

quadruplex 2. a collection or group of four, usually of one kind

quadruplicate vt. -cat'ed, -cat'ing [

quadruple n. [L. quadruplex] 1. fourfold 2. designating or of a former system of telegraphy in which four messages could be sent simultaneously over one wire, two in either direction

quaff (kwáf, kwáf) vt., vi. [Early ModE., prob. (by misreading of -ss- as -ff-) < LowG. quassen, to overindulge (in food and drink)] to drink deeply in a hearty or thirsty way

quag (kwag, kwág) n. [?] [Rare] a bog or marsh

quagmire (kwág'mír, kwág'mír) n. [QUAG + MIRE] 1. wet, boggy ground, yielding under the feet 2. a difficult or intractable position [a quagmire of debts]

quahog, quahaug (kwáh'hóg, káh'-'háug) n. [

quail (kwáik, kwáik) n. [ScotGael. cuach] [Scot.] a small, shallow drinking cup, usually with two handles

quail n. [ME. quailen, prob. < OFr. coaillier < L. coagulare, to coagulate] to draw back in fear; lose heart or courage; cower -SYN. see RECOIL

quail n., pl. quails, quail: see PLURAL, II, D, 1 [ME. quaille < OFr. < ML. quacula, prob. < Gmc. echoic name (OHG. quahala)] 1. any of various small, gallinaceous game birds of America, Europe, Asia, and Africa, resembling quail n. 2. same as BOBWHITE



CALIFORNIA QUAIL (11 in. long, including tail)

quake (kwák) vt. quaked, quak'ing [ME. quaken < OE. cwacian] 1. to tremble or shake, as the ground does in an earthquake 2. to shudder or shiver, as from fear or cold -n. 1. a shaking or tremor in an earthquake -SYN. see SHAKE

quaker (kwák'ér) n. [orig. derisive: said to be so called from Fox's admonition to "quake" at the word of the Lord] a popular name for a member of the Society of Friends; Friend: see SOCIETY OF FRIENDS -Quak'er-ess [Now Rare] n.fem. -Quak'er-ish adj. -Quak'er-ism n.

quaker gun a dummy gun or cannon, as of wood: so called from the Quakers' opposition to war and militarism

quaker meeting 1. a religious meeting of Quakers, characterized by long periods of silence 2. [Colloq.] any meeting in which there are many silent moments

quaking aspen a N. American poplar [Populus tremuloides] with small, flat-stemmed leaves that tremble in the slightest breeze

quaking grass any of a genus (Briza) of annual or perennial grasses having delicate spikelets on very thin stalks that tremble in the lightest breeze

quaker shaky -quak'ly adv. -quak'ly-ness n.

qual-i-fi-ca-tion (kwál'ə fī ká'shən) n. [ML. qualificatio] 1. a qualifying or being qualified 2. a modification or restriction; limiting condition 3. any quality, skill, knowledge, experience, etc. that fits a person for a position, office, profession, etc.; requisite 4. a condition that must be met in order to exercise certain rights

qual-i-fied (kwál'ə fid') adj. 1. having met conditions or requirements set 2. having the necessary or desirable qualities; fit; competent 3. limited; modified [to give qualified approval] -SYN. see ABLE -qual'ly-ness n.

qual-i-fi-er (-fī'ér) n. a person or thing that qualifies; specif., a) a person who meets set requirements b) a word, as an adjective or adverb, that modifies or limits the meaning of another word

qual-i-fy (-fī') vt. -fied', -fy'ing [Fr. qualifier < ML. qualificare < L. qualis, of what kind (akin to qui, who) + facere, to make: see FACT] 1. to describe by giving the qualities or characteristics of 2. to make fit for an office, occupation, exercise of a right, etc. 3. to make legally capable; give a specific right to; license 4. to modify; restrict; limit; make less positive [to qualify one's approval] 5. to moderate; soften [to qualify a punishment] 6. to change the strength of (a liquor, etc.) 7. Gram. to limit or modify the meaning of (a word) -vi. to be or become qualified, as by meeting requirements -qual'ly-ness n. -qual'ly-ly adv.

qual-i-ta-tive (-tāt'iv) adj. [LL. qualitativus] having to do with quality or qualities -qual'ly-ly adv.

qualitative analysis the branch of chemistry dealing with the determination of the elements or ingredients of which a compound or mixture is composed

qual-i-ty (kwál'ə tē) n., pl. -ties [ME. qualite < OFr. < L. qualitas < qualis, of what kind (see QUALIFY)] 1. any of the features that make something what it is; characteristic element; attribute 2. basic nature; character; kind 3. the degree of excellence which a thing possesses 4. excellence; superiority 5. [Now Rare] position, capacity, or role 6. a) [Archaic] high social position b) [Archaic or Dial.] people of high social position 7. Acoustics the property of a tone determined by its overtones; timbre 8. Logic the affirmative or negative character of a proposition 9. Phonol. the character of a vowel sound as determined by the resonance of the vocal cords and the shape of the passage above the larynx when the sound is produced

SYN.-quality, the broadest in scope of these terms, refers to a characteristic (physical or nonphysical, individual or typical) that constitutes the basic nature of a thing or is one of its distinguishing features [the quality of mercy]; property applies to any quality that belongs to a thing by reason of the essential nature of the thing [elasticity is a property of rubber]; character is the scientific or formal term for a distinctive or peculiar quality of an individual or of a class, species, etc. [a hereditary character]; an attribute is a quality assigned to a thing, esp. one that may reasonably be deduced as appropriate to it [omnipotence is an attribute of God]; trait specif. applies to a distinguishing quality of a personality [enthusiasm is one of his outstanding traits]

*quality control a system for maintaining desired standards in production or in a product, esp. by inspecting samples of the product

qualm (kwám) n. [ME. qualme < OE. cwealm, death, disaster (akin to G. qual, pain, Sw. kvalm, nausea) < base of cwellan, to kill (see QUELL); all extant senses show melioration of the orig. meaning] 1. a sudden, brief feeling of sickness, faintness, or nausea 2. a sudden feeling of uneasiness or doubt; misgiving 3. a twinge of conscience; scruple

SYN.-qualm implies a painful feeling of uneasiness arising from a consciousness that one is or may be acting wrongly [he had qualms about having cheated on the test]; scruple implies doubt or hesitation arising from difficulty in deciding what is right, proper, just, etc. [to break a promise without scruple]; compunction implies a twinge of conscience for wrongdoing, now often for a slight offense [to have no compunctions about telling a white lie]; misgiving implies a disturbed state of mind resulting from a loss of confidence as to whether one is doing what is right [misgivings of conscience]

qualm-ish (-ish) adj. 1. having qualms 2. having the nature of a qualm 3. of such a nature as to produce qualms -qualm'ish-ly adv. -qualm'ish-ness n.

*quam-ash (kwám'ash, kwámash') n. same as CAMASS

quan-da-ry (kwán'drē, -dər ē) n., pl. -ries [earlier quandare, prob. orig. jocular pseudo-L. < L. quande, var. of quam, how much (see QUANTITY) + -are, inf. suffix] a state of uncertainty; perplexing situation or position; dilemma -SYN. see PREDICAMENT

quan-dong, quan-dang (kwán'dāŋ') n. [native name] 1. a small Australian tree (Eucalypta acuminata) whose edible fruit has a single stone containing an edible kernel 2. this fruit or stone Also quan'tong' (-tāŋ')

quant (kwánt, kwánt) n. [?] [Brit.] a punting pole with a flat cap at the end to prevent its sinking in the mud -vt., vi. to propel (a boat) with a quant

quan-ta (kwán'ta) n. pl. of QUANTUM

quan-tic (-tik) n. [

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ape, cár; ten, éven; is, bite; gó, hórñ, tóól, look; oíl, out; up, fár; get; joy; yet; chin; she; thin, shen; zh, leisure; ŋ, ring; ...