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English  
Language

# Dictionary

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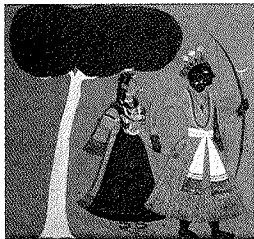
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rake<sup>1</sup>



Sir Walter Raleigh



Rama  
c. 1720 Indian gouache painting of Rama (right) and his wife Sita (left)



ramada

**rain-squall** (rân'skwól') *n.* A squall accompanied by rain.

**rain-storm** (rân'stôrm') *n.* A storm accompanied by rain.

**rain-wash** (rân'wôsh', -wôsh') *n.* Rock debris transported downhill by rain. ❖ *tr.v.* -washed, -wash-ing, -wash-es To wash (material) down a slope by rain.

**rain-wa-ter** (rân'wô'tər, -wôt'ər) *n.* Water that has fallen as rain and contains little dissolved mineral matter.

**rain-wear** (rân'wâr') *n.* Waterproof clothing.

**rain-y** (râ'nē) *adj.* -i-er, -i-est Characterized by, full of, or bringing rain. —rain'i-ness *n.*

**rainy day** *n.* A time of need or trouble.

**Rain-y Lake** (râ'nē) A lake of northern Minnesota and southwest Ontario, Canada, drained by the **Rainy River**, which flows about 130 km (80 mi) generally westward along the US-Canadian border to Lake of the Woods.

**Rai-pur** (rî'pūr) A city of east-central India east of Nagpur. It is the capital of the state of Chhattisgarh.

**raise** (râz) *v.* raised, rais-ing, rais-es —*tr.* 1. To move to a higher position; elevate: *raised the loads with a crane.* See Synonyms at **lift**. 2. To set in an upright or erect position: *raise a flagpole.* 3. To erect or build: *raise a new building.* 4. To cause to arise, appear, or exist: *The slap raised a welt.* 5. To increase in size, quantity, or worth: *raise an employee's salary.* 6. To increase in intensity, degree, strength, or pitch: *raised his voice.* 7. To improve in rank or dignity; promote: *raised her to management level.* 8a. To grow, especially in quantity; cultivate: *raise corn and soybeans.* b. To breed and care for to maturity: *raise cattle.* c. To bring up; rear: *raise children.* d. To accustom to something from an early age: *"a post-World War II generation raised on shopping malls and multiplex cinemas"* (Gustav Niebuhr). 9. To put forward for consideration: *raised an important question.* See Synonyms at **broach**<sup>1</sup>. 10. To voice; utter: *raise a shout.* 11a. To awaken; arouse: *noise that would raise the dead.* b. To stir up; instigate: *raise a revolt.* c. To bring about; provoke: *remarks intended to raise a laugh.* 12. To make contact with by radio: *couldn't raise the control tower after midnight.* 13. To gather together; collect: *raise money from the neighbors for a charity.* 14. To cause (dough) to puff up. 15. To end (a siege) by withdrawing troops or forcing the enemy troops to withdraw. 16. To remove or withdraw (an order). 17. **Games** a. To increase (a poker bet). b. To bet more than (a preceding bettor in poker). c. To increase the bid of (one's bridge partner). 18. **Nautical** To bring into sight by approaching nearer: *raised the Cape.* 19. To alter and increase fraudulently the written value of (a check, for example). 20. To cough up (phlegm). 21. **Scots** To make angry; enrage. —*intr.* **Games** To increase a poker bet or a bridge bid. ❖ *n.* 1. The act of raising or increasing. 2. An increase in salary. —**idioms:** **raise Cain** (or **the devil** or **hell**) 1. To behave in a rowdy or disruptive fashion. 2. To reprimand someone angrily. **raise eyebrows** To cause surprise or mild disapproval. **raise the stakes** To increase one's commitment or involvement. [Middle English *raisen* < Old Norse *reisa*; see **er**-<sup>1</sup> in App. I.] —**rais'er** *n.*

➔ **USAGE NOTE** A traditional usage rule holds that people *raise* crops and farm animals but *rear* children. Nonetheless, people have been raising children in English since the 1700s, and the usage has been standard for many generations, at least in American English. The Usage Panel finds the use of *raise* acceptable both for children and for livestock, but makes a distinction regarding the verb *rear*, which it approves for children but has reservations about for animals. In our 2002 survey, only 40 percent accepted the sentence *The settlers reared cattle in the Valley before it was flooded.* The lesson is clear: contemporary usage allows writers to *raise* both children and livestock, but writers should probably *rear* children only.

**raised** (râzd) *adj.* 1. Projecting from a flat background; in relief; embossed: *a raised design.* 2. Made light and high by yeast or other leaven.

**rai-sin** (râ'zîn) *n.* 1. A sweet grape dried either in the sun or by artificial means. 2. A deep brownish purple. [Middle English < Old French, grape < Vulgar Latin \**racimus* < Latin *racēmus*, bunch of grapes.]

**rai-son d'ê-tre** (râ'zôn dēt'rə, rē-zôn) *n., pl. rai-sons d'ê-tre (râ'zôn, rē-zôn) Reason or justification for existing. [French: *raison*, reason + *de*, of, for + *être*, to be.]*

**rai-ta** (rî'tə) *n.* An Indian salad made with yogurt and chopped vegetables or fruits, such as cucumbers, spinach, or bananas. [Hindi *rāyṭā* < Sanskrit \**rājīkātiktakāḥ*, mustard pickle: *rājīkā*, black mustard (probably < *rājīh*, streak, line < *rjyati*, he stretches out; see **reg**- in App. I) + *tiktaka*-, bitter (< *tikta*-, past participle of *tejate*, it is sharp; see **steig**- in App. I).]

**Raj-ab** (rūj'əb) *n.* The seventh month of the year in the Islamic calendar. See table at **calendar**. [Arabic *rajab* < *rajaba*, to fear, revere; see **rgb** in App. II.]

**Ra-ja-sthan** (rā'jə-stān') A state of northwest India on the border with Pakistan. Formerly composed of numerous princely states mostly under Rajput rule, the region fell to the British in the 1800s, was integrated into independent India after 1947, and gained statehood in 1956. Jaipur is the capital.

**Raj-kot** (rāj'kōt') A city of western India west-southwest of Ahmedabad. Formerly the capital of a princely state, it is now an educational center and a transportation hub.

**Raj-put** (rāj'poot) *n.* A member of any of several powerful Hindu landowning and military lineages inhabiting northern and central India. [Hindi *rājput* < Sanskrit *rājaputrah*, king's son: *rājā*, king; see **RAJA** + *putrah*, son.]

**rake**<sup>1</sup> (rāk) *n.* 1. A long-handled implement with a row of projecting teeth at its head, used especially to gather leaves or to loosen or smooth earth. 2. A device that resembles such an implement. ❖ *v.* raked, rak-ing, rakes —*tr.* 1a. To gather or move with or as if with a rake: *rake leaves into a pile; rake in the gambling chips.* b. **Informal** To gain in abundance. Often used with *in*: *a successful company that raked in the profits.* 2a. To smooth, scrape, or loosen with a rake or similar implement: *rake the soil for planting.* b. To move over or across swiftly or harshly: *Cold winds raked the plains.* 3. To pull or drag (a comb or one's fingers, for example) over or through something, such as one's hair. 4. To scrape; scratch: *The cat raked my arm with its claws.* 5. To aim heavy gunfire along the length of. —*intr.* 1. To use a rake. 2. To conduct a thorough search: *raked through the files for the misplaced letter.* —**phrasal verb:** **rake up** To revive or bring to light; uncover: *rake up old gossip.* —**idiom:** **rake over the coals** To reprimand severely. [Middle English < Old English *raca*; see **reg**- in App. I.] —**rak'er** *n.*

**rake**<sup>2</sup> (rāk) *n.* A usually well-to-do man who is dissolute or promiscuous. [Short for **RAKEHELL**.]

**rake**<sup>3</sup> (rāk) *intr.* & *tr.v.* raked, rak-ing, rakes To slant or cause to incline from the perpendicular: *propeller blades that rake backward from the shaft; rake a ship's mast.* ❖ *n.* 1. Inclination from the perpendicular: *the rake of a jet plane's wings.* 2. The angle between the cutting edge of a tool and a plane perpendicular to the working surface to which the tool is applied. 3a. The angle at which a roof is inclined. b. The inclined edge of a pitched roof or the roof of a gable or dormer. [Origin unknown.]

**rake-hell** (rāk'hēl') *n.* An immoral or dissolute man. [Possibly by folk etymology < obsolete *rackle*, headstrong < Middle English *rakel*, perhaps < *raken*, to go.]

**rake-off** (rāk'ōf', -ōf') *n.* **Informal** A percentage or share of the profits of an enterprise, especially one given or accepted as a bribe. [From the rake used by a croupier in a gambling house.]

**rak-i** also **rak-ee** (rāk'ē, rāk'ē, rāk'ə) *n., pl. -is* also **-ees** A brandy of Turkey and the Balkans, distilled from grapes or plums and flavored with anise. [Turkish *rakı* < Arabic *araq*, arak; see **ARAK**.]

**rak-ish**<sup>1</sup> (rāk'ish) *adj.* 1. **Nautical** Having a trim, streamlined appearance: *"We were schooner-rigged and rakish, with a long and lissome hull"* (John Masefield). 2. Dashing or sportingly stylish; jaunty. [Probably < **RAKE**<sup>3</sup> (from the raking masts of pirate ships).]

**rak-ish**<sup>2</sup> (rāk'ish) *adj.* Of the character of a rake; dissolute.

**râle** also **râle** (râl) *n.* An abnormal respiratory sound characterized by fine crackles. [French *râle* < *râler*, to make a rattling sound in the throat < Old French *racler*, to scrape, rattle; see **RACLETTE**.]

**Ra-leigh** (rô'lē, rā'-) The capital of North Carolina, in the east-central part of the state near Durham and Chapel Hill. It was laid out in 1759 and named for Sir Walter Raleigh.

**Raleigh** or **Ra-legh** (rô'lē, rā'-), Sir **Walter** 1552?–1618. English courtier, navigator, and writer. A favorite of Elizabeth I, he led military campaigns in Ireland and Spain, explored Guiana, attempted to colonize Virginia, and served as governor of Jersey (1600–1603). He was later executed for treason. His literary works include poetry, memoirs, and a world history.

**Ra-lik Chain** (rā'lik) The western group of the Marshall Islands in the western Pacific Ocean. The chain comprises 3 coral islands and 15 atolls, including Bikini and Eniwetok.

**ral-len-tan-do** (rāl'ən-tān'dō, rāl'lēn-tān'dō) *Music adv. & adj.* Gradually slackening in tempo; ritardando. Used chiefly as a direction. ❖ *n., pl. -dos* A rallentando passage or movement. [Italian, present participle of