally, woefully, hopefully, boastfully, dolefully, overly, Rosalie, socially, soldierly, notably, openly, hopelessly, snowberry, Shrewsbury, popery, roguery, coterie, notary, rotary, votary, Bovary, ovary, drollery, topiary, hosiery, rosemary, Rosemary, grocery, causerie, rosary, gaucherie, soldiery, loganberry, momentary, yeomanry, Romany, potency, cogency, probity, showily, croakily, throatily, stonily, cosily, stoically, knowingly, jokingly, roguishly, poetry, poesy, \* devotedly, ferociously, atrociously, upholstery, cajolery, diplomacy, improbity, heroically, supposedly, unknowingly, \* uncontrollably, inconsolably, \* jiggery-pokery, etc.

**36.36** lowlander, yodeller, Crowborough, poulterer, opener, focuser, overture, omega, Colchester, Frobisher, \* teetotaller, upholsterer, Eroica, \* can-opener, tin-opener

**36.37** obeah, phobia, dopier, ropier, soapier, croakier, pokier, smokier, podia, mouldier, fovea, clothier, Grolier, holier, lowlier, ghostlier, lonelier, showier, bonier, phonier, stonier, cosier, crosier, dozier, hosier, osier, nosier, rosier, \* Zenobia, dystopia, myopia, Utopia, Cambodia, Segovia, Fitzrovia, synovia, Monrovia, magnolia, Mongolia, mahonia, ammonia, Antonia, Estonia, dystonia, sinfonia, dysphonia, Livonia, begonia, Ionia, Snowdonia, pneumonia, ambrosia, symposia, \* acrophobia, aquaphobia, aerophobia, xenophobia, technophobia, necrophobia, neophobia, hydrophobia, zoophobia, photophobia, homophobia, nosophobia, claustrophobia, Europhobia, presbyopia, Ethiopia, cornucopia, pseudopodia, Anatolia,

melancholia, Patagonia, catatonia, Catalonia, escallonia, Cephalonia, Amazonia, Caledonia, Macedonia, wellingtonia, Babylonia, Cappadocia, apologia, \* arachnophobia, \* agoraphobia, Islamophobia, bronchopneumonia, etc.

**36.38** growable, knowable, mowable, throwable, towable, foldable, mouldable, notable, potable, quotable, sociable, notional, jovial, stoical, coital, \* unknowable, revokable, controllable, opposable, disposable, unsociable, negotiable, approachable, reproachable, promotional, emotional, devotional, microbial, parochial, custodial, synovial, colloquial, binomial, colonial, baronial, \* uncontrollable, inconsolable, non-negotiable, unapproachable, irreproachable, unemotional, polynomial, matrimonial, patrimonial, testimonial, ceremonial

**Ev'ry corner that you turn you meet a notable  
With a statement that is eminently quotable!**

IRA GERSHWIN

**36.39** opium, odium, podium, rhodium, sodium, chromium, Wokingham, \* petroleum, linoleum, opprobrium, encomium, polonium, ammonium, harmonium, zirconium, meconium, plutonium, euphonium, \* monosodium, pseudopodium, pelargonium, pandemonium

**36.40** Auberger, Doberman, nobleman, Odeon, Rhodian, Jovian, Lothian, Groningen, \* Fallopian, Salopian, Cyclopean, Utopian, custodian, Cambodian, melodeon, Pavlovian, Harrovian, Chekhovian, Midlothian, Napoleon, Ashmolean, aeolian, Mongolian, Draconian, Dundonian, Estonian, Devonian, Etonian, Miltonian, Livonian, Smithsonian, Ionian, Oxonian, Johnsonian, Newtonian, \* Ethiopian, nickelodeon, Nabokovian, Anatolian, Patagonian, Aberdonian, Thessalonian, Ciceronian, Amazonian, Caledonian, Macedonian, Washingtonian, Babylonian, Tennysonian, Cappadocian, theologian

**36.41** deodorant, ennoblement, defoliant

**36.42** odourless, ownerless, motionless, odorous, onerous, hopefulness, boastfulness, openness, hopelessness, homelessness, copious, Gropius,

odious, Grotius, Proteus, coitus, showiness, soapiness, holiness, Holiness, lowliness, loneliness, cosiness, doziness, nosiness, homesickness, \* malodorous, precociousness, melodious, commodious, Antonius, harmonious, felonious, Polonius, Thelonious, erroneous, Petronius, euphonious, \* unmelodious, incommodious, Apollonius, inharmonious, disharmonious, Suetonius, sanctimonious, acrimonious, parsimonious, ceremonious, \* unceremonious, etc.

**36.43** vocalist, socialist, motorist, chauvinist, coexist, oboist, soloist

**36.44** dopiest, ropiest, soapiest, croakiest, pokiest, smokiest, mouldiest, holiest, lowliest, ghostliest, loneliest, showiest, boniest, phoniest, stoniest, cosiest, doziest, nosiest, rosiest, etc.

**36.45** opiate, foliate, Soviet, roseate, \* appropriate, associate, \* inappropriate

**36.46** focusable, noticeable

## -u-

*The rhymes in this section have the ‘u’ sound of run and double as their main or final vowel sound. You can also rhyme some of these words with words ending in a weak ‘u’ sound (e.g. maximum, exodus), which you will find in other sections.*

**37.1** blub, bub, chub, Chubb®, club, cub, Cub, drub, dub, grub, hub, nub, pub, rub, scrub, shrub, slub, snub, stub, sub, tub, \* bathtub, Jacob, cherub, nightclub, washtub, hubbub, \* syllabub, overdub, \* Beelzebub

**Rub-a-dub-dub,**

**Three men in a tub.**

NURSERY RHYME

**37.2** clubs, cubs, Cubs, grubs, pubs, shrubs, stubs, Stubbs, subs, \* mulligrubs, etc.

**37.3** buck, Buck, chuck, Chuck, cluck, cruck, duck, fuck, guck, Huck, luck, muck, pluck, puck, Puck, ruck, schmuck, shuck, snuck, struck, stuck, suck, truck, tuck, yuck, \* untuck, unstuck, amok, Canuck, lame duck, Friar Tuck, pot luck, \* Kalmuck, Tarbuck, stage-struck, shelduck, sawbuck, Norfolk, awestruck, roebuck, jumbuck, mukluk, dumbstruck, bullock, Bullock, bulwark, woodchuck, nubuck, moonstruck, \* liposuck, waterbuck, fork-lift truck, thunderstruck, \* high-muck-a-muck

**37.4** bucks, Bucks, Chuck’s, crux, ducks, dux, flux, shucks, sucks, trucks, tux, \* de luxe, \* reflux, influx, conflux, Dulux®, \* megabucks, Benelux, forklift trucks, etc.

**37.5** chucked, clucked, ducked, duct, plucked, sucked, tucked, \* product, conduct, untucked, unplucked, obstruct, construct, abduct, deduct, induct, instruct, \* conduct, construct, \* misconduct, \* aqueduct, self-destruct, deconstruct, reconstruct, viaduct, oviduct, usufruct, \* autodestruct, etc.

**37.6** clutch, crutch, Dutch, hutch, Kutch, much, such, touch, \* retouch, declutch, \* nonesuch, \* forasmuch, inasmuch, insomuch, overmuch, such-and-such

**37.7** clutched, touched, \* untouched, retouched, declutched

**37.8** blood, bud, crud, cud, dud, flood, Judd, mud, rudd, scud, spud, stud, thud, \* m'lud, debud, disbud, \* taste bud, lifeblood, oxblood, rosebud, \* chew the cud, \* stick-in-the-mud

**Mud, mud, glorious mud**

**Nothing quite like it for cooling the blood.**

MICHAEL FLANDERS & DONALD SWANN

**37.9** buds, duds, floods, spuds, studs, suds, \* taste buds, rosebuds, soapsuds, etc.

**37.10** bluff, Brough, buff, chough, chuff, Clough, cuff, duff, fluff, gruff, guff, huff, luff, muff, puff, rough, ruff, scruff, scuff, slough, snuff, stuff, tough, \* McDuff, rebuff, enough, \* handcuff, dandruff, Fairclough, seraph, earmuff, feedstuff, greenstuff, dyestuff, bumfluff, woodruff, Woodruff, foodstuff, \* off-the-cuff, powder puff, overstuff

**37.11** cuffs, muffs, puffs, \* handcuffs, earmuffs, \* fisticuffs, powder puffs, etc.

**37.12** bluffed, chuffed, puffed, scuffed, stuffed, tuft, \* unstuffed, rebuffed, \* candytuft, overstuffed, etc.

**37.13** Crufts, tufts

**37.14** bug, chug, Doug, drug, dug, fug, glug, hug, jug, lug, mug, plug, pug, rug, shrug, slug, smug, snug, thug, trug, tug, \* unplug, debug, \* hearth rug, bedbug, earplug, firebug, Rawlplug®, humbug, \* jitterbug, litterbug, superbug, doodlebug

**37.15** bludge, budge, drudge, fudge, grudge, judge, nudge, pudge, Rudge, sludge, smudge, trudge, \* adjudge, prejudice, begrudge, misjudge

**There comes Poe with his raven, like Barnaby Rudge,  
Three-fifths of him genius, and two-fifths sheer fudge.**  
JAMES RUSSELL LOWELL

**37.16** cull, dull, gull, hull, Hull, lull, mull, Mull, null, scull, skull, \* annul, \* seagull, mogul, Mogul, numbskull, \* Jethro Tull, disannul, monohull, Solihull, multihull

**37.17** bulb, \* flashbulb

**37.18** bulk, hulk, skulk, sulk

**37.19** bulked, hulked, skulked, sulked, mulct

**37.20** gulch, mulch

**37.21** gulf, Gulf, \* engulf, \* Ranulph, Biddulph

**37.22** bulge, \* indulge, divulge, \* overindulge

**37.23** gulp, pulp

**37.24** gulped, pulped, sculpt

**37.25** dulse, Hulse, pulse, \* convulse, repulse, \* impulse

**37.26** cult, \* adult, consult, insult, result, exult, occult, \* adult, insult, occult, tumult, \* catapult, difficult, \* jurisconsult

**37.27** Brum, bum, chum, come, crumb, drum, dumb, glum, gum, hum, mum, numb, plum, plumb, Rum, rhumb, rum, scrum, scum, slum, some, strum, sum, swum, thrum, thumb, tum, um, \* succumb, become, benumb, dim sum, Tom Thumb, ho-hum, yum-yum, \* breadcrumb, eardrum, outcome, dum-dum, humdrum, \* kettledrum, wearisome, Tweedledum, overcome, bubble gum, sugarplum, chewing gum

**Silence the pianos and with muffled drum  
Bring out the coffin, let the mourners come.**

W. H. AUDEN

**37.28** bumf, humph, \* galumph, harrumph, \* triumph

**37.29** bump, chump, clump, dump, frump, grump, hump, jump, lump, plump, pump, rump, scrump, slump, stump, sump, thump, trump, tump, \* gazump, \* ski jump, bilge pump, high jump, long jump, mugwump, \* Forrest Gump, overtrump, undertrump, sugar lump

**37.30** bumps, dumps, humps, lumps, mumps, pumps, trumps, \* goosebumps, \* sugar lumps, etc.

**37.31** bun, done, Donne, dun, Dunn, fun, gun, Gunn, Hun, Lunn, none, nun, Nunn, one, pun, run, shun, son, spun, stun, sun, Sun, ton, tonne, tun, won, \* undone, hard-won, A1, Verdun, redone, rerun, begun, forerun, outgun, outdone, outrun, close-run, \* handgun, grandson, air gun, Bren gun, Sten gun, stepson, rerun, finespun, popgun, shotgun, godson, homespun, blowgun, shogun, no-one, someone, \* great-grandson, machine gun, \* Gatling gun, Sally Lunn, aftersun, eighty-one, megaton, Trevor Nunn, twenty-one, everyone, anyone, thirty-one, kiloton, hit-and-run, fifty-one, sixty-one, ninety-one, Tommy gun, forty-one, overdone, overrun, underdone, one-to-one, honeybun, dummy run, \* seventy-one, son-of-a-gun

**O Captain! my Captain! our fearful trip is done,  
The ship has weathered every rack, the prize we sought is won.**

WALT WHITMAN

**37.32** bunk, chunk, clunk, drunk, dunk, flunk, funk, gunk, hunk, junk, monk, Monk, plunk, punk, shrunk, skunk, slunk, spunk, stunk, sunk, thunk, trunk, \* preshrunk, debunk, \* chipmunk, quidnunc, punch-drunk, \* cyberpunk, countersunk

**37.33** bunks, chunks, hunks, monks, punks, trunks, \* quincunx, chipmunks, etc.

**37.34** clunked, dunked, flunked, \* debunked, defunct, \* adjunct, conjunct, disjunct

**37.35** brunch, bunch, crunch, hunch, lunch, munch, punch, Punch, scrunch, \* honeybunch

**37.36** fund, gunned, punned, shunned, stunned, \* refund, rotund, outgunned, \* gerund, fecund, refund, jocund, \* Sigismund, Rosamund, moribund, orotund, cummerbund, rubicund

**37.37** bung, clung, dung, flung, hung, lung, rung, slung, sprung, strung, stung, sung, swung, tongue, wrung, young, Yonge, Young, \* unhung, unsprung, unstrung, among, unsung, Shantung, far-flung, rehung, restrung, \* hamstrung, Samsung, oxtongue, Hoffnung, \* aqualung, iron lung, highly strung, overhung, overstrung, underhung, underslung

**To the vile dust, from whence he sprung,  
Unwept, unhonoured, and unsung.**

SIR WALTER SCOTT

**37.38** grunge, gunge, lunge, plunge, sponge, \* expunge, \* muskellunge

**37.39** dunce, once, grunts, hunts, punts, shunts, \* witch-hunts, Y-fronts®, etc.

**37.40** blunt, brunt, Blunt, bunt, cunt, front, grunt, hunt, Hunt, Lunt, punt, runt, shunt, stunt, \* affront, upfront, confront, \* manhunt, head-hunt, seafront, witch-hunt, fox hunt, shop front, forefront, \* exeunt, waterfront

**37.41** cup, pup, sup, tup, up, yup, \* made-up, fed up, het up, pent up, World Cup, built-up, mixed-up, grown-up, stuck-up, jumped-up, trumped-up, thumbs-up, souped-up, \* backup, hang-up, mark-up, snarl-up, break-up, make-up, shake-up, pasteup, rave-up, lace-up, step-up, checkup, egg cup, send-up, get-up, let-up, setup, press-up, ketchup, turn-up, teacup, knees-up, slip-up, hiccup, pick-up, stick-up, Sidcup, kingcup, linkup, build-up, sit-up, split-up, pin-up, piss-up, mix-up, fry-up, eyecup, wind-up, write-up, pile-up, line-up, pop-up, top-up, cockup, lockup, mock-up, toss-up, nosh-up, call-up, warm-up, roundup, hold-up, grown-up, close-up, run-up, sunup, punch-up, \* Davis Cup, FA Cup, giddy-up, pick-me-up, Ryder Cup, coffee cup, washing-up, follow-up, buttercup, cover-up, runner-up, up-and-up, summing-up

**37.42** cupped, supped, tugged, \* corrupt, abrupt, erupt, irrupt, disrupt, \* bankrupt, hiccuped, \* interrupt

**37.43** bus, buss, cuss, fuss, Gus, huss, Huss, muss, plus, pus, Russ, suss, thus, truss, us, \* percuss, concuss, untruss, debus, embus, discuss, nonplus, \* Airbus®, walrus, postbus, \* battlebus, Belarus, minibus, trolleybus, omnibus, motorbus, overplus, blunderbuss

**37.44** brusque, busk, dusk, husk, musk, rusk, tusk, Usk, \* mollusc, subfusc

**37.45** bust, crust, dost, dust, fussed, gust, just, lust, mussed, must, rust, sussed, thrust, trussed, trust, \* combust, concussed, untrussed, adjust, unjust, discussed, disgust, encrust, entrust, distrust, mistrust, nonplussed, august, robust, \* stardust, piecrust, sawdust, shortcrust, bloodlust, upthrust, \* antirust, angel dust, readjust, bite the dust, wanderlust, upper crust, unit trust, etc.

**Love in a hut, with water and a crust,  
Is – Love forgive us! – cinders, ashes, dust.**  
JOHN KEATS

**37.46** blush, brush, crush, flush, gush, hush, lush, mush, plush, rush, slush, thrush, tush, \* hush-hush, \* airbrush, hairbrush, paintbrush, nailbrush, sagebrush, Windrush, inrush, onrush, songthrush, outrush, clothes brush,

uprush, bulrush, toothbrush, \* mistle thrush, bottlebrush, underbrush, scrubbing brush

**37.47** but, butt, cut, glut, gut, hut, jut, mutt, nut, phut, putt, rut, scut, shut, slut, smut, strut, tut, ut, \* abut, uncut, clear-cut, clean-cut, rebut, low-cut, tut-tut, \* sackbut, catgut, haircut, chestnut, offcut, cobnut, peanut, beechnut, crosscut, rotgut, short cut, walnut, groundnut, doughnut, woodcut, crew cut, \* horse chestnut, brazil nut, \* halibut, hazelnut, Lilliput, linocut, occiput, coconut, scuttlebutt, uppercut, undercut, butternut, monkey nut

**37.48** cuts, guts, huts, klutz, nuts, smuts, Smuts, struts, \* chestnuts, peanuts, \* hazelnuts, greedy guts, worryguts, monkey nuts, etc.

**37.49** dove, glove, love, guv, shove, \* above, \* foxglove, ringdove, truelove, \* ladylove, turtledove, cupboard love, tug-of-love

**In the spring a livelier iris changes on the burnished dove;  
In the spring a young man's fancy lightly turns to thoughts of love.**  
ALFRED, LORD TENNYSON

**37.50** gloved, loved, shoved, \* unloved, beloved, \* Wellbeloved

**37.51** buzz, coz, does, fuzz, muzz, \* abuzz, redoes, outdoes, \* overdoes

**38.1** chubby, clubby, cubby, grubby, hubby, nubby, scrubby, shrubby, stubby, tubby, brumby, busby, guppy, puppy, yuppie, pulpy, bumpy, dumpy, frumpy, grumpy, humpy, jumpy, lumpy, scrumpy, stumpy, \* rumpy-pumpy

**38.2** clucky, ducky, lucky, mucky, plucky, truckie, yucky, bulky, sulky, chunky, clunky, flunky, funky, hunky, junkie, monkey, spunky, dusky, husky, musky, buggy, Dougie, druggie, fuggy, muggy, \* unlucky, Kentucky, \* happy-go-lucky

**38.3** bloody, buddy, cruddy, muddy, ruddy, study, Grundy, Lundy, Monday, Sunday, butty, nutty, puttee, putty, ruddy, smutty, mufti, shifty, tufty, Bunty, runty, busty, crusty, dusty, fusty, gusty, lusty, musty, rusty, trusty, \*

McNulty, \* in the nuddy, understudy, fuddy-duddy, salmagundi, barramundi, Humpty Dumpty

**38.4** Duffy, fluffy, huffy, puffy, roughie, scruffy, stuffy, toughie, comfy, covey, Dovey, lovey, luvvie, Southey, \* Aberdovey, lovey-dovey

**38.5** gully, Lully, Scully, sully, Sully, Tully, bubbly, doubly, stubbly, crumbly, humbly, Buckley, smugly, snuggly, UGLI®, ugly, Budleigh, cuddly, Dudley, subtly, Uttley, bluntly, Huntley, justly, snuffly, lovely, monthly, dully, Cholmondeley, comely, glumly, Lumley, Plomley, muscly, Huxley, curry, Curry, flurry, hurry, Murray, scurry, slurry, surrey, Surrey, worry, mulberry, hungry, sundry, sultry, country, comfrey, Humphrey, Guthrie, \* abruptly, unjustly, robustly, unlovely, upcountry, \* *fait accompli*, etc.

**38.6** Brummie, chummy, crumby, crummy, dummy, gummy, lumme, mummy, plummy, rummy, scrummy, scummy, slummy, tummy, yummy, bunny, dunny, funny, honey, money, runny, sonny, Sunni, sunny, tunny, chutney, Putney, \* unfunny, alumnae, \* Ballymoney, loadsamoney, \* overcome me, etc.

### **Isn't it funny**

#### **How a bear likes honey?**

A. A. MILNE

**38.7** fussy, Hussey, hussy, mussy, pussy, gutsy, Dulcie, Runcie, does he, fuzzy, muzzy, SCSI, scuzzy, Pudsey, sudsy, clumsy, mumsy, brushy, gushy, mushy, rushy, slushy, duchy, touchy, bunchy, Crunchie, crunchy, punchy, scrunchie, budgie, pudgy, sludgy, smudgy, bungee, gungy, grungy, scungy, spongy, \* unfussy, archduchy

**38.8** blubber, clubber, grubber, lubber, rubber, scrubber, bulbar, clumber, cumber, Humber, lumbar, lumber, number, rumba, slumber, umber, crupper, cuppa, scupper, supper, upper, gulper, pulper, bumper, jumper, plumper, \* Columba, renumber, encumber, outnumber, gazumper, \* landlubber, cucumber, showjumper, queue-jumper, \* disencumber, \* snub her, dump her, etc.

**38.9** chucker, chukker, ducker, fucker, mucker, plucker, pucker, pukka, succour, sucker, trucker, tucker, UCCA, yucca, skulker, sulker, bunker, clunker, hunker, punkah, busker, tusker, bugger, hugger, lugger, mugger, plugger, rugger, slugger, smuggler, snugger, tugger, bulgur, vulgar, hunger, monger, younger, Younger, \* debunker, spelunker, debugger, Srinagar, \* sapsucker, seersucker, goatsucker, bloodsucker, scaremonger, cheesemonger, fishmonger, warmonger, whoremonger, newsmonger, \* motherfucker, hugger-mugger, scandalmonger, ironmonger, costermonger, gossipmonger, \* struck her, hug her, etc.

**38.10** chador, judder, rudder, shudder, udder, blunder, chunder, plunder, Sunda, sunder, thunder, under, wonder, butter, clutter, cutter, flutter, gutter, mutter, nutter, putter, scutter, shutter, splutter, sputter, stutter, utter, Gupta, sculptor, blunter, Bunter, chunter, grunter, Gunter, hunter, Hunter, junta, punter, shunter, bluster, buster, cluster, Custer, duster, fluster, lustre, muster, thruster, ulster, Ulster, Munster, punster, youngster, \* asunder, gazunder, thereunder, hereunder, rotunda, aflutter, Calcutta, rebutter, corrupter, disrupter, conductor, abductor, destructor, inductor, instructor, Fort Sumter, combustor, adjuster, lacklustre, Augusta, \* stonecutter, woodcutter, headhunter, pothunter, fox-hunter, Dambuster, stressbuster, blockbuster, bonkbuster, ghostbuster, \* floribunda, up-and-under, interrupter, nonconductor, filibuster, loss adjuster, broncobuster, \* semiconductor, \* stunned her, confront her, etc.

**When I read Shakespeare I am struck with wonder  
That such trivial people should muse and thunder  
In such lovely language.**

D. H. LAWRENCE

**38.11** bluffer, buffer, duffer, gruffer, puffer, rougher, snuffer, stuffer, suffer, tougher, sulphur, cover, glover, Glover, lover, plover, Culver, vulva, brother, mother, other, smother, t'other, \* uncover, re-cover, recover, discover, triumvir, another, \* hardcover, slipcover, softcover, fun-lover, Anstruther, grandmother, half-brother, Fairbrother, stepbrother, stepmother, godmother, housemother, \* rediscover, undercover, \* rebuff her, love her, etc.

**38.12** colour, culler, duller, Muller, sculler, Sulla, bubbler, troubler, bumbler, fumbler, grumbler, mumbler, tumbler, suppler, buckler, chuckler, suckler, juggler, smuggler, struggler, bungler, muddler, butler, Butler, cutler, subtler, sutler, muffler, ruffler, shuffler, hustler, rustler, guzzler, puzzler, borough, Curren, thorough, umbra, tundra, ultra, \* Abdullah, discolour, medulla, demurrer, penumbra, \* Weissmuller, swashbuckler, gas-guzzler, \* Technicolor®, technicolour, watercolour, multicolour, Attenborough, Edinburgh, Peterborough, kookaburra, \* lull her, etc.

**38.13** bumper, comer, drummer, dumber, glummer, Gummer, hummer, Hummer®, mummer, number, plumber, rummer, strummer, summer, gunner, runner, stunner, Sunna, Bugner, gov'nor, ulna, Cumnor, Sumner, \* midsummer, Corunna, alumna, columnar, \* latecomer, incomer, newcomer, forerunner, roadrunner, frontrunner, gunrunner, \* shun her, stun her, etc.

**38.14** fusser, Tulsa, ulcer, oncer, buzzer, blusher, crusher, flusher, gusher, lusher, plusher, Prussia, rusher, Russia, usher, toucher, rupture, sculpture, structure, juncture, puncture, culture, vulture, cruncher, luncher, puncher, bludger, grudger, nudger, trudger, conjure, plunger, sponger, \* discussor, Tecumseh, retoucher, conjuncture, \* substructure, subculture, \* infrastructure, superstructure, acupuncture, agriculture, viticulture, silviculture, horticulture, number-cruncher, \* rush her, punch her, etc.

**38.15** cultic, fustic, rustic, drumstick, public, Brunswick, Sputnik, prussic, lovesick, \* republic

**38.16** Ruddock, buttock, Suffolk, Southwark, Tulloch, Thurrock, hummock, stomach, dunnock, tussock, \* McCullough

**38.17** buttocks, flummoxx, lummoxx, hummocks, stomachs, dunnocks, tussocks, \* McCullough's, etc.

**38.18** rustics, drumsticks, suffix, Sputniks, Sussex, \* republics

**38.19** cuspid, rugged, bloodied, muddied, studied, Dyfed, sullied, curried, hurried, scurried, worried, honeyed, moneyed, cussed, \* bicuspid, unstudied, beloved, unsullied, unhurried, unworried, etc.

**Old Mother Hubbard  
Went to the cupboard  
To fetch her poor dog a bone.**

**NURSERY RHYME**

**38.20** blubbered, cupboard, Hubbard, numbered, slumbered, scuppered, drunkard, buggered, sluggard, flooded, shuddered, studded, blundered, funded, plundered, thundered, wondered, buttered, fluttered, gutted, juttied, muttered, strutted, uttered, tufted, blunted, fronted, grunted, hunted, stunted, bustard, busted, custard, dusted, flustered, mustard, trusted, Knutsford, covered, mothered, smothered, coloured, dullard, hundred, upward, Rudyard, buzzard, ruptured, structured, cultured, punctured, \* unnumbered, encumbered, outnumbered, red-blooded, hot-blooded, warm-blooded, cold-blooded, unfunded, abutted, tut-tutted, corrupted, erupted, disrupted, conducted, obstructed, constructed, abducted, deducted, instructed, insulted, resulted, affronted, confronted, unflustered, adjusted, disgusted, entrusted, distrusted, uncovered, recovered, discovered, self-coloured, discoloured, unstructured, uncultured, \* head-hunted, \* Mother Hubbard, unencumbered, underfunded, interrupted, uncorrupted, deconstructed, reconstructed, unobstructed, maladjusted, well-adjusted, unrecovered, undiscovered, multicoloured, \* uninterrupted, unreconstructed, etc.

**38.21** cupboards, drunkards, sluggards, upwards, etc.

**38.22** luggage, frontage, roughage, lovage, Dulwich, sullage, ullage, courage, Uxbridge, umbrage, Tonbridge, suffrage, Gummidge, rummage, scrummage, tonnage, \* encourage, discourage, demurrage

**38.23** bubble, double, Hubble, nubble, rubble, stubble, trouble, bumble, crumble, fumble, grumble, humble, jumble, mumble, rumble, scumble, stumble, tumble, umbel, couple, supple, crumple, rumple, buccal, buckle, chuckle, knuckle, muckle, suckle, truckle, nuncle, uncle, juggle, smuggle, snuggle, struggle, bungle, fungal, jungle, cuddle, fuddle, huddle, muddle, puddle, ruddle, Blundell, bundle, trundle, cuttle, scuttle, shuttle, subtle, frontal, duffel, muffle, ruffle, scuffle, shuffle, snuffle, truffle, lustful, trustful, Lovell, shovel, vulval, Burrell, Durrell, tumbrel, umbral, guttural,

Brummell, Hummel, pummel, Chunnel, funnel, Gunnell, gunwale, runnel, tunnel, bustle, hustle, muscle, mussel, Russell, rustle, tussle, guzzle, muzzle, nuzzle, puzzle, nuptial, cudgel, \* redouble, uncouple, unbuckle, peduncle, befuddle, unbundle, rebuttal, unsubtle, disgruntle, kerfuffle, reshuffle, distrustful, triumphal, demurral, penumbral, sepulchral, Beau Brummell, autumnal, Jack Russell, unmuzzle, Rapunzel, prenuptial, \* pinochle, turnbuckle, carbuncle, Garfunkel, Tolpuddle, corpuscle, \* rough-and-tumble, thermocouple, honeysuckle, antifungal, contrapuntal, Eurotunnel, antenuptial

**Double, double toil and trouble;**

**Fire burn and cauldron bubble.**

WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE

**38.24** doubled, troubled, grumbled, jumbled, stumbled, crumpled, chuckled, cuckold, smuggled, struggled, bungled, muddled, grunted, muffled, ruffled, puzzled, \* untroubled, befuddled, disgruntled, unruffled, reshuffled, etc.

**38.25** bubbles, doubles, troubles, grumbles, Mumbles, rumbles, cuddles, puddles, bundles, snuffles, truffles, Brussels, muscles, mussels, Russell's, puzzles, etc.

**38.26** plumbum, Duckham, bunkum, custom, frustum, Durham, buckram, Puttnam, buxom, \* corundum, Saxmundham, accustom, conundrum, \* Carborundum®, \* stunned 'em, trust 'em, etc.

**38.27** dubbin, dustbin, bumpkin, pumpkin, Ruskin, buckskin, Dustin, Justin, muffin, puffin, Dublin, drumlin, dunlin, muslin, murrain, Unwin, cumin, run-in, \* Augustine, MacGuffin, \* ragamuffin, \* trustin', bubblin', etc.

**38.28** stubborn, lumpen, Buchan, Vulcan, drunken, Duncan, shrunken, sunken, Tuscan, Duggan, sudden, Blunden, London, Lumsden, button, Dutton, glutton, Hutton, mutton, Sutton, Upton, sultan, Buxton, Dunstan, tungsten, Rushton, roughen, toughen, coven, Govan, govern, oven, sloven, southern, Cullen, Mullen, sullen, Curran, bunion, Bunyan, onion, Runyon, summon, clubman, dustman, gunman, busman, huntsman, Dutchman, Hudson, Bunsen, cousin, cozen, dozen, Prussian, Russian, gumption,

fluxion, ruction, suction, function, junction, unction, scutcheon, luncheon, truncheon, bludgeon, dudgeon, gudgeon, dungeon, \* Etruscan, unbutton, Augustan, McGovern, misgovern, Catullan, Lucullan, percussion, concussion, discussion, corruption, eruption, irruption, disruption, assumption, consumption, presumption, resumption, production, conduction, obstruction, construction, abduction, deduction, reduction, seduction, induction, destruction, instruction, compunction, conjunction, malfunction, dysfunction, injunction, disjunction, propulsion, compulsion, convulsion, repulsion, impulsion, expulsion, revulsion, emulsion, escutcheon, combustion, curmudgeon, high dudgeon, \* Newcomen, \* bellybutton, Flying Dutchman, Belarussian, repercussion, interruption, self-destruction, preproduction, reproduction, deconstruction, reconstruction, introduction, misconstruction, liposuction, postproduction, multifunction, \* overconsumption, underconsumption, reintroduction, overproduction, underproduction

**38.29** husband, buttoned, roughened, toughened, governed, upland, Studland, Jutland, Rutland, Drummond, summoned, functioned, \* unbuttoned, ungoverned, \* househusband, etc.

**38.30** gubbins, dustbins, pumpkins, Buggins, muggins, muffins, puffins, Butlins, etc.

**38.31** buttons, Lutyens, bunions, onions, summons, cousins, Cousins, dozens, functions, junctions, dungeons, \* repercussions, interruptions, introductions, etc.

**There were noblemen in coronets, and military cousins,  
There were captains by the hundred, there were baronets by dozens.**  
W. S. GILBERT

**38.32** currant, current, judgment, mustn't, doesn't, Ushant, fulgent, pungent, \* recumbent, incumbent, abundant, redundant, reluctant, consultant, resultant, exultant, triumphant, concurrent, recurrent, abutment, adjustment, engulfment, annulment, prejudgment, misjudgment, repugnant, convulsant, demulcent, indulgent, effulgent, refulgent, \* blackcurrant,

redcurrent, crosscurrent, \* undercurrent, maladjustment, readjustment, self-indulgent, \* superabundant, anticonvulsant, overindulgent

**38.33** tuppence, substance, currants, cumbrance, sufferance, \* comeuppance, abundance, conductance, inductance, reluctance, consultants, occurrence, concurrence, recurrence, incurrence, encumbrance, adjustments, repugnance, indulgence, effulgence, refulgence, \* reoccurrence, self-indulgence, \* superabundance, overindulgence, etc.

**38.34** blubbing, clubbing, drubbing, dubbing, rubbing, scrubbing, cupping, supping, gulping, pulping, jumping, thumping, clucking, ducking, fucking, plucking, sucking, trucking, bulking, hulking, skulking, sulking, clunking, dunking, trunking, busking, bugging, chugging, hugging, mugging, shrugging, budding, flooding, scudding, studding, thudding, funding, cutting, jutting, nutting, putting, shutting, strutting, bunting, grunting, hunting, punting, shunting, dusting, gusting, lusting, rusting, thrusting, trusting, bluffing, chuffing, huffing, puffing, scuffing, snuffing, stuffing, loving, shoving, nothing, something, culling, lulling, sculling, bubbling, troubling, bumbling, crumbling, grumbling, mumbling, rumbling, coupling, dumpling, buckling, duckling, suckling, Suckling, bungling, shuffling, bustling, rustling, puzzling, upspring, gull-wing, upswing, bumming, coming, Cumming, drumming, humming, mumming, plumbing, slumming, strumming, cunning, gunning, punning, running, shunning, stunning, cussing, fussing, buzzing, blushing, crushing, flushing, Flushing, gushing, rushing, clutching, touching, crunching, munching, punching, budging, grudging, judging, smudging, trudging, bulging, \* debugging, debunking, abutting, corrupting, erupting, disrupting, conducting, instructing, consulting, insulting, resulting, adjusting, disgusting, distrusting, rebuffering, engulfing, unloving, annulling, becoming, benumbing, forthcoming, discussing, unblushing, retouching, ungrudging, begrudging, \* swan-upping, showjumping, bloodsucking, blockbusting, fun-loving, swashbuckling, incoming, mind-numbing, oncoming, shortcoming, homecoming, upcoming, frontrunning, gunrunning, \* underfunding, interrupting, self-adjusting, up-and-coming, unbecoming, unforthcoming, up and running, etc.

**Bye, baby bunting,  
Daddy's gone a hunting.**

NURSERY RHYME

**38.35** muggings, cuttings, hustings, dumplings, ducklings, sucklings, Cummings, \* shortcomings, etc.

**38.36** orange, lozenge

**38.37** justice, Dulles, pumice, duchess, \* injustice, portcullis, accomplice

**38.38** bulbous, plumbous, compass, rumpus, ruckus, fungous, fungus, cultus, troublous, luckless, Douglas, bloodless, cutlass, gutless, loveless, sonless, sunless, cumbrous, slumberous, thunderous, wondrous, buttress, sculptress, huntress, lustrous, plumpness, smugness, bluntness, roughness, toughness, numbness, luscious, bumptious, scrumptious, \* Columbus, encompass, humongous, singultus, Augustus, Catullus, Lucullus, conductress, seductress, instructress, abruptness, robustness, alumnus, rambunctious, \* gyrocompass, \* coitus interruptus, \* thump us, struck us, etc.

**38.39** druggist, smuggest, snuggest, youngest, bluntest, gruffest, roughest, toughest, supplest, subtlest, dumbest, glummiest, numbest, lushest, plushest, \* encompassed, etc.

**38.40** dumpish, frumpish, lumpish, rubbish, monkish, sluggish, thuggish, sluttish, lumpfish, monkfish, mudfish, drumfish, sunfish, lungfish, publish, flourish, nourish, Hunnish, punish, youngish, \* accomplish, \* undernourish

**38.41** published, flourished, nourished, punished, \* unpublished, accomplished, malnourished, unpunished, \* unaccomplished, undernourished

**38.42** Cuthbert, Humbert, ducat, comfort, covert, lovat, culvert, \* discomfort

**38.43** muppet, puppet, crumpet, strumpet, trumpet, bucket, Blunkett, junket, Plunket, musket, nougat, nugget, pundit, buffet, tuffet, comfit, covet, gullet, mullet, doublet, couplet, floodlit, cutlet, sunlit, turret, worrit, culprit, plummet, summit, punnet, gusset, russet, dulcet, budget, \* Nantucket, discomfit, whodunnit, \* gutbucket, rust bucket, \* love it, run it, etc.

**Little Miss Muffet**

**Sat on a tuffet.**

NURSERY RHYME

**38.44** gerundive, eruptive, disruptive, consumptive, presumptive, productive, conductive, obstructive, constructive, deductive, seductive, inductive, destructive, instructive, conjunctive, subjunctive, percussive, propulsive, compulsive, repulsive, impulsive, \* reproductive, nonproductive, unproductive, antitussive, \* counterproductive, \* electroconvulsive

**38.45** rubbers, numbers, slumbers, uppers, puckers, truckers, shudders, udders, cutters, hunters, punters, buffers, covers, lovers, brothers, colours, tumblers, smugglers, drummers, mummers, summers, Summers, gunners, runners, buses, ulcers, blushes, rushes, ushers, clutches, crutches, vultures, bunches, punches, judges, Judges, smudges, bulges, spongers, \* instructors, Carruthers, McCullers, \* bloodsuckers, fishmongers, head-hunters, latecomers, all-comers, newcomers, bulrushes, \* ironmongers, watercolours, etc.

**Tell me not, in mournful numbers,**

**Life is but an empty dream!**

**For the soul is dead that slumbers,**

**And things are not what they seem.**

HENRY WADSWORTH LONGFELLOW

**38.46** puppies, monkeys, buddies, studies, undies, butties, worries, sundries, countries, Humphries, funnies, monies, munchies

**38.47** Sotheby, tussocky, somebody, custody, subtlety, Muscovy, lubberly, utterly, brotherly, motherly, Coverley, southerly, thoroughly, comfortably,

upwardly, currently, wonderfully, stubbornly, drunkenly, suddenly, slovenly, sullenly, blubbery, rubbery, shrubbery, mulberry, Bunbury, trumpety, succory, buggery, snuggery, thuggery, Hungary, thundery, buttery, fluttery, blustery, scullery, jugglery, butlery, cutlery, flummery, mummery, summary, summery, gunnery, nunnery, luxury, drudgery, huckleberry, Huckleberry, cuckoldry, husbandry, customary, pulmonary, functionary, tuppenny, company, Tuscany, gluttony, oniony, currency, pungency, subsidy, uppity, grubbily, luckily, pluckily, sulkily, huskily, grumpily, lustily, huffily, scruffily, hungrily, funnily, clumsily, publicly, hurriedly, worriedly, cuttingly, lovingly, puzzlingly, cunningly, stunningly, touchingly, grudgingly, sluggishly, puppetry, summitry, monetary, budgetary, culinary, rubbishy, punctually, \* grandmotherly, uncomfortably, cold-bloodedly, abundantly, reluctantly, triumphantly, concurrently, skulduggery, perfunctory, adultery, effrontery, recovery, discovery, Montgomery, compulsory, uncustomary, accompany, redundancy, consultancy, profundity, fecundity, jocundity, unluckily, unhurriedly, constructively, seductively, compulsively, impulsively, disgustingly, \* ironmongery, introductory, rediscovery, etc.

**38.48** stomacher, colander, comforter, Mustapha, shoveller, tunneller, Loughborough, slumberer, blunderer, plunderer, thunderer, wonderer, mutterer, stutterer, sufferer, conjuror, customer, Londoner, governor, southerner, summoner, trumpeter, Gulliver, dulcimer, Dubliner, publisher, muscular, jugular, pustular, \* adulterer, discoverer, discomfiture, avuncular, corpuscular, crepuscular

**38.49** chubbier, grubbier, stubbier, tubbier, bumpier, frumpier, grumpier, lumpier, luckier, muckier, pluckier, bulkier, sulkier, chunkier, funkier, hunkier, spunkier, muggier, bloodier, muddier, nuttier, smuttier, crustier, dustier, lustier, rustier, fluffier, scruffier, stuffier, comfier, bubblier, crumblier, uglier, buddleia, cuddlier, lovelier, courier, currier, furrier, worrier, Cumbria, Umbria, hungrier, sultrier, crummier, yummiest, funnier, runnier, sunnier, fussier, gutsier, fuzzier, clumsier, mushier, slushier, crunchier, spongier, \* Colombia, Columbia, unluckier, Northumbria, etc.

**38.50** husbanded, comforted, Hungerford, Rutherford, trumpeted, bucketed, buffeted, coveted, turreted, plummeted, budgeted, Hunniford, \* uncomfited, discomfited, etc.

**38.51** underbid, \* accompanied, \* unaccompanied

**38.52** clubbable, culpable, jumpable, huggable, comfortable, Huxtable, constable, Constable, Dunstable, lovable, gullible, sufferable, vulnerable, hummable, crushable, spongeable, wonderful, colourful, guttural, sculptural, structural, cultural, functional, uncial, runcible, multiple, curricule, punctual, \* refundable, corruptible, deductible, destructible, uncomfortable, combustible, adjustable, unlovable, unutterable, insufferable, recoverable, invulnerable, uncrushable, untouchable, instructional, dysfunctional, industrial, unpunctual, \* tax-deductible, ineluctable, incorruptible, indestructible, incombustible, agricultural, horticultural, multicultural, multifunctional, preindustrial, postindustrial

**38.53** cumbersome, troublesome, cuddlesome, Brummagem, yuppiedom, Buckingham, Cunningham, worrisome

**38.54** suffragan, doubleton, subaltern, Huddleston, Ulsterman, husbandman, Cuthbertson, fustian, ruffian, mullion, scullion, Cumbrian, Umbrian, publican, hurricane, Mulligan, Huntingdon, Sullivan, countryman, Runciman, Huskisson, Hutchinson, \* Colombian, Columbian, Kentuckian, Burgundian, Procrustean, Tertullian, Northumbrian, republican, Republican, O'Sullivan, \* Liverpudlian, \* slubberdegullion

**38.55** cummerbund, Cumberland, Sunderland, Sutherland, \* Northumberland

**38.56** colorant, fundament, wonderment, puzzlement, government, covenant, supplicant, subsequent, worriment, nourishment, punishment, unguent, succulent, truculent, undulant, \* adulterant, befuddlement, self-government, ebullient, accompaniment, accomplishment, malnourishment, encouragement, discouragement

**I test my bath before I sit,**

**And I'm always moved to wonderment  
That what chills the finger not a bit  
Is so frigid upon the fundament.**

OGDEN NASH

**38.57** utterance, sufferance, governance, supplicants, subsidence, subsequence, punishments, sustenance, succulence, truculence, \* circumference, ebullience, accomplishments, etc.

**38.58** underling, blubbering, slumbering, shuddering, plundering, thundering, wondering, guttering, muttering, shuttering, stuttering, suffering, covering, mothering, smothering, wuthering, colouring, underwing, trumpeting, buffeting, publishing, flourishing, nourishing, rummaging, \* scaremongering, self-governing, encouraging, discouraging

**38.59** covetous, numberless, supperless, rudderless, brotherless, motherless, colourless, slumberous, thunderous, sulphurous, gluttonous, otherness, thoroughness, suppleness, stubbornness, drunkenness, suddenness, scurrilous, chubbiness, grubbiness, grumpiness, sulkiness, smuttiness, scruffiness, stuffiness, ugliness, loveliness, sultriness, fussiness, clumsiness, nothingness, sluggishness, sumptuous, unctuous, succubus, pustulous, \* adulteress, adulterous, rumbustious, industrious, illustrious, destructiveness, voluptuous, presumptuous, tumultuous, homunculus, etc.

**38.60** publicist, \* accompanist, percussionist, obstructionist, destructionist, \* agriculturist, horticulturist

**38.61** chubbiest, grubbiest, stubbiest, tubbiest, bumpiest, frumpiest, grumpiest, lumpiest, luckiest, muckiest, pluckiest, bulkiest, sulkiest, chunkiest, funkiest, hunkiest, spunkiest, muggiest, bloodiest, muddiest, nuttiest, smuttiest, crustiest, dustiest, lustiest, rustiest, fluffiest, scruffiest, stuffiest, comfiest, bubbliest, crumbliest, ugliest, cuddliest, loveliest, hungriest, sultriest, crummiest, yummiest, funniest, runniest, sunniest, fussiest, gutsiest, fuzziest, clumsiest, mushiest, slushiest, crunchiest, spongiest, \* unluckiest, etc.

**38.62** surrogate, coverlet, sultanate, ultimate, ungulate, \* triumvirate, penultimate, \* antepenultimate

**38.63** Sotheby's, luxuries, companies, \* discoveries, redundancies, etc.

**38.64** structurally, culturally, functionally, punctually, summarily, comfortably, ultimately, subsequently, worryingly, surrogacy, \* uncomfortably, encouragingly, discouragingly, voluptuary

**38.65** sufferable, vulnerable, cultivable, publishable, punishable, \* unutterable, insufferable, recoverable, invulnerable, ungovernable, unpublishable, unpunishable

## -uu-

*The rhymes in this section have the 'uu' sound of put and booking as their main or final vowel sound.*

**39.1** book, brook, Brooke, Bruch, chook, cook, Cook, crook, Gluck, hook, Hooke, look, nook, rook, shook, shtuck, took, \* unhook, Tobruk, forsook, partook, precook, retook, betook, mistook, Chinook, \* chapbook, scrapbook, bankbook, handbook, cash book, Ladbroke, passbook, prayer book, daybook, casebook, phrase book, chequebook, textbook, sketchbook, workbook, wordbook, yearbook, e-book, hymn book, billhook, fish-hook, Innsbruck, guidebook, stylebook, logbook, pothook, hornbook, outlook, notebook, boathook, phone book, studbook, cookbook, rule book, school book, \* Alanbrooke, Captain Cook, Carisbrooke, tenterhook, Beaverbrook, picture book, inglenook, Osnabrück, copybook, pocketbook, donnybrook, Bolingbroke, storybook, overcook, overlook, undercook, undertook, Domesday Book, \* cookery book

**His wife learns astrology out of a book,**

**Says: 'Your horoscope's queer and I don't like its look.**

**With the Moon against Virgo you might be a crook.'**

W. H. AUDEN

**39.2** booked, cooked, hooked, looked, \* uncooked, unhooked, precooked, \* overbooked, overcooked, overlooked, double-booked, undercooked, etc.

**39.3** butch, putsch

**39.4** could, good, hood, Hood, pud, should, stood, 'twould, wood, Wood, would, \* Likud, withstood, touch wood, \* manhood, Blackwood, Atwood,

matchwood, Yarwood, hardwood, heartwood, sainthood, Heywood, Halewood, deadwood, redwood, bentwood, Brentwood, Westwood, Kenwood, Wedgwood, girlhood, Sherwood, wormwood, Gielgud, Fleetwood, priesthood, greenwood, driftwood, Ringwood, firewood, childhood, knighthood, plywood, wildwood, whitewood, godhood, Lockwood, dogwood, softwood, falsehood, Smallwood, boyhood, rosewood, monkshood, brushwood, Goodwood, \* sandalwood, adulthood, fatherhood, hardihood, parenthood, neighbourhood, maidenhood, babyhood, Burtonwood, sisterhood, spinsterhood, Isherwood, Littlewood, likelihood, livelihood, widowhood, Robin Hood, Bollywood, Hollywood, balsawood, understood, brotherhood, motherhood, Underwood, womanhood, \* unlikelihood, misunderstood

**The stubborn spear-men still made good  
Their dark impenetrable wood,  
Each stepping where his comrade stood,  
The instant that he fell.**

SIR WALTER SCOTT

**39.5** couldst, shouldst, wouldst

**39.6** poof, woof

**39.7** bull, full, pull, wool, \* Kabul, brimful, John Bull, \* Abdul, capful, sackful, tankful, thankful, bagful, handful, tactful, manful, bashful, lambswool, carful, jarful, artful, armful, harmful, careful, prayerful, playful, wakeful, spadeful, fateful, grateful, hateful, plateful, tasteful, wasteful, faithful, baleful, shameful, baneful, gainful, painful, graceful, changeful, helpful, dreadful, fretful, restful, healthful, stressful, vengeful, Turnbull, hurtful, cheerful, earful, fearful, tearful, gleeful, heedful, needful, peaceful, ringpull, fitful, fistful, wistful, skilful, wilful, skinful, sinful, blissful, dishful, wishful, eyeful, mindful, frightful, rightful, spiteful, wrongful, watchful, awful, drawerful, lawful, forkful, thoughtful, mournful, scornful, forceful, doubtful, mouthful, powerful, joyful, woeful, hopeful, boatful, boastful, slothful, bowlful, doleful, soulful, cupful, jugful, mugful, lustful, trustful, bulbul, rueful, fruitful, truthful, youthful, roomful, spoonful,

tuneful, useful, \* ungrateful, distasteful, unfaithful, disdainful, disgraceful, unhelpful, forgetful, regretful, respectful, neglectful, eventful, resentful, successful, revengeful, deceitful, unskilful, unmindful, delightful, unlawful, remorseful, resourceful, all-powerful, reproachful, distrustful, unfruitful, untruthful, \* barreful, fanciful, masterful, basketful, flavourful, plentiful, bellyful, merciful, worshipful, meaningful, teaspoonful, thimbleful, Istanbul, Sitting Bull, pitiful, cock-and-bull, bottleful, pocketful, sorrowful, saucerful, bountiful, overfull, wonderful, colourful, shovelful, bucketful, beautiful, dutiful, \* unmerciful, \* disrespectful, uneventful, unsuccessful

**Baa, baa, black sheep, have you any wool?**

**Yes sir, yes sir, three bags full.**

NURSERY RHYME

**39.8** wolf, Wolfe, Woolf, \* aardwolf, werewolf, she-wolf, \* Beowulf

**39.9** broom, cwm, groom, room, shtoom, vroom, \* taproom, chatroom, vacuum, barroom, darkroom, guardroom, staff room, bathroom, classroom, dayroom, playroom, stateroom, saleroom, salesroom, legroom, bedroom, headroom, guest room, rest room, pressroom, workroom, tearoom, greenroom, sickroom, grillroom, bridegroom, stockroom, strongroom, boxroom, washroom, volume, storeroom, boardroom, wardroom, courtroom, ballroom, houseroom, showroom, cloakroom, post room, clubroom, sunroom, mushroom, lunchroom, poolroom, schoolroom, newsroom, \* anteroom, waiting room, changing room, dressing room, engine room, elbowroom, sitting room, living room, dining room, common room, drawing room, powder room, boiler room, \* *cogito ergo sum*

**Think then, my soul, that death is but a groom,**

**Which brings a taper to the outward room.**

JOHN DONNE

**39.10** Jung, \* Samsung, Hoffnung, \* Nibelung, Mao Tse-tung, \*  
Götterdämmerung

**39.11** oops, whoops

**39.12** puss, schuss, wuss, \* Anschluss, sourpuss, \* Belarus

**39.13** bush, Bush, mush, push, shush, swoosh, tush, whoosh, \* ambush, bell push, rose bush, \* Hindu Kush

**39.14** foot, put, soot, \* kaput, afoot, barefoot, hotfoot, wrong-foot, \* flatfoot, input, forefoot, output, coltsfoot, club foot, throughput, \* tenderfoot, Lilliput, underfoot, pussyfoot, \* Inuktitut

**39.15** puts, \* kibbutz

**40.1** would-be, bookie, cookie, hooky, nooky, rookie, Wookey, could he, goody, hoodie, should he, woody, would he, Rushdie, footy, sooty, tutti, bully, fully, puli, pulley, Woolley, woolly, goodly, Wolseley, gooseberry, pussy, wussy, footsie, Footsie, tootsy, Tutsi, Wolsey, Bushey, bushy, cushy, pushy, \* Dunwoody, Burundi, Abruzzi, \* fortune cookie, Mappa Mundi, fancifully, mercifully, pitifully, sorrowfully, wonderfully, colourfully, beautifully, dutifully, linsey-woolsey, \* unmercifully, etc.

## **Clerihews**

*A clerihew is a humorous four-line verse about a famous person, made up of two pairs of rhyming lines of uneven length. It is named after the English writer Edmund Clerihew Bentley (1875–1956), who invented it. Here are some of Bentley's own contributions to the genre:*

**Sir Christopher Wren**

**Said, 'I am going to dine with some men.**

**If anybody calls**

**Say I am designing St Paul's.'**

**What I like about Clive**

**Is that he is no longer alive.**

**There is a great deal to be said**

**For being dead.**

**40.2** chutzpah, booker, Booker, cooker, hookah, hooker, looker, Junker, sugar, Buddha, footer, putter, poofter, woofter, Gunther, junta, Wooster, Worcester, Münster, bulla, fuller, Fuller, mullah, Müller, puller, Bulmer, fulmar, Brookner, Bruckner, pusher, butcher, \* Zeebrugge, do-gooder, Kaunda, ampulla, Abdullah, \* onlooker, shot-putter, Weissmuller, penpusher, \* *mea culpa*, Famagusta, \* took her, push her, etc.

**40.3** crooked, bullied

**40.4** sugared, hooded, wooded, worsted, Woodward, butchered, \* unsugared, barefooted, web-footed, light-footed, wrong-footed, etc.

**40.5** footage, Woolwich, Woodbridge, footbridge

**40.6** Hummel, kümmel, Bushnell, bushel

**40.7** Muslim, \* pull him, push him, etc.

**40.8** Cookham, Fulham, fulcrum, wolfram, fulsome, bosom, \* unbosom, \* took 'em, put 'em, etc.

**40.9** Pushkin, Brooklyn, Goodwin, \* cookin', puttin', etc.

**40.10** good 'un, wooden, Wootton, Fulton, Bullen, Pullen, woollen, Gudrun, woman, bookman, goodman, Goodman, woodman, footman, Pullman, Ullman, woodsman, bushman, Bushman, Cookson, cushion, \* Saarbrücken, madwoman, Manxwoman, batswoman, clanswoman, charwoman, markswoman, craftswoman, draughtswoman, airwoman, chairwoman, laywoman, cavewoman, spacewoman, stateswoman, saleswoman, Frenchwoman, Welshwoman, churchwoman, kinswoman, Scotswoman, yachtswoman, Scotchwoman, horsewoman, sportswoman, oarswoman, townswoman, postwoman, spokeswoman, stuntwoman, Dutchwoman, newswoman, \* backwoodsman, ombudsman, pincushion, \* policewoman, \* dairywoman, weatherwoman, gentlewoman, clergywoman, servicewoman, needlewoman, businesswoman, Englishwoman, Irishwoman, washerwoman, congresswoman, jurywoman, countrywoman, superwoman

**40.11** Brooklands, woodlands

**40.12** couldn't, shouldn't, wouldn't

**40.13** hoodless, hummus, goodness, fullness, \* stood us, pull us, etc.

**40.14** Buddhist, fullest

**40.15** booking, Brooking, cooking, hooking, looking, hooding, pudding, footing, putting, pulling, bullring, Cushing, pushing, whooshing, \* off-putting, wrong-footing, \* overlooking, pussyfooting, etc.

**40.16** bookish, wolfish, bullish

**40.17** pulpit, bullet, pullet, booklet, bullshit, \* cook it, pull it, etc.

**40.18** could've, should've, would've

**40.19** bookies, cookies, goodies, bullies, Woollies, tootsies, etc.

**40.20** woodenly, womanly, gooseberry, cookery, rookery, sugary, butchery, pulmonary, crookedly, \* off-puttingly

**40.21** woodlander, Pulborough, Woomera, Worcestershire, Pulitzer

**40.22** bookable, cookable

**40.23** Wolfenden, Zuckerman, Jungian, bullion, Goodison, \* Burundian

**-00-**

*The rhymes in this section have the 'oo' sound of too and cruiser as their main or final vowel sound.*

**41.1** blew, blue, boo, brew, chew, choux, clew, clue, coo, coup, crew, Crewe, cru, cue, dew, do, drew, Drew, due, ewe, few, flew, flu, flue, glue, gnu, goo, grew, hew, Hoo, hue, Hugh, Jew, jus, Kew, knew, lieu, loo, Looe, Lou, mew, moo, mu, new, nu, ooh, pew, phew, poo, pooh, Pooh, Pru, Pugh, Q, queue, roo, Roo, roux, rue, screw, shoe, shoo, shrew, Sioux, skew, slew, smew, sou, spew, sprue, stew, strew, sue, Sue, thew, threw, through, to, too, true, two, U, view, who, Who, woo, yew, you, zoo

**'Tis distance lends enchantment to the view,  
And robes the mountain in its azure hue.**

THOMAS CAMPBELL

**41.2** taboo, Magoo, ado, to-do, undo, tattoo, kung fu, yahoo, halloo, Carew, Peru, Theroux, accrue, unscrew, untrue, construe, askew, adieu, subdue, undue, anew, pursue, canoe, kazoo, bamboo, shampoo, ragout, snafu, brand-new, Camus, lasso, cachou, cashew, Manchu, Barcoo, mangetout, thereto, whereto, K2, HQ, *chez nous*, hereto, redo, redrew, EU, shih-tzu, in lieu, withdrew, bestrew, imbue, miscue, bedew, endue, review, revue, renew, ensue, eschew, Typhoo®, sky blue, IQ, non-U, Corfu, outdo, outgrew, Lao-tzu, pooh-pooh, boohoo, yoo-hoo, *Who's Who*, true-blue, \* Winnie the Pooh, how-do-you-do, hullabaloo, Brian Boru, Kalamazoo, tickety-boo, didgeridoo, seventy-two, Catch-22, tiramisu

**41.3** Bantu, Andrew, thank you, Askew, statue, Matthew, value, Agnew, sandshoe, ZAPU, Yahoo, argue, Cardew, KANU, ZANU, Anjou, hairdo,

Nehru, aircrew, breakthrough, debut, ague, set-to, ecru, ECU, fescue, rescue, nephew, menu, venue, virtue, curfew, world-view, curlew, purlieu, lean-to, Hebrew, see-through, read-through, preview, emu, Jesu, bijou, Hindu, into, igloo, mildew, sinew, Vishnu, issue, tissue, haiku, onto, fondue, Honshu, corkscrew, walk-through, horseshoe, Urdu, coypu, tofu, snowshoe, unto, thumbscrew, run-through, sundew, gumshoe, cuckoo, guru, woodscrew, boo-boo, hoopoe, doo-doo, hoodoo, kudu, voodoo, Hutu, tutu, Tutu, froufrou, Lulu, Zulu, choo-choo, juju, \* devalue, revalue, shiatsu, Daihatsu, hereinto, thereinto, *in situ*, continue, jujitsu, atishoo, reissue, impromptu, sudoku, hereunto, thereunto, Mobutu, KwaZulu, \* Vanuatu, undervalue, Tamil Nadu, Nosferatu, Netanyahu, Papandreou, R2-D2, Machu Picchu, discontinue, Mogadishu, Ouagadougou, Desmond Tutu, Honolulu

**41.4** marabou, marabout, Xanadu, black and blue, jackeroo, kangaroo, acajou, Katmandu, passe-partout, ingénue, Malibu, Cariboo, caribou, ballyhoo, avenue, parvenu, parvenue, carcajou, barbecue, Martinu, Bakerloo, pay-per-view, *déjà vu*, eighty-two, navy blue, well-to-do, FAQ, Dien Bien Phu, derring-do, twenty-two, Pettigrew, residue, clerihew, retinue, revenue, Herstmonceux, thirty-two, curlicue, bird's-eye view, peekaboo, sgian-dhu, Peterloo, feverfew, VDU, bill and coo, hitherto, thitherto, vindaloo, jillaroo, misconstrue, interview, kinkajou, billet-doux, fifty-two, sixty-two, Timbuktu, ninety-two, IOU, cockatoo, wallaroo, Montague, rendezvous, Montesquieu, Molyneux, follow-through, Waterloo, ormolu, Port-Salut, Pompidou, forty-two, talking-to, Fortescue, Autocue®, royal blue, overdo, overdrew, overthrew, overdue, overview, overshoe, Sutton Hoo, buckaroo, W, honeydew, Luton Hoo, superloo, toodle-oo, Tuvalu, superglue, Subaru, Uluru, Scooby Doo, you-know-who, \* tu-whit tu-whoo, Bartholomew, \* cock-a-doodle-doo

**41.5** boob, cube, pube, rube, tube, \* flashcube, Danube, boob tube, jujube

**41.6** duke, fluke, kook, Luke, nuke, puke, souk, spook, stook, \* Farouk, peruque, archduke, Chinook, rebuke, \* Mameluke, Marmaduke, Heptateuch, Pentateuch, Hexateuch, Volapük, \* gobbledegook

41.7 dukes, Fuchs, Luke's, pukes, spooks, \* gadzooks, rebukes, etc.

41.8 Gooch, hooch, mooch, pooch, smooch, \* Scaramouch, Quiller-Couch

**Would you adopt a strong logical attitude,  
Bear this in mind, and, whatever you do,  
Always allow your opponent full latitude,  
Whether or not his assumption be true.  
Then, when he manifests feelings of gratitude  
Merely because you've not shut him up flat,  
Turn his pet paradox into a platitude,  
With the remark, 'Why, of course, we know that!'**  
GODFREY TURNER

41.9 booded, brewed, brood, Bude, chewed, crewed, crude, dude, feud, food, glued, Jude, lewd, mewed, mood, moored, nude, prude, pseud, queued, rood, rude, screwed, shrewd, slewed, snood, spewed, stewed, Strood, sued, viewed, who'd, wooed, you'd, \* tattooed, allude, collude, occlude, conclude, unglued, accrued, unscrewed, protrude, obtrude, subdued, pursued, shampooed, lassoed, delude, elude, preclude, seclude, include, exclude, intrude, extrude, denude, exude, reviewed, renewed, ensued, pooh-poohed, \* catfood, valued, argued, étude, rescued, prelude, Gertrude, seafood, issued, dogfood, wholefood, \* devalued, revalued, continued, \* habitude, attitude, gratitude, latitude, platitude, aptitude, altitude, amplitude, magnitude, lassitude, barbecued, hebetude, rectitude, plenitude, Ermintrude, turpitude, certitude, servitude, interlude, misconstrued, interviewed, quietude, Holyrood, longitude, promptitude, solitude, fortitude, multitude, pulchritude, \* beatitude, ingratitude, exactitude, decrepitude, correctitude, ineptitude, incertitude, similitude, sollicitude, vicissitude, inquietude, disquietude, desuetude, \* verisimilitude, etc.

41.10 goof, hoof, pouffe, proof, roof, spooof, woof, \* shadoof, aloof, Tartuffe, re-roof, behoof, reproof, disproof, \* flameproof, rainproof, shellproof, heatproof, greaseproof, windproof, fireproof, childproof, lightproof, shockproof, mothproof, bombproof, stormproof, soundproof,

showerproof, rustproof, sunroof, foolproof, \* shatterproof, weatherproof, waterproof, ovenproof, underproof, bulletproof, \* opéra bouffe

**41.11** fugue, Moog®

**41.12** Goodge, huge, Scrooge, smoodge, stooge, \* refuge, deluge, \* centrifuge, vermifuge, subterfuge

**41.13** Bruges, luge, rouge, \* Khmer Rouge, \* Baton Rouge, Moulin Rouge

**41.14** Boole, boule, cool, drool, fool, ghoul, Goole, joule, mowl, mule, pool, Poole, rule, school, shul, spool, stool, Thule, tool, tulle, who'll, you'll, Yule, \* uncool, cagoule, self-rule, deschool, retool, misrule, tomfool, O'Toole, home rule, \* Blackpool, ampoule, capsule, playschool, cesspool, Welshpool, ferrule, schedule, cellule, whirlpool, virgule, preschool, globule, module, nodule, toadstool, pustule, footstool, tubule, \* reschedule, \* majuscule, paddling pool, graticule, fascicule, gallinule, Hartlepool, vestibule, reticule, work-to-rule, Liverpool, minuscule, swimming pool, ridicule, Pontypool, molecule, overrule, Ullapool, Sunday school, ubercool, supercool

**Prove to me that you're no fool**

**Walk across my swimming pool.**

TIM RICE

**41.15** cooled, fooled, Gould, pooled, ruled, schooled, \* unschooled, retooled, \* air-cooled, scheduled, \* unscheduled, rescheduled, nonscheduled, \* ridiculed, water-cooled, overruled, supercooled, etc.

**41.16** fools, gules, Jools, Jules, mules, pools, rules, schools, spools, stools, tools, \* capsules, globules, modules, nodules, pustules, etc.

**41.17** bloom, boom, broom, coomb, cwm, doom, flume, Frome, fume, gloom, groom, Hume, loom, plume, rheum, room, spume, tomb, vroom, whom, womb, zoom, \* abloom, perfume, assume, subsume, consume, Khartoum, exhume, entomb, simoom, presume, resume, foredoom, \* taproom, chatroom, vacuum, barroom, darkroom, guardroom, staff room,

bathroom, classroom, heirloom, dayroom, playroom, stateroom, saleroom, salesroom, legroom, bedroom, headroom, guest room, rest room, pressroom, legume, workroom, perfume, tearoom, greenroom, sickroom, grillroom, bridegroom, stockroom, strongroom, boxroom, washroom, costume, volume, broadloom, storeroom, boardroom, wardroom, courtroom, ballroom, houseroom, showroom, cloakroom, post room, clubroom, sunroom, mushroom, lunchroom, poolroom, schoolroom, newsroom, \* catacomb, va-va-voom, anteroom, waiting room, changing room, hecatomb, dressing room, engine room, elbowroom, Leverhulme, disentomb, sitting room, living room, dining room, nom de plume, common room, drawing room, powder room, boiler room

**The proper way to leave a room  
Is not to plunge it into gloom.**

GELETT BURGESS

**41.18** bloomed, doomed, fumed, groomed, loomed, zoomed, \* perfumed, assumed, consumed, exhumed, entombed, presumed, resumed, \* unperfumed, unconsumed, etc.

**41.19** boon, Boone, coon, croon, dune, goon, hewn, June, loon, moon, Moon, noon, prune, rune, Scone, shoon, soon, spoon, strewn, swoon, toon, Troon, tune, \* baboon, cocoon, raccoon, dragoon, lagoon, Muldoon, platoon, buffoon, Colquhoun, balloon, saloon, doubloon, maroon, oppugn, attune, commune, Dunoan, bassoon, lampoon, Rangoon, Sassoon, harpoon, lardoon, cartoon, festoon, retune, spittoon, impugn, immune, jejune, tycoon, typhoon, *High Noon*, pontoon, Walloon, quadron, poltroon, monsoon, Kowloon, \* sand dune, Neptune, teaspoon, tribune, commune, forenoon, fortune, soup spoon, \* dessertspoon, importune, misfortune, \* Saskatoon, Pantaloon, macaroon, Cameroon, afternoon, tablespoon, *Brigadoon*, rigadoon, picayune, octoroon, opportune, coffee spoon, Lorna Doone, honeymoon, \* inopportune, Tutankhamun, autoimmune

**Slowly, silently, now the moon  
Walks the night in her silver shoon.**

WALTER DE LA MARE

**41.20** crooned, mooned, pruned, spooned, swooned, tuned, wound, \* dragooned, marooned, unpruned, attuned, untuned, lampooned, festooned, etc.

**41.21** dunes, loons, prunes, runes, spoons, tunes, \* balloons, doubloons, cartoons, eftsoons, \* pantaloons, afternoons, tablespoons, etc.

**41.22** coop, coupe, croup, droop, drupe, dupe, group, hoop, loop, poop, scoop, sloop, snoop, soup, stoop, swoop, troop, troupe, whoop, \* regroup, recoup, Ind Coope, \* playgroup, hencoop, peer group, subgroup, Woop Woop, newsgroup, \* cantaloupe, Guadeloupe, nincompoop, cock-a-hoop, Hula Hoop®, supergroup

**41.23** groups, hoops, loops, oops, troops, \* Kamloops, subgroups, \* paratroops, Hula Hoops®, etc.

**41.24** Bruce, deuce, goose, juice, loose, moose, mousse, noose, puce, schuss, sluice, spruce, truce, use, Zeus, \* caboose, papoose, unloose, Larousse, abstruse, obtuse, abuse, adduce, produce, traduce, conduce, vamoose, profuse, burnous, reuse, recluse, excuse, deduce, reduce, seduce, induce, diffuse, effuse, ill-use, disuse, misuse, \* wayzgoose, refuse, verjuice, prepuce, lime juice, mongoose, produce, footloose, couscous, \* calaboose, Antabuse®, mass-produce, Ballets Russes, charlotte russe, self-abuse, lemon juice, reproduce, Beetlejuice, Betelgeuse, introduce, orange juice, over-use, under-use, \* reintroduce, overproduce

**O sweet Fancy! let her loose;  
Summer's joys are spoilt by use.**  
JOHN KEATS

**41.25** boost, deuced, Proust, roost, sluiced, used, \* produced, unused, deduced, reduced, induced, *mot juste*, \* langouste, \* mass-produced, self-induced, introduced, \* reintroduced, overproduced, etc.

**41.26** douche, louche, ruche, \* *farouche*, cartouche, \* Scaramouche, \* Ashby-de-la-Zouch

**41.27** beaut, Bute, boot, brut, brute, butte, chute, coot, cute, flute, fruit, hoot, jute, Jute, loot, lute, moot, mute, newt, root, route, scoot, shoot, Shute, snoot, suit, toot, ut, ute, \* pollute, salute, cheroot, uproot, compute, acute, astute, confute, commute, permute, Canute, pursuit, Salyut, transmute, square root, Beirut, reboot, re-route, recruit, depute, repute, impute, dispute, refute, dilute, minute, en route, solute, \* jackboot, taproot, statute, tracksuit, catsuit, pantsuit, grapefruit, playsuit, spacesuit, breadfruit, wetsuit, sweat suit, shell suit, freeboot, beetroot, bean shoot, tribute, swimsuit, Paiute, drysuit, offshoot, lawsuit, lounge suit, gumboot, club root, sunsuit, choucroute, droop-snoot, zoot suit, \* attribute, contribute, distribute, \* absolute, passion fruit, parachute, bandicoot, attribute, arrowroot, resolute, execute, destitute, birthday suit, persecute, kiwi fruit, dissolute, disrepute, institute, convolute, prosecute, prostitute, constitute, comminute, bodysuit, autoroute, overboot, overshoot, undershoot, troubleshoot, substitute, \* irresolute, electrocute, reconstitute, \* redistribute

**41.28** boots, Boots, brutes, flutes, fruits, hoots, Jutes, Rootes, roots, shoots, suits, \* cahoots, salutes, commutes, recruits, \* jackboots, statutes, bean shoots, tributes, slyboots, gumboots, \* attributes, institutes, prostitutes, etc.

**41.29** couth, Ruth, sleuth, sooth, strowth, tooth, truth, youth, \* uncouth, untruth, vermouth, forsooth, half-truth, \* Redruth, milk tooth, eyetooth, sawtooth, dogtooth, hound's-tooth, bucktooth, \* snaggletooth, sabretooth

**Habit with him was all the test of truth,  
'It must be right: I've done it from my youth.'**  
GEORGE CRABBE

**41.30** booth, Booth, smooth, soothe, \* tollbooth

**41.31** groove, move, prove, who've, you've, \* approve, behoove, reprove, improve, disprove, remove, \* disapprove, microgroove, countermove, tongue-and-groove

**41.32** grooved, moved, proved, \* approved, unproved, unmoved, reproved, improved, disproved, removed, \* disapproved, unapproved, unimproved

**41.33** Bewes, blues, booze, bruise, chews, choose, clues, cruise, cruse, Cruz, do's, dues, Druze, fuse, Hughes, Jews, lose, Lou's, mews, muse, Muse, news, ooze, Ouse, pews, queues, ruse, schmooze, screws, shoes, snooze, Sue's, thews, trews, use, views, who's, whose, zoos, \* tattoos, peruse, canoes, abuse, accuse, contuse, perfuse, suffuse, confuse, amuse, transfuse, reuse, defuse, excuse, diffuse, effuse, refuse, infuse, enthuse, reviews, ill-use, bemuse, misuse, Hormuz, Toulouse, \* Andrews, statues, Matthews, values, nephews, virtues, Hebrews, Jesu's, Hindus, sinews, issues, tissues, horseshoes, Lulu's, Zulus, booze cruise, \* St Andrews, \* kangaroos, Santa Cruz, avenues, barbecues, Veracruz, disabuse, interviews, Syracuse, IOUs, over-use, under-use, \* Bartholomew's, hypotenuse, \* rhythm and blues, etc.

**About binomial theorem I'm teeming with a lot of news,  
With many cheerful facts about the square on the hypotenuse.**

W. S. GILBERT

**41.34** boozed, bruised, cruised, fused, mused, oozed, snoozed, used, \* perused, abused, accused, confused, amused, unused, reused, defused, excused, refused, enthused, ill-used, bemused, disused, misused, \* overused, under-used, unamused, etc.

**42.1** bluey, chewy, Dewey, dewy, fluey, gluey, gooey, hooey, Hughie, Louis, phooey, screwy, booby, looby, newbie, Newby, ruby, Boothby, droopy, gloopy, groupie, loopy, NUPE, Snoopy, soupy, fluky, kooky, Newquay, spooky, Sukie, boogie, Googie, broody, foodie, Judy, moody, Moody, Rudi, Trudi, Tuesday, beauty, bootee, booty, cootie, cutie, duty, fruity, snooty, goofy, Sufi, groovy, movie, toothy, smoothie, Beaulieu, coolie, coulis, Dooley, duly, goolie, hooley, Julie, mooli, newly, puli, Thule, truly, googly, brusquely, crudely, rudely, shrewdly, smoothly, coolly, loosely, muesli, hugely, Jewry, blueberry, gloomy, knew me, plummy, rheumy, roomy, Clooney, Cluny, loony, moony, Moonie, puny, Rooney, spoony, uni, goosy, juicy, Lucy, cutesy, tootsy, Tutsi, bluesy, Boosey, boozy, choosy, floozy, newsy, oozy, Pusey, snoozy, Susie, woozy, sushi, Gucci, smoochy, Fuji, \* Drambuie®, St Louis, chop suey, Saluki, kabuki, adzuki, bouzouki, Suzuki, Yehudi, agouti, Djibouti, Carnoustie, unruly, unduly, patchouli, Grand

Coulee, Friuli, acutely, astutely, minutely, profusely, halloumi, excuse-me, Debussy, Zanussi, Jacuzzi®, Brancusi, Baluchi, Vespucci, \* mildewy, sinewy, \* Rapa Nui, boogie-woogie, Punch and Judy, tutti-frutti, Bertolucci, absolutely, resolutely, \* ultima Thule, etc.

**I slept, and dreamed that life was beauty;**

**I woke, and found that life was duty.**

ELLEN STURGIS HOOPER

**42.2** brewer, chewer, doer, Dewar, ewer, fewer, hewer, newer, sewer, skewer, skua, viewer, wooer, \* tattooer, pursuer, reviewer, \* wrongdoer, \* revenuer, evildoer, interviewer, Rotorua, \* Nicaragua, \* knew her, pursue her, etc.

**42.3** Cuba, goober, scuba, tuba, tuber, uber, blooper, BUPA, cooper, Cooper, Cowper, grouper, Hooper, looper, pupa, scooper, snooper, stupa, stupor, super, trooper, trouper, whooper, \* peasouper, \* mosstrooper, storm trooper, \* paratrooper, party pooper, pooper-scooper, super-duper, \* dupe her, etc.

**42.4** euchre, Luca, lucre, snooker, cougar, Kruger, Luger, \* verruca, bazooka, babushka, beluga, \* Chattanooga, \* Juan de Fuca, \* spook her, rebuke her, etc.

**42.5** brooder, Cooder, cruder, Judah, lewder, ruder, shrewder, Tudor, cuter, fluter, fruiter, hooter, looter, neuter, pewter, Pooter, rooter, router, scooter, shooter, suitor, tutor, Brewster, booster, rooster, \* Barbuda, Bermuda, excluder, intruder, Laputa, accoutre, polluter, computer, acuter, astuter, commuter, recruiter, disputer, refuter, \* mouthbrooder, sharpshooter, freebooter, peashooter, \* barracuda, draught-excluder, Buxtehude, persecutor, prosecutor, troubleshooter, \* supercomputer, telecommuter, \* booted her, shoot her, etc.

**42.6** hooper, loofah, roofer, wooper, groover, Hoover®, louvre, mover, Luther, Uther, smoother, soother, \* manoeuvre, Vancouver, improver, remover, \* outmanoeuvre, \* opera buffa, \* move her, soothe her, etc.

**42.7** Beulah, cooler, hula, moolah, ruler, tooler, bugler, doodler, Louvre, thuja, junior, \* Tallulah, pre-schooler, Petula, vicuña, \* water cooler, hulahula, Brahmaputra, *Kama Sutra*, Zarathustra, hallelujah, \* cool her, fool her, etc.

**42.8** bloomer, boomer, *duma*, humour, puma, rumour, Sumer, tumour, crooner, lunar, Oonagh, Poonah, pruner, schooner, sooner, spooner, Spooner, tuna, tuner, Una, \* Nkrumah, perfumer, consumer, mazuma, satsuma, costumer, lacuna, lampooner, vicuna, Futuna, \* baby-boomer, Montezuma, honeymooner, \* Tristan da Cunha, \* groom her, festoon her, etc.

**42.9** juicer, looser, sprucer, Susa, boozier, bruiser, chooser, cruiser, loser, snoozer, Sousa, user, fuchsia, future, moocher, smoocher, suture, \* producer, transducer, reducer, seducer, inducer, abuser, accuser, Medusa, diffuser, refuser, infuser, misuser, St Lucia, Perugia, \* Appaloosa, babirusa, reproducer, introducer, Lampedusa, Arethusa, \* lollapalooza, \* seduce her, excuse her, etc.

**42.10** Newark, eunuch

**42.11** Bewick, Buick, cubic, pubic, Rubik, toothpick, broomstick, bootlick, Kubrick, rubric, Ugric, Munich, Punic, runic, tunic, music, muzhik, \* cherubic, scorbutic, acoustic, refusenik, \* therapeutic, hermeneutic, Finno-Ugric

**42.12** Rubik's, toothpicks, broomsticks, tunics, \* acoustics, spondulix, refuseniks, \* therapeutics, hermeneutics

**42.13** Clwyd, druid, fluid, Cupid, stupid, schoolkid, boogied, Euclid, putrid, humid, tumid, deuced, lucid, \* pellucid, Seleucid, \* semifluid, superfluid

**42.14** leeward, skewered, steward, snookered, wounded, booted, fluted, hooted, muted, neutered, rooted, suited, tutored, boosted, roosted, louvered, rumoured, \* alluded, concluded, protruded, deluded, secluded, included, excluded, untutored, polluted, saluted, uprooted, unsuited, reputed, disputed, refuted, diluted, ill-humoured, good-humoured, \* attributed,

contributed, distributed, \* unpolluted, convoluted, undisputed, persecuted, prosecuted, constituted, undiluted, etc.

**42.15** brewage, sewage, Coolidge, plumage, usage

**42.16** crewel, cruel, dual, duel, Ewell, gruel, jewel, newel, Newell, Sewell, rouble, tubal, cupel, duple, pupal, pupil, scruple, ducal, bugle, Dougal, frugal, fugal, Google, googol, boodle, doodle, feudal, noodle, poodle, strudel, Bootle, brutal, footle, pootle, rootle, Tootal®, tootle, rueful, fruitful, truthful, youthful, tuneful, useful, neutral, ouzel, crucial, Trucial, \* accrual, refuel, renewal, eschewal, bejewel, septuple, centuple, sextuple, quintuple, octuple, quadruple, archducal, McDougall, caboodle, canoodle, flapdoodle, refusal, unfruitful, untruthful, approval, removal, communal, tribunal, perusal, bamboozle, refusal, preputial, \* Pantagruel, biofuel, febrifugal, centrifugal, vermifugal, apple strudel, Yankee Doodle, disapproval

**42.17** jewels, pupils, scruples, doodles, noodles, oodles, poodles, etc.

**42.18** brougham, Newham, Newcombe, dukedom, scutum, sputum, hoodlum, Newnham, Woosnam, gruesome, twosome, toothsome, \* jejunum, \* grew 'em, shoot 'em, etc.

**42.19** bruin, ruin, shoo-in, lupin, Tutin, moulin, Newlyn, lumen, \* Rasputin, illumine, \* bilirubin, highfalutin, \* doin', foolin', etc.

**Fire, water, women, are man's ruin,**

**Says wise Professor Vander Bruin.**

MATTHEW PRIOR

**42.20** Ewan, Siouan, Cuban, Reuben, Lucan, toucan, Luton, gluten, Newton, Teuton, Euston, Houston, Huston, proven, Doolan, union, crewman, human, Newman, Schumann, Trueman, Truman, schoolman, Jewson, loosen, Susan, fusion, \* McGoohan, McLuhan, McEwan, Don Juan, Barbudan, Bermudan, Laputan, unproven, communion, reunion, nonunion, prounion, subhuman, inhuman, ichneumon, contusion, perfusion, profusion, suffusion, confusion, allusion, collusion, occlusion, conclusion, protrusion, obtrusion, transfusion, diffusion, effusion, infusion, delusion,

illusion, preclusion, reclusion, seclusion, inclusion, exclusion, intrusion, extrusion, pollution, solution, ablution, locution, Confucian, Aleutian, dilution, \* superhuman, malocclusion, Rediffusion®, disillusion, absolution, allocution, attribution, elocution, revolution, resolution, retribution, execution, destitution, restitution, persecution, devolution, evolution, dissolution, distribution, Lilliputian, institution, diminution, convolution, contribution, prosecution, prostitution, constitution, Rosicrucian, substitution, \* electrocution, irresolution, \* intercommunion, antipollution, redistribution, reconstitution, circumlocution, interlocution, high-resolution, \* counter-revolution

**42.21** Cubans, Reuben's, Rubens, humans, Goossens, Susan's, etc.

**42.22** fluent, truant, prudent, student, mutant, coolant, movement, lucent, usedn't, Nugent, \* pursuant, imprudent, pollutant, disputant, recruitment, improvement, entombment, inducement, amusement, translucent, recusant, \* jurisprudent, self-improvement, disentombment

**42.23** truants, prudence, Prudence, students, movements, nuisance, usance, \* pursuance, imprudence, pollutants, disputants, inducements, amusements, translucence, \* jurisprudence, etc.

**42.24** brewing, chewing, doing, Ewing, gluing, hewing, mewing, mooing, queuing, screwing, spewing, stewing, viewing, wooing, tubing, drooping, grouping, looping, snooping, swooping, trooping, whooping, puking, brooding, feuding, wounding, booting, fluting, hooting, looting, rooting, scooting, shooting, suiting, tooting, Tooting, boosting, roosting, proofing, roofing, moving, proving, sleuthing, smoothing, soothing, cooling, drooling, fooling, mewling, ruling, schooling, tooling, doodling, shoestring, blooming, booming, fuming, grooming, looming, zooming, crooning, Kooning, mooning, pruning, spooning, swooning, tuning, loosing, sluicing, bruising, choosing, cruising, losing, musing, oozing, snoozing, using, mooching, smooching, \* undoing, accruing, pursuing, canoeing, shampooing, reviewing, ensuing, regrouping, rebuking, alluding, concluding, protruding, including, excluding, polluting, saluting, computing, commuting, recruiting, disputing, refuting, approving,

unmoving, reprovng, improving, removing, assuming, consuming, presuming, resuming, communing, reducing, seducing, abusing, accusing, confusing, amusing, excusing, refusing, bemusing, \* wrongdoing, trapshooting, sharpshooting, \* valuing, rescuing, issuing, scheduling, vacuuming, \* continuing, rescheduling, \* parachuting, persecuting, highfaluting, nonpolluting, prosecuting, troubleshooting, disapproving, ridiculing, unassuming, reproducing, \* telecommuting, etc.

**42.25** Lewes, Lewis, Louis, pubis, hubris, kumiss, Eunice, Souness, Tunis, \* Day-Lewis, Anubis, \* anacrusis

**42.26** lupus, Lucas, mucous, mucus, Judas, Brutus, Eustace, Rufus, clueless, shoeless, viewless, tubeless, bootless, fruitless, rootless, ruthless, toothless, moonless, tuneless, useless, cuprous, humus, newness, crudeness, rudeness, shrewdness, cuteness, smoothness, coolness, \* arbutus, astuteness, Confucius, \* elude us, rule us, etc.

**42.27** doest, newest, crudest, lewdest, rudest, shrewdest, cutest, smoothest, coolest, soonest, loosest, sprucest, \* acutest, astutest, etc.

**42.28** Uist, cubist, nudist, UWIST, UMIST, \* tattooist, canoeist, balloonist, bassoonist, cartoonist, \* absolutist, parachutist, opportunist

**42.29** Hewish, Jewish, bluish, newish, shrewish, prudish, soup dish, Jutish, brutish, moonfish, coolish, foolish, ghoulish, mulish, \* Ballachulish

**42.30** Blewitt, cruet, Hewitt, suet, cubit, toolkit, Newgate, bluetit, moonlit, unit, Puget, \* intuit, septuplet, sextuplet, quintuplet, quadruplet, \* subunit, \* *tempus fugit*, \* do it, lose it, etc.

**42.31** Ewart, Stewart, Stuart, Hubert, Schubert, Rupert

**42.32** cubits, bluetits, units, \* septuplets, sextuplets, quintuplets, quadruplets, \* Massachusetts, etc.

**42.33** allusive, conclusive, obtrusive, abusive, conducive, elusive, inclusive, exclusive, intrusive, effusive, \* inconclusive, unobtrusive

**42.34** brewers, viewers, Tudors, juniors, bloomers, rumours, tumours, Bruce's, uses, bruises, cruises, losers, \* reviewers, Bermudas, intruders, computers, commuters, consumers, accusers, \* paratroopers, baby-boomers, honeymooners, etc.

**42.35** Suez, groupies, bootees, duties, movies, goolies, Julie's, tootsies

**42.36** puberty, cruelty, cruelly, frugally, brutally, neutrally, crucially, suitably, fluently, prudently, humanly, fruitlessly, ruthlessly, brewery, blueberry, Newbury, Tewkesbury, Dewsbury, Shrewsbury, Bloomsbury, dupery, brusquerie, foolery, usury, jewellery, euphony, numeracy, lunacy, fluency, truancy, eulogy, crudity, nudity, unity, moodily, snootily, gloomily, musically, stupidly, lucidly, beautifully, dutifully, foolishly, unitary, luminary, mutiny, scrutiny, ruefully, fruitfully, truthfully, usefully, usually, mutually, \* unsuitably, presumably, reputedly, inhumanly, tomfoolery, pecuniary, perfumery, buffoonery, festoonery, delusory, illusory, fiduciary, salutatory, accusatory, innumeracy, acuity, vacuity, fatuity, gratuity, annuity, congruity, fortuity, credulity, salubrity, community, impunity, immunity, disunity, cherubically, confusedly, bemusedly, conclusively, obtrusively, abusively, inclusively, exclusively, approvingly, accusingly, confusingly, amusingly, pituitary, untruthfully, unusually, \* centrifugally, indisputably, microbrewery, persecutory, revolutionary, ambiguity, assiduity, perspicuity, perpetuity, ingenuity, incongruity, promiscuity, contiguity, continuity, superfluity, incredulity, insalubrity, opportunity, importunity, unobtrusively, disapprovingly, unassumingly, \* circumlocutory, discontinuity, \* counter-revolutionary, etc.

**42.37** dueller, jeweller, cupola, fruiterer, usurer, juniper, Boudicca, Jupiter, crucifer, Lucifer, tubular, uvula, \* Methusaleh, \* executioner

**42.38** Nubia, croupier, droopier, loopier, spookier, moodier, fruitier, snootier, groovier, uvea, Julia, nuclear, chewier, screwier, gloomier, roomier, junior, punier, juicier, choosier, \* alluvia, effluvia, abulia, peculiar, perfumier, costumier, petunia, Seleucia, minutia, \* dyscalculia, antinuclear, thermonuclear, Andalusia, etc.

**42.39** doable, chewable, viewable, mutable, scrutable, suitable, movable, provable, superable, tunable, crucible, Crucible, usable, fusible, tubercle, pubertal, humeral, numeral, funeral, Juvenal, gluteal, fluvial, pluvial, cubicle, cuticle, utricle, musical, beautiful, dutiful, usual, mutual, \* renewable, computable, commutable, unsuitable, imputable, disputable, refutable, inscrutable, unprovable, improvable, disprovable, immovable, removable, insuperable, manoeuvrable, innumerable, consumable, presumable, deducible, reducible, unusable, confusable, reusable, excusable, delusional, connubial, marsupial, alluvial, diluvial, unmusical, unusual, \* unrenovable, nonrenovable, executable, indisputable, irrefutable, substitutable, reproducible, irreducible, inexcusable, institutional, constitutional, pharmaceutical, attitudinal, latitudinal, longitudinal, pari-mutuel, \* unconstitutional

**42.40** Houyhnhnm, Lewisham, \* Jerusalem, alluvium, effluvium

**42.41** Hughenden, Lutheran, mutagen, Nubian, Boolean, Julian, union, Lucian, Rubicon, hooligan, Newington, Houlihan, unison, UNISON, \* Danubian, trade union, alluvion, Peruvian, Vesuvian, Acheulian, cerulean, communion, Mancunian, Réunion, Neptunian, reunion, nonunion, prounion, Malthusian, Carthusian, Venusian, \* postdiluvian, Zarathustrian, Andalusian, \* antediluvian, Soviet Union, intercommunion

**42.42** Newfoundland, rubicund

**42.43** nutrient, lubricant, fumigant, jubilant, rudiment, supplement, nutriment, muniment, ruminant, \* exuberant, protuberant, accoutrement, insouciant, communicant, concupiscent, \* disillusionment

**42.44** nutrients, jubilation, rudiments, ruminants, \* exuberance, protuberance, insouciance, concupiscence, etc.

**42.45** duelling, gruelling, ruining, skewering, neutering, tutoring, etc.

**42.46** humourless, tuberous, uterus, humerus, humorous, numerous, usefulness, ruthlessness, dubious, studious, beauteous, duteous, gluteus, Julius, nucleus, Junius, Lucius, ludicrous, ruinous, moodiness, glutinous,

mutinous, snootiness, luminous, numinous, juiciness, scrupulous, cumulus, tumulus, \* Vesuvius, salubrious, lugubrious, caduceus, Manutius, gratuitous, circuitous, fortuitous, aluminous, voluminous, leguminous, bituminous, unscrupulous, \* insalubrious, impecunious, platitudinous, multitudinous, pulchritudinous, altocumulus, stratocumulus, cirrocumulus, etc.

**42.47** droopiest, loopiest, spookiest, moodiest, fruitiest, snootiest, grooviest, chewiest, screwiest, gloomiest, roomiest, puniest, juiciest, choosiest, etc.

**42.48** duellist, feudalist, Eucharist, humorist, futurist, lutenist, unionist, Unionist, humanist, pugilist, \* consumerist, phillumenist, illusionist, \* revolutionist, evolutionist

## **Rhymes in sayings**

*The use of rhyme is not restricted to poems and songs. Many sayings and slogans are made memorable in this way, e.g. 'Red sky at night, shepherd's delight', 'No pain, no gain', 'A Mars a day helps you work, rest, and play', 'Coughs and sneezes spread diseases'. Rhyme is also found in many everyday words and phrases. Some of these are well-established compounds made up of two parts that are now meaningless on their own, e.g. fuddy-duddy, hanky-panky, helter-skelter, mumbo-jumbo, namby-pamby, nitty-gritty. Others are newer coinages in which both parts have meaning and are chosen because they rhyme. Here are some examples:*

**blast from the past**

**booze cruise**

**chalk and talk**

**chick flick**

**culture vulture**

**doom and gloom**

**fair and square**

**fat cat**

**gender bender**  
**highways and byways**  
**hire and fire**  
**horses for courses**  
**latest and greatest**  
**make or break**  
**meals on wheels**  
**name and shame**  
**nearest and dearest**  
**pooper-scooper**  
**pub grub**  
**snail mail**  
**surf and turf**  
**thrills and spills**  
**wear and tear**  
**wheel and deal**

**42.49** numerate, duplicate, \* quintuplicate, quadruplicate

**42.50** mutually, usually, tutelary, funerary, numeracy, \* exuberantly, peculiarly, indubitably, unusually, innumeracy, \* institutionally, constitutionally, supernumerary

**42.51** insuperable, innumerable, dutiable, communicable, indubitable, \* incommunicable

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Published by Collins  
An imprint of HarperCollinsPublishers  
Westerhill Road, Bishopbriggs  
Glasgow G64 2QT  
[www.harpercollins.co.uk](http://www.harpercollins.co.uk)

First published in 2006 Great Britain by HarperCollinsPublishers Ltd

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Source ISBN: 9780007209965  
Ebook Edition © MAY 2014 ISBN: 9780007588947  
Version: 2014-05-06



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