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hairin take.] 1 The division of one syllable into two, esp. by the resolution of a diphthong into two simple vowels. L16. 2 The sign placed over a vowel to indicate that it is pronounced separately, as in *Brontë*, *naïve*. E17. 3 Pros. A break in a line where the end of a foot coincides with the end of a word. M19.

diaeretic /daiə'retik/ *a.* (now rare) of or pertaining to diaeresis M17.

diagenesis /daiə'dʒenisis/ *n.* L19. [f. DIA-¹ + -GENESIS.] *Geol.* The physical and chemical changes (other than metamorphism) undergone by a sediment after deposition; the recombination of the constituents of a mineral to form a new mineral.

diagenetic *a.* involving or of the nature of diagenesis; produced by diagenesis: L19. **diagenetically** *adv.* M20.

diageotropic /daiə'dʒiə'trɒpik, -'trəʊp/ *a.* L19. [f. DIA-¹ + GEOTROPIC.] *Bot.* Pertaining to or characterized by a tendency to grow horizontally.

diageotropism *n.* L19.

diaglyphic /daiə'glɪfɪk/ *a.* rare. M19. [f. Gk *diaglyphēin* carve in intaglio + -IC.] Of the nature of an intaglio; engraved.

diagnose /daiə'gnəʊz/ *v.* M19. [Back-form. f. next.] 1 *v.t.* & *i.* Make a diagnosis of, infer the presence of (a particular disease etc.) from symptoms. M19. 2 *v.t.* Ascertain the condition of (a person etc.) by diagnosis. E20.

diagnosable *a.* L19.

diagnosis /daiə'gnəʊsɪs/ *n.* Pl. -noses /-'nəʊsɪz/. L17. [mod.L *diagnosis* f. Gk, f. *diagnōskein* distinguish, discern, f. as DIA-¹ + *gignōskein* KNOW *v.*] 1 The process of determining the nature of a disease etc.; the identification of a disease from a patient's symptoms etc.; a formal statement of this. L17. *b transf. & fig.* (A conclusion from) analysis; the ascertainment of the cause of a mechanical fault etc. M19. 2 *Taxon.* The distinctive characterization of a species etc. M19.

1 *differential diagnosis*: see DIFFERENTIAL *a.* 2.

diagnostic /daiə'gnɒstɪk/ *a.* & *n.* E17. [Gk *diagnostikos* able to distinguish, *hē diagnostikē* (sc. *tekhne*) the art of distinguishing diseases: see prec., -IC.] *A adj.* 1 Of or pertaining to diagnosis. E17. 2 Of use in diagnosis; characteristic, distinctive. M17. 3 *Computing.* Of a program or a routine within one: designed to identify program errors or system faults and to give information about them. M20.

2 D. ATTENBOROUGH The diagnostic character of having not one but two pairs of antennae.

B n. 1 A diagnosis. Now rare exc. in *pl.*, the art of diagnosis. E17. 2 A distinctive symptom or characteristic; a specific trait. M17. 3 *Computing.* An output that helps a user to identify an error or malfunction; a facility or routine for producing such an output. *Usu.* in *pl.* M20.

1 PLASMA *diagnostics*.

diagnostically *adv.* M17. **diagnoscitate** *v.t.* diagnose M19. **diagnostician** *n.* a person skilled in diagnosis; a person who makes a diagnosis: M19.

diagonal /dai'æɡən(ə)/ *a.* & *n.* M16. [L *diagonalis* f. Gk *diagōnis* from angle to angle, f. as DIA-¹ + *gōnia* angle: see -AL¹. Cf. (O)Fr. *diagonal*.] *A adj.* 1 (Of a line) joining two non-adjacent vertices of a figure or solid; extending between opposite corners or edges of something. M16. 2 Having an oblique direction; slanting. M16. 3 Marked with diagonal or oblique lines; having some part situated obliquely. L17.

2 J. ROSENBERG The diagonal shadow cast by the nose. 3 H. N. MOSELEY A wide patch of diagonal ornamentation upon the abdomen. **diagonal cloth** = DIAGONAL *n.* 3. **diagonal matrix** *Math.*: having non-zero elements only in the diagonal running from the upper left to the lower right.

B n. 1 A diagonal line. L16. 2 An oblique part of something. M19. 3 A twilled fabric with the ridges running diagonally. M19.

diagonalizable *a.* (*Math.*) able to be diagonalized M20. **diagonalization** *n.* (*Math.*) the process of diagonalizing M20. **diagonalize** *v.* (*a*) *v.i.* (*rare*) move obliquely; (*b*) *v.t.* (*Math.*) transform into a diagonal

matrix: L19. **diagonally** *adv.* in a diagonal direction; obliquely, slantwise: LME.

diagram /daiə'grɑ:m/ *n.* & *v.* E17. [L *diagramma* f. Gk, f. *diagramhein* mark out by lines, f. as DIA-¹ + *graphein* write: see -GRAM.] *A n.* 1 A sketch or figure showing the features of an object needed for exposition, rather than its actual appearance. E17. 2 A figure composed of lines serving to illustrate or prove a theorem etc. in geometry or logic. M17. 3 A figure (e.g. a graph or a histogram) representing a series of related numerical quantities. M19.

1 *floral diagram*: see FLORAL *a.* *tree diagram*: see TREE *n.* 5b. *vowel diagram*: see VOWEL *n.* 3 *INDICATOR diagram*.

B v.t. *Infl.* -mm-, *-m-. Represent by or in a diagram; *fig.* give an outline or summary of. Chiefly US. M19.

diagrammatic *a.* M19. **diagrammatically** *adv.* M19.

diagrammatize /daiə'grɑ:mətɑɪz/ *v.t.* Also -ise. L19. [f. Gk *diagrammat-* stem of *diagramma* DIAGRAM + -IZE.] Put into diagrammatic form; represent by a diagram.

diagraph /daiə'grɑ:f/ *n.* E18. [Branch I f. Gk *diagraphē*, f. as DIA-¹, -GRAPH. Branch II f. Fr. *diagraphie*, f. stem of Gk *diagraphēin* (see DIAGRAM).] 1 † A description. *rare.* Only in E18. 2 A diagram in logic. *rare.* M19. II3 An instrument for mechanically drawing projections or making copies, consisting of a pen governed by cords and pulleys which in turn are controlled by a pointer. Now rare. M19. 4 A combined protractor and scale for plotting. L19.

diagraphic *a.* (now rare) of or pertaining to drawing or graphic representation M17. † **diagraphical** *a.* = DIAGRAPHIC: only in E17.

diagrid /daiə'grɪd/ *n.* M20. [f. DIAGONAL *a.* + GRID *n.*] A supporting structure of diagonally intersecting ribs of metal, concrete, etc.

diagrydium /daiə'grɪdɪəm/ *n.* LME. [Late L, alt. of Gk *dakrydion* a kind of scammony, dim. of *dakru* a tear.] A preparation of scammony, formerly used in pharmacy.

diaheliotropic /daiə'hɪliə'trɒpɪk, -'trəʊp/ *a.* L19. [f. DIA-¹ + HELIOTROPIC.] *Bot.* Pertaining to or characterized by a tendency to grow transversely to incident light.

diaheliotropism *n.* L19.

diakinesis /daiə'kaɪnɪsɪs/ *n.* E20. [f. DIA-¹ + Gk *kinēsis* motion.] *Cytol.* The last stage of the prophase of the first meiotic division, just before the disappearance of the nuclear membrane.

dial /dai(ə)/ *n.* & *v.* ME. [med.L *diale* dial of a clock, use as *n.* of neut. of *adj.* implied by *dialiter* daily, f. L *dies* day: see -AL¹. Cf. OFr. *dial* wheel in a clock that completes one turn daily.] *A n.* 1 † A mariner's compass. ME-M17. *b* A miner's compass for underground surveying. M17. 2 An instrument for telling the time of day by means of the shadow cast by a pointer on a graduated surface; *esp.* a sundial. LME. † 3 A timepiece or chronometer of any kind; a clock, a watch. LME-L17. 4 The face of a clock or watch, marked to show the hours etc. LME. 5 A circular plate or face with numbered markings on it from which can be read a measurement etc. indicated by a pointer; any device in which a moving element shows the numerical value of something, *esp.* one on a radio showing the frequency to which it is tuned. M18. *b* A circular plate on a telephone with numbers etc. and a disc with finger-holes which is rotated for each digit of a number being called. L19. 6 A person's face. *slang.* E19. 7 A lapidary's instrument for holding a gem during cutting and polishing. L19. 2 *horizontal dial, nocturnal dial, vertical dial, etc. moon-dial*: see MOON *n.* *sundial*: see SUN *n.* 1 5 M. LOWRY Hugh . . . turned the radio dial back and forth, trying to get San Antonio. J. HAWKES Rows of knobs, dials with needles all set at zero.

B v. *Infl.* -ll-, *-l-. 1 *v.i.* & *t.* Survey using a miner's dial. M17. 2 *v.t.* Measure or indicate (as) with a dial. E19. 3 *v.i.* & *t.* Operate the dial (or the keys) of a telephone; do this for (a digit or series of digits); call (a number, a person, etc.) by this means to establish telephonic connection. E20.

2 *fig.*: P. J. BAILEY To teach us how to dial. 3 G. GREENE I was just going to dial Inquiries. W. DE LA MARE Dial 999, and gain . . . Safety from fire, police and ambulance. **dial-a-**: used to prefix a *n.* to form *adjs.* and *ns.* denoting something that can be provided or ordered by telephone. **dial up** operate a telephone dial or keypad; gain access to (a computer etc.) over a telephone line in this way; ring up.

Comb. (mainly f. the *n.*): **dial-plate** the face-plate of a dial; *esp.* that of a clock or watch, marked with the hours; **dial telephone**: operated by means of a dial; **dial tone** *N. Amer.* = DIALLING *wng*; **dial-up** *a.* pertaining to or designating a data transmission link that uses the public telephone system, access to it being gained by dialling.

dial /daiəl/ *n.* E20. [f. *diallylbarbituric acid*.] *Pharm.* A preparation of diallylbarbituric acid, used as a sedative.

dial-bird /daiəl'bɜ:d/ *n.* M18. [f. Hind. *dahiya*, *dahel* (see DHYAL) after DIAL *n.* 1; see BIRD *n.*] In the Indian subcontinent, = MAGPIE-ROBIN.

dialect /daiə'lekt/ *n.* M16. [Fr. *dialecte* or L. *dialectus*, f. Gk *dialektos* discourse, way of speaking, f. *dialegethai* converse with, discourse, f. as DIA-¹ + *legein* speak.] † 1 = DIALECTIC *n.* 1. M16-M18. 2 A manner of speaking, language, speech; *esp.* one peculiar to or characteristic of a particular person or class; idiom. L16. 3 A form of speech peculiar to a district; a variety of a language with non-standard vocabulary, pronunciation, or idioms; any language in relation to the language family to which it belongs. L16. 4 *Computing.* A particular version of a programming language. M20.

2 J. CLARKE The Lawyer's Dialect. J. FOSTER The theological dialect. G. ORWELL The political dialects to be found in pamphlets, leading articles, . . . and the speeches of Under-Secretaries. 3 DAY LEWIS Hardly understanding a word he said because of his thick East-Asian dialect. *eye-dialect*: see EYE *n.*

Comb.: **dialect geography** the study of local differences within a speech area.

dialectal *a.* belonging to or of the nature of a dialect M19. **dialectally** *adv.* M19.

dialectic /daiə'lektɪk/ *n.* LME. [(O)Fr. *dialectique* or its source L *dialectica* f. Gk *dialektikē* use as *n.* (sc. *tekhne* art) of fem. of *dialektikos* pertaining to discourse, f. *dialektos*: see prec., -IC. Pl. after L *dialectica* treated as neut. pl.] 1 *sing.* or in *pl.* (treated as *sing.* or *pl.*). 1 The art of critically investigating the truth of opinions; logical disputation or argument. Formerly, logic as applied to rhetorical reasoning. LME. 2 The philosophy of metaphysical contradictions and their solutions, *esp.* in the thought of Kant and Hegel; the world process seen as a continuing unification of opposites; the existence or action of opposing forces or tendencies in society etc. L18.

2 *Listener* Dialectics is indeed the grammar of Marxist thinking.

II3 A dialectic philosopher; a critical enquirer after truth; a logical disputant. M17.

dialectic /daiə'lektɪk/ *a.* M17. [L *dialecticus* f. Gk *dialektikos*: see prec. In branch II f. DIALECT + -IC.] 11 Of, pertaining to, or of the nature of logical disputation. M17. 2 Fond of or practising logical disputation. M19. II3 = DIALECTAL. Now rare. E19.

dialecticism /-sɪz(ə)m/ *n.* (*a*) *rare* the tendency or influence of dialects; (*b*) dialectic philosophy or practice: L19.

dialectical /daiə'lektɪk(ə)/ *n.* & *a.* E16. [f. as prec. + -ICAL.] † *A n.* = DIALECTIC *n.* 1. Only in E16.

B adj. 11 = DIALECTIC *a.* I. M16. 2 Of or pertaining to dialectic as a philosophy. L18.

1 J. C. RANSOM His understanding is intuitive rather than dialectical. 2 **dialectical materialism** the Marxist theory of political and historical events as due to the conflict of social forces caused by man's material needs and interpretable as a series of contradictions and their solutions.

II3 = DIALECTAL. M18.

dialectically *adv.* (*a*) by means of dialectic, logically; (*b*) as regards dialect, dialectally: L16.

dialectician /daiə'lektɪtʃ(ə)n/ *n.* M16. [Fr. *dialecticien*, f. as DIALECTIC *a.*: see -ICIAN.] 1 A person skilled in disputation; a logician. M16. 2 A student of dialects. M19.

b but, d dog, f few, g get, h he, j yes, k cat, l leg, m man, n no, p pen, r red, s sit, t top, v van, w we, z zoo, ʃ she, ʒ vision, θ thin, ð this, ŋ ring, tʃ chip, dʒ jar

shelter to. LME. 3 *Naut.* Place in a secure or sheltered position. M18. 4 Fix (a piece of wood, etc.) in a socket, joint, or mortise. M19.

1 A. J. P. TAYLOR He... housed us without a moment's fuss. b E. FEINSTEIN A small friendly square around which many Russians housed themselves. 2 L. DURRELL A small observatory which housed a telescope of thirty magnifications. K. TYNAN The difficulty of finding out what theatre is housing the play you want to see. *Antiquarian Horology* A clock-case which houses a clock by Thomas Fayer of Lancaster. J. A. MICHENER The mound now housed a town of a hundred mud-brick houses.

II *v.i.* †5 Build a house or houses. ME-L15. 6 Live or take shelter (as) in a house. L16.

6 R. L. STEVENSON An old gentleman... housed with them for a while during our stay.

house /haʊz/ *v.t.* Now rare. E16. [f. HOUSE *n.*²] Cover (a horse) with a textile house or housing.

housebreak /'haʊsbreɪk/ *v.* Pa. t. (*rare*) -broke /-brəʊk/, pa. pple & ppl a. -broken /-brəʊk(ə)n/. ME. [f. HOUSE *n.*¹ + BREAK *v.*¹] 1 *v.i.* Break into a house with intent to steal etc. Chiefly as HOUSEBREAKING. ME. 2 *v.t.* = HOUSE-TRAIN. Freq. in *pass.* Chiefly *N. Amer.* E20.

housebreaker /'haʊsbreɪkə/ *n.* LME. [f. HOUSE *n.*¹ + BREAKER *n.*¹] 1 A person who breaks into a house with intent to steal etc. (in *Law* formerly in the daytime only: cf. BURGLAR). LME. 2 A person employed in demolishing houses. L19.

housebreaking /'haʊsbreɪkɪŋ/ *n.* E17. [f. HOUSE *n.*¹ + BREAKING *n.*¹] The act of breaking into a house with intent to steal etc. (in *Law* formerly in the daytime only: cf. BURGLARY).

houseful /'haʊsfʊl/, -(f)əl/ *n.* ME. [f. HOUSE *n.*¹ + -FUL.] As much or as many as a house will hold.

household /'haʊshəʊld/ *n.* & *a.* LME. [f. HOUSE *n.*¹ + HOLD *n.*¹] A *n.* 1 *collect.* The people living in a house, esp. a family in a house; a domestic establishment. LME. †2 The maintaining of a house or family; housekeeping. LME-L16. †3 *collect.* The contents of a house; household goods and furniture. LME-E18.

1 V. GLENDINNING The Fairfield household moved back to London. E. FEINSTEIN After his second wife's death, the household of Professor Tsvetayev split up. *The Household spec.* the royal household.

B attrib. or as *adj.* 1 Of or pertaining to a household; domestic. LME. 2 Intimate, homely. *arch.* LME.

2 L. STERNE Good plain household judgment.

Special collocations & comb.: **household appliance** a piece of equipment used in the house. **household book** a book for the keeping of household accounts.

household bread *Hist.* bread of an ordinary quality for household use. **household effects** the movable contents of a house. **household franchise** *Hist.* the right of voting in elections consequent on being a householder. **household gods** (a) gods presiding over a household, esp. (*Rom. Hist.*) the lares and penates; (b) the essentials of home life. **household management** the management of domestic affairs, esp. as a subject of study. **household name** a well-known name. **household science** (chiefly *N. Amer.*) the study of household management, domestic science. **household stuff** *arch.* = *household effects* above. **household troops** (in Britain) troops nominally employed to guard the monarch.

household word a well-known name or saying.

householdry *n.* (*arch.*) management of a household, housekeeping L16.

householder /'haʊshəʊldə/ *n.* LME. [f. HOUSE *n.*¹ + HOLDER *n.*¹] A person who owns or rents a house, flat, etc., as his or her own dwelling (*Hist.* with a type of occupancy bringing entitlement to the franchise); a head of a household or family.

householdership *n.* E19.

householding /'haʊshəʊldɪŋ/ *n.* Now rare. LME. [f. HOUSE *n.*¹ + HOLDING *n.*¹] (Formerly) management or (later) occupancy of a house.

housekeep /'haʊski:p/ *v.i. colloq.* Pa. t. & pple -kept /-kept/. M19. [Back-form. f. NEXT or HOUSEKEEPING *n.* Cf. earlier HOUSEKEEPING *a.* 1.] Act as a housekeeper (*for*); keep house.

housekeeper /'haʊski:pə/ *n.* LME. [f. HOUSE *n.*¹ + KEEPER *n.*¹] †1 = HOUSEHOLDER. LME-M19. †2 With qualifying *adj.*: a *good* etc. person in offering hospitality. M16-E18. 3 A person in charge of a house, office, etc.; a

caretaker. M16. †b A guard dog. Only in L17. 4 *spec.* A person, esp. a woman, who manages the affairs of a household (in a large establishment usu. including supervision of any female servants) or (now) the cleaning of a hotel etc.; (with qualifying *adj.*) a *good* etc. person at managing household affairs. Formerly also, a person engaged in a domestic occupation. L16. 5 A person who keeps to the house, or stays at home. *rare.* E18.

housekeeping /'haʊski:pɪŋ/ *n.* M16. [f. HOUSE *n.*¹ + KEEPING *n.*¹] 1 Maintenance of a household, keeping a house; management of household affairs, *transf.* management of an organization's finances etc. M16. †2 Hospitality. *Usu. w. qualifying adj.* M16-M19. 3 Money set aside or given for housekeeping expenses, housekeeping money. *colloq.* M20. 4 Those operations of a computer, an organization, etc., which make its work possible but do not directly constitute its performance, e.g. maintenance and record-keeping. M20.

1 C. ODETS We've set up housekeeping together, Joe. *Abingdon Herald* The Vale's financial strategy, based on continued good housekeeping and further capital investment. 3 J. PORTER If I ask you for a bit more housekeeping, that's a different story.

Comb. (see also HOUSEKEEPING *a.* 2): **housekeeping allowance**, **money**: set aside or given for housekeeping expenses.

housekeeping /'haʊski:pɪŋ/ *a.* M16. [Sense 1 f. HOUSE *n.*¹ + *keeping* pres. pple of KEEP *v.*; sense 2 the *n.* used attrib.] 1 That keeps a house or maintains a household. Now *rare.* M16. 2 Designating holiday or rented accommodation providing equipment for housekeeping; self-catering. *N. Amer.* M20.

housekept *v.* pa. t. & pple of HOUSEKEEP.

houselet /'haʊz(ə)l/ *n.* & *v.* *obs. exc. Hist.* [OE *hūslet* (whence ON *húsl*) = Goth. *hunsli* sacrifice, offering: ult. origin unkn.] A *n.* (The administration or receiving of) the Eucharist. OE. B *v.t.* *Infl.* -ll-, -l-. Administer the Eucharist to; in *pass.*, receive the Eucharist. OE.

houseless /'haʊsləs/ *a.* LME. [f. HOUSE *n.*¹ + -LESS.] Without a house; homeless.

houselessness *n.* E19.

housemaid /'haʊsmeɪd/ *n.* & *v.* L17. [f. HOUSE *n.*¹ + MAID *n.*¹] A *n.* A female domestic servant, esp. one in charge of reception rooms and bedrooms. L17.

housemaid's closet, **cupboard**: where cleaning materials are kept. **housemaid's knee** swelling of the bursa in front of the kneecap, often the result of frequent kneeling.

B v.t. Look after in the manner of a housemaid; put in order. M19.

P. DEVLIN One of his [the trial judge's] jobs is to housemaid the case... To get the evidence as clean and tidy as he can.

houseman /'haʊsmən/ *n.* Pl. -men. L18. [f. HOUSE *n.*¹ + MAN *n.*¹] 1 A married labourer on a Norwegian farm. *rare.* L18. 2 (H-) A member of Christ Church, Oxford (the 'House'). M19. 3 A man responsible for general duties in a house, hotel, etc. M19. 4 A house physician or house surgeon, in Britain now usu. a qualified junior doctor working under supervision in a hospital before being fully registered as an independent medical practitioner. M20.

housemanship *n.* the position of being a houseman in a hospital M20.

house-train /'haʊstreɪn/ *v.t.* E20. [f. HOUSE *n.*¹ + TRAIN *v.*¹] Train (a domestic animal, an infant) to be clean in the house, teach where to urinate and defecate; *joc. colloq.* teach good manners or tidiness to. *Usu. in pass.*

housewife /'haʊswaɪf, in sense 3 & dial. 'hazɪf/ *n.* Pl. -wives /-waɪvz/. Also (now only in sense 3) **hussive** /'hʌzɪv/, (*esp.* in sense 2) †**huswife**. ME. [f. HOUSE *n.*¹ + WIFE *n.* See also HUSSY.] 1 A (married) woman who looks after the domestic affairs of her household, esp. as her principal occupation; (with qualifying *adj.*) a *good* etc. domestic manager. ME. †2 = HUSSY 3.

M16-E18. 3 A small case for sewing equipment. M18.

housewifery *n.* (chiefly *Sc. & north.*) housewifery ME. **housewifish** *a.* housewifely M19.

housewife /'haʊswaɪf/ *v.* Now *rare.* M16. [f. the *n.*¹] 1 *v.i.* & *t.* (*w. it.*) Be a (good) housewife; manage a household, esp. skilfully and economically. M16. 2 *v.t.* Manage as a (good) housewife, skilfully and economically. M17. 2 DEFOE I must housewife the money.

housewifely /'haʊswaɪflɪ/ *a.* LME. [f. as prec. + -LY.] Pertaining to or characteristic of a (good) housewife; skilful and economical in managing household affairs.

housewifeliness *n.* M16.

housewifery /'haʊswɪfri/ *n.* LME. [f. as prec. + -RY.] 1 (Skill in) household management, housecraft; housekeeping. LME. †b Thrift, economy. M17-L18. †2 *collect.* Articles of household use. M16-E19.

housewives *n.* pl. of HOUSEWIFE *n.*

housey /'haʊsi/ *n.* *colloq.* Also **housie**. M20. [Abbrev. of next.] = HOUSE *n.*¹ II.

housey-housey /'haʊsi:'haʊsi/ *n.* Also **housie-housie**. M20. [f. HOUSE *n.*¹ + -y.] = HOUSE *n.*¹ II.

housie(-housie) *ns.* vars. of HOUSEY(-HOUSEY).

housing /'haʊzɪŋ/ *n.* ME. [f. HOUSE *n.*¹ or *v.*¹ + -ING¹.] 1 Shelter (like that of a house); lodging. ME. 2 Property consisting of houses; houses or buildings, collectively; *spec.* outbuildings attached to a house. LME. b A house, a building. Long *rare.* LME. 3 *Archit.* A canopied niche for a statue or other image. Long *obs. exc.*

Hist. LME. 4 *Naut.* A covering or roofing for a ship. E19. 5 *Carpentry.* A recess or groove in one piece of timber etc. for another to fit into. E19. 6 A massive metal frame or pillar that supports one end of a set of rolls in a rolling-mill. M19. 7 A structure that supports and encloses the bearings at the end of an axle or shaft, a journal-box; a rigid casing that encloses and protects any piece of moving or delicate equipment. L19.

1 C. MATHER Their housing is nothing but a few mats tied about poles fastened in the earth. 2 J. KRANTZ I'll never accept the idea that public housing can't be beautiful.

II 8 The action of HOUSE *v.*¹; esp. provision of houses. LME.

Comb.: **housing association** an association aiming to provide housing at (relatively) low cost; **housing development** the act or process of planning and building a (large) group of houses; a housing estate; **housing estate** a residential area planned as a unit, and often having its own shops and other facilities; **housing list** a waiting-list for council houses; **housing project**: see PROJECT *n.* 6c; **housing scheme** a housing estate, esp. of council houses.

housing /'haʊzɪŋ/ *n.*² LME. [f. HOUSE *n.*² or *v.*² + -ING¹.] A covering, esp. of cloth; *spec.* a covering put on a horse etc. for protection or ornament, trappings. Freq. in *pl.*

houstonia /'hʊ:'stəʊniə/ *n.* E19. [mod.L (see below), f. William Houston, Sc. botanist (d. 1733): see -IA¹.] Any of various *N.* American plants of the former genus *Houstonia*, of the madder family, now included in the genus *Hedyotis*; esp. the bluets, *Hedyotis* (formerly *Houstonia*) *caerulea*.

houting /'haʊtɪŋ/ *n.* L19. [Du. f. MDu. *houtic*, of uncertain origin.] Either of two whitefish, valued in places for food, either (a) the rare anadromous form *Coregonus oxyrhynchus*, of Baltic coasts and rivers, or (b) the variable freshwater form *Coregonus lavaretus*, which occurs in lakes of northern Europe and Asia. Cf. GWYNIAD, LAVARET, POWAN, SKELLY *n.* I.

†**houve** *n.* see HOO *n.*¹

houyhnhnm /'hʊɪnm, 'hwaɪnm/ *n.* E18. [The name (intended to suggest the neigh of a horse) of a fictional race of reasoning horses in Swift's *Gulliver's Travels*.] A horse considered as having human characteristics.

Hova /'həʊvə, 'hɒvə/ *n.* & *a.* M19. [Malagasy.] A *n.* Pl. -s, same. A member of the dominant people of the Malagasy Republic (formerly Madagascar); the dialect of Malagasy spoken by

a cat, a: arm, e bed, o: her, i sit, i cosy, i: see, o hot, o: saw, ʌ run, o put, u: too, ə ago, ʌl my, əʊ how, eɪ day, əʊ no, e: hair, ɪə near, ɔɪ boy, ʊə poor, ʌɪə tire, əʊə sour