



Collins English Dictionary

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con³ (kɒn) *n* slang short for **convict**

con⁴ or esp US **conn** (kɒn) *nautical* ▷ *vb* **cons** or **conns**, **conning**, **conned** 1 (*tr*) to direct the steering of (a vessel) ▷ *n* 2 the place where a person who cons a vessel is stationed [C17 *cun*, from earlier *condien* to guide, from Old French *conduire*, from Latin *conducere*; see **CONDUCT**]

con⁵ (kɒn) *vb* **cons**, **conning**, **conned** (*tr*) *archaic* to study attentively or learn (esp in the phrase **con by rote**) [C15 variant of **CAN**¹ in the sense: to come to know]

con⁶ (kɒn) *prep* music with [Italian]

Con. abbreviation for Conservative

con- prefix a variant of **com-**

conacre (kə'ne:kər) *n* Irish farming land let for a season or for eleven months [C19 from **CORN**¹ + **ACRE**]

Conakry or **Konakri** (French kɔnakri) *n* the capital of Guinea, a port on the island of Tombo. Pop: 1 465 000 (2005 est)

con amore (kɒn ə'mɔ:ri) *adj*, *adv* music (to be performed) lovingly [C19 from Italian: with love]

conation (kəʊ'neɪʃən) *n* the element in psychological processes that tends towards activity or change and appears as desire, volition, and striving [C19 from Latin *cōnātiō* an attempting, from *cōnāri* to try] > **con'ational** *adj*

conative ('kɒnətɪv, 'kəʊ-) *adj* 1 *grammar* denoting an aspect of verbs in some languages used to indicate the effort of the agent in performing the activity described by the verb 2 of or relating to conation

conatus (kəʊ'neɪtəs) *n*, *pl* -tus 1 an effort or striving of natural impulse 2 (esp in the philosophy of Spinoza) the tendency of all things to persist in their own being [C17 from Latin: effort, from *cōnāri* to try]

con brio (kɒn 'brɪ:əʊ) *adj*, *adv* music (to be performed) with liveliness or spirit, as in the phrase **allegro con brio** [Italian: with energy]

conc. abbreviation for concentrated

concatenate (kɒn'kæti,neɪt) *vb* 1 (*tr*) to link or join together, esp in a chain or series ▷ *adj* 2 linked or joined together [C16 from Late Latin *concatēnāre* from Latin *com-* together + *catēna* CHAIN]

concatenation (kɒn'kæti'neɪʃən) *n* 1 a series of interconnected events, concepts, etc 2 the act of linking together or the state of being joined 3 *logic* a function that forms a single string of symbols from two given strings by placing the second after the first

concave ('kɒnkeɪv, kɒn'keɪv) *adj* 1 curving inwards 2 *physics* having one or two surfaces curved or ground in the shape of a section of the interior of a sphere, paraboloid, etc: a *concave lens* 3 *maths* (of a polygon) containing an interior angle greater than 180° 4 an obsolete word for **hollow** ▷ *vb* 5 (*tr*) to make concave ▷ Compare **convex** [C15 from Latin *concavus* arched, from *cavus* hollow] > **con'cavely** *adv* > **con'caveness** *n*

concavity (kɒn'kævɪti) *n*, *pl* -ties 1 the state or quality of being concave 2 a concave surface or thing; cavity

concavo-concave (kɒn'keɪvəkɒn'keɪv) *adj* (esp of a lens) having both sides concave; biconcave

concavo-convex *adj* 1 having one side concave and the other side convex 2 (of a lens) having a concave face with greater curvature than the convex face. Compare **convexo-concave** (sense 2)

conceal (kən'si:l) *vb* (*tr*) 1 to keep from discovery; hide 2 to keep secret [C14 from Old French *concealer*, from Latin *conceġlāre*, from *com-* (intensive) + *cēlāre* to hide] > **con'cealable** *adj* > **con'cealer** *n* > **con'cealment** *n*

concede (kən'si:d) *vb* 1 (when *tr*, may take a clause as object) to admit or acknowledge (something) as true or correct 2 to yield or allow (something, such as a right) 3 (*tr*) to admit as certain in outcome: to *concede an election* [C17 from Latin *concedere*, from *cēdere* to give way, **CEDE**] > **con'cededly** *adv* > **con'ceder** *n*

conceit (kən'si:t) *n* 1 a high, often exaggerated,

opinion of oneself or one's accomplishments; vanity 2 *literary* an elaborate image or far-fetched comparison, esp as used by the English Metaphysical poets 3 *archaic* a witty expression 4 *b* fancy; imagination 5 an idea 4 *obsolete* a small ornament ▷ *vb* (*tr*) 5 *Northern English dialect* to like or be able to bear (something, such as food or drink) 6 *obsolete* to think or imagine [C14 from **CONCEIVE**]

conceited (kən'si:tɪd) *adj* 1 having a high or exaggerated opinion of oneself or one's accomplishments 2 *archaic* fanciful 3 *obsolete* witty or intelligent > **con'ceitedly** *adv* > **con'ceitedness** *n*

conceivable (kən'si:vəbəl) *adj* capable of being understood, believed, or imagined; possible > **con'ceivability** or **con'ceivableness** *n* > **con'ceivably** *adv*

conceive (kən'si:v) *vb* 1 (when *intr*, foll by *of*; when *tr*, often takes a clause as object) to have an idea (of); imagine; think 2 (*tr*; takes a clause as object or an infinitive) to hold as an opinion; believe 3 (*tr*) to develop or form, esp in the mind: *she conceived a passion for music* 4 to become pregnant with (young) 5 (*tr*) *rare* to express in words [C13 from Old French *conceivre*, from Latin *concipere* to take in, from *capere* to take] > **con'ceiver** *n*

concelebrate (kən'selɪ,breɪt) *vb* Christianity to celebrate (the Eucharist or Mass) jointly with one or more other priests [C16 from Latin *concelebrāre*] > **con'celebration** *n*

concent (kən'sent) *n* *archaic* a concord, as of sounds, voices, etc [C16 from Latin *concentus* harmonious sounds, from *concinere* to sing together, from *canere* to sing]

concentrate ('kɒnsən,treɪt) *vb* 1 to come or cause to come to a single purpose or aim: to *concentrate one's hopes on winning* 2 to make or become denser or purer by the removal of certain elements, esp the solvent of a solution 3 (*tr*) to remove rock or sand from (an ore) to make it purer 4 (*intr*; often foll by *on*) to bring one's faculties to bear (on); think intensely (about) ▷ *n* 5 a concentrated material or solution: *tomato concentrate* [C17 back formation from **CONCENTRATION**, ultimately from Latin *com-* same + *centrum* CENTRE] > **con'centrator** *n*

concentration (kɒnsən'treɪʃən) *n* 1 intense mental application; complete attention 2 the act or process of concentrating 3 something that is concentrated 4 the strength of a solution, esp the amount of dissolved substance in a given volume of solvent, usually expressed in moles per cubic metre or cubic decimetre (litre). Symbol: *c* 5 the process of increasing the concentration of a solution 6 *military* a the act of bringing together military forces b the application of fire from a number of weapons against a target 7 *economics* the degree to which the output or employment in an industry is accounted for by only a few firms 8 another name (esp US) for **Pelmanism**

concentration camp *n* a guarded prison camp in which nonmilitary prisoners are held, esp one of those in Nazi Germany in which millions were exterminated

concentrative ('kɒnsən,treɪtɪv) *adj* tending to concentrate; characterized by concentration > **con'centratively** *adv* > **con'centrativeness** *n*

concentre (kɒn'sentə) or US **concenter** *vb* to converge or cause to converge on a common centre; concentrate [C16 from French *concenter*; see **CONCENTRATE**]

concentric (kən'sentɪk) *adj* having a common centre: *concentric circles*. Compare **eccentric** (sense 3) [C14 from Medieval Latin *concentricus*, from Latin *com-* same + *centrum* CENTRE] > **con'centrically** *adv* > **con'centricity** (kɒnsən'tɪsɪti) *n*

Concepción (Spanish kɔnθep'θjon) *n* an industrial city in S central Chile. Pop: 378 000 (2005 est)

concept ('kɒnsept) *n* 1 an idea, esp an abstract idea: *the concepts of biology* 2 *philosophy* a general idea or notion that corresponds to some class of

entities and that consists of the characteristic or essential features of the class 3 *philosophy* a the conjunction of all the characteristic features of something b a theoretical construct within some theory c a directly intuited object of thought d the meaning of a predicate 4 (*modifier*) (of a product, esp a car) created as an exercise to demonstrate the technical skills and imagination of the designers, and not intended for mass production or sale [C16 from Latin *conceptum* something received or conceived, from *concipere* to take in, **CONCEIVE**]

conceptacle (kən'septəkəl) *n* a flask-shaped cavity containing the reproductive organs in some algae and fungi [C17 from Latin *conceptāculum* receptacle, from *concipere* to receive, **CONCEIVE**]

conception (kən'sepʃən) *n* 1 something conceived; notion, idea, design, or plan 2 the description under which someone considers something: *her conception of freedom is wrong* 3 the fertilization of an ovum by a sperm in the Fallopian tube followed by implantation in the womb 4 origin or beginning: *from its conception the plan was a failure* 5 the act or power of forming notions; invention [C13 from Latin *conceptiō*, from *concipere* to **CONCEIVE**] > **con'ceptional** or **con'ceptive** *adj*

conception rate *n* *vet science* the success rate of artificial insemination in agricultural animals, usually expressed as a percentage

conceptual (kən'septʃʊəl) *adj* 1 relating to or concerned with concepts; abstract 2 concerned with the definitions or relations of the concepts of some field of enquiry rather than with the facts > **con'ceptually** *adv*

conceptual art *n* art in which the idea behind a particular work, and the means of producing it, are more important than the finished work

conceptualism (kən'septʃʊəlɪzəm) *n* 1 the philosophical theory that the application of general words to a variety of objects reflects the existence of some mental entity through which the application is mediated and which constitutes the meaning of the term. Compare **nominalism**, **realism**, **Platonism** 2 the philosophical view that there is no reality independent of our conception of it, or (as in the philosophy of Immanuel Kant, the German philosopher (1724-1804)) that the intellect is not a merely passive recipient of experience but rather imposes a structure on it > **con'ceptualist** *n* > **con'ceptualistic** *adj*

conceptualize or **conceptualise** (kən'septʃʊəlɪz) *vb* to form (a concept or concepts) out of observations, experience, data, etc > **con'ceptualization** or **con'ceptualisation** *n*

concern (kən'sɜ:n) *vb* (*tr*) 1 to relate to; be of importance or interest to; affect 2 (usually foll by *with* or *in*) to involve or interest (oneself): *he concerns himself with other people's affairs* ▷ *n* 3 something that affects or is of importance to a person; affair; business 4 regard for or interest in a person or a thing: *he felt a strong concern for her* 5 anxiety, worry, or solicitude 6 important bearing or relation: *his news has great concern for us* 7 a commercial company or enterprise 8 *informal* a material thing, esp one of which one has a low opinion [C15 from Late Latin *concernere* to mingle together, from Latin *com-* together + *cernere* to sift, distinguish]

concerned (kən'sɜ:nd) *adj* 1 (*postpositive*) interested, guilty, involved, or appropriate: *I shall find the boy concerned and punish him* 2 worried, troubled, or solicitous > **con'cernedly** (kən'sɜ:ndli) *adv* > **con'cernedness** *n*

concerning (kən'sɜ:nɪŋ) *prep* 1 about; regarding; on the subject of ▷ *adj* 2 worrying or troublesome

concernment (kən'sɜ:nmənt) *n* 1 *rare* affair or business; concern 2 *archaic* a matter of importance

concert *n* ('kɒnsɜ:t, -sət) 1 a performance of music by players or singers that does not involve

detail drawing | detract

detail drawing *n* a separate large-scale drawing of a small part or section of a building, machine, etc

detailed (di'teɪld) *adj* having many details or giving careful attention to details: *a detailed list of the ingredients required*

detain (di'teɪn) *vb* (tr) 1 to delay; hold back; stop 2 to confine or hold in custody; restrain 3 *archaic* to retain or withhold [c15 from Old French *detenir*, from Latin *dētīnere* to hold off, keep back, from *DE-* + *tenēre* to hold] > **detainable** *adj* > **detainee** (di'teɪni:) *n* > **detainment** *n*

detainer (di'teɪnə) *n* *law* 1 the wrongful withholding of the property of another person 2 a the detention of a person in custody b a writ authorizing the further detention of a person already in custody [c17 from Anglo-French *detener* (n), from *detener* to DETAIN]

detect (di'tekt) *vb* (tr) 1 to perceive or notice: *to detect a note of sarcasm* 2 to discover the existence or presence of (esp something likely to elude observation): *to detect alcohol in the blood* 3 to extract information from (an electromagnetic wave) 4 *obsolete* to reveal or expose (a crime, criminal, etc) [c15 from Latin *dētektus* uncovered, from *dētegere* to uncover, from *DE-* + *tegere* to cover] > **detectable** or **detectible** *adj* > **detecter** *n*

detection (di'tɛkʃən) *n* 1 the act of discovering or the fact of being discovered: *detection of crime* 2 the act or process of extracting information, esp at audio or video frequencies, from an electromagnetic wave. See also **demodulation**

detective (di'tektɪv) *n* 1 a a police officer who investigates crimes b See **private detective** c (*as modifier*): *a detective story* ▷ *adj* 2 used in or serving for detection 3 serving to detect

detector (di'tektə) *n* 1 a person or thing that detects 2 any mechanical sensing device 3 *electronics* a device used in the detection of radio signals

detectorist (di'tektərɪst) *n* *informal* a person whose hobby is using a metal detector

detent (di'tɛnt) *n* the locking piece of a mechanism, often spring-loaded to check the movement of a wheel in one direction only. See also **pawl** [c17 from Old French *destente*, a loosening, trigger: see **DÉTENTE**]

détente (de'ta:nt; French *detɑ̃t*) *n* the relaxing or easing of tension, esp between nations [French, literally: a loosening, from Old French *destendre* to release, from *tendre* to stretch]

detention (di'tɛnʃən) *n* 1 the act of detaining or state of being detained 2 a custody or confinement, esp of a suspect awaiting trial b (*as modifier*): *a detention order* 3 a form of punishment in which a pupil is detained after school 4 the withholding of something belonging to or claimed by another [c16 from Latin *dētentiō* a keeping back; see **DETAIN**]

detention centre *n* a place where persons (typically asylum seekers, illegal immigrants, or people awaiting trial) may be detained for short periods by order of a court

deter (di'tɜː) *vb* -ters, -terring, -tered (tr) to discourage (from acting) or prevent (from occurring), usually by instilling fear, doubt, or anxiety [c16 from Latin *dētērrere*, from *DE-* + *terrere* to frighten] > **determent** *n*

deterge (di'tɜːdʒ) *vb* (tr) to wash or wipe away; cleanse: *to deterge a wound* [c17 from Latin *dētergere* to wipe away, from *DE-* + *tergere* to wipe]

detergency (di'tɜːdʒənsɪ) or **detergence** *n* cleansing power

detergent (di'tɜːdʒənt) *n* 1 a cleansing agent, esp a surface-active chemical such as an alkyl sulphonate, widely used in industry, laundering, shampoos, etc ▷ *adj* also **detersive** (di'tɜːsɪv) 2 having cleansing power [c17 from Latin *dētergēs* wiping off; see **DERGEE**]

deteriorate (di'tɪərɪəreɪt) *vb* 1 to make or become worse or lower in quality, value, character, etc; depreciate 2 (intr) to wear away or disintegrate

[c16 from Late Latin *dēteriōrāre*, from Latin *dēterior* worse] > **deterioration** *n* > **deteriorative** *adj*

determinable (di'tɜːmɪnəbəl) *adj* 1 able to be decided, fixed, or found out 2 *law* liable to termination under certain conditions; terminable > **determinably** *adv*

determinant (di'tɜːmɪnənt) *adj* 1 serving to determine or affect ▷ *n* 2 a factor, circumstance, etc, that influences or determines 3 *maths* a square array of elements that represents the sum of certain products of these elements, used to solve simultaneous equations, in vector studies, etc. Compare **matrix** (sense 9)

determinate (di'tɜːmɪnɪt) *adj* 1 definitely limited, defined, or fixed; distinct 2 a less common word for **determined** 3 a able to be predicted or deduced b (of an effect) obeying the law of causality 4 *botany* (of an inflorescence) having the main and branch stems ending in flowers and unable to grow further; cymose 5 (of a structure, stress, etc) able to be fully analysed or determined > **determinately** *adv* > **determinateness** *n*

determination (di'tɜːmɪnɪʃən) *n* 1 the act or an instance of making a decision 2 the condition of being determined; resoluteness 3 the act or an instance of ending an argument by the opinion or decision of an authority 4 the act or an instance of fixing or settling the quality, limit, position, etc, of something 5 a decision or opinion reached, rendered, or settled upon 6 a resolute movement towards some object or end 7 *law* the termination of an estate or interest 8 *law* the decision reached by a court of justice on a disputed matter 9 *logic* a the process of qualifying or limiting a proposition or concept b the qualifications or limitations used in this process 10 the condition of embryonic tissues of being able to develop into only one particular tissue or organ in the adult

determinative (di'tɜːmɪnətɪv) *adj* 1 able to or serving to settle or determine; deciding ▷ *n* 2 a factor, circumstance, etc, that settles or determines 3 *grammar* a less common word for **determiner** 4 (in a logographic writing system) a logogram that bears a separate meaning, from which compounds and inflected forms are built up > **determinatively** *adv* > **determinativeness** *n*

determine (di'tɜːmɪn) *vb* 1 to settle or decide (an argument, question, etc) conclusively, as by referring to an authority 2 (tr) to ascertain or conclude, esp after observation or consideration 3 (tr) to shape or influence; give direction to: *experience often determines ability* 4 (tr) to fix in scope, extent, variety, etc: *the river determined the edge of the property* 5 to make or cause to make a decision: *he determined never to marry* 6 (tr) *logic* to define or limit (a notion) by adding or requiring certain features or characteristics 7 (tr) *geometry* to fix or specify the position, form, or configuration of: *two points determine a line* 8 *chiefly law* to come or bring to an end, as an estate or interest in land 9 (tr) to decide (a legal action or dispute) [c14 from Old French *determiner*, from Latin *dētermināre* to set boundaries to, from *DE-* + *termināre* to limit; see **TERMINATE**]

determined (di'tɜːmɪnd) *adj* of unwavering mind; resolute; firm > **determinedly** *adv* > **determinedness** *n*

determiner (di'tɜːmɪnə) *n* 1 a word, such as a number, article, personal pronoun, that determines (limits) the meaning of a noun phrase, eg *their* in 'their black cat' 2 a person or thing that determines

determinism (di'tɜːmɪnɪzəm) *n* 1 the philosophical doctrine that all events including human actions and choices are fully determined by preceding events and states of affairs, and so that freedom of choice is illusory. Also called: **necessitarianism** Compare **free will** (sense 1b) 2 the scientific doctrine that all occurrences in nature take place in accordance with natural laws

3 the principle in classical mechanics that the values of dynamic variables of a system and of the forces acting on the system at a given time, completely determine the values of the variables at any later time > **determinist** *n*, *adj* > **deterministic** *adj*

deterrent (di'tɛrənt) *n* 1 something that deters 2 a weapon or combination of weapons, esp nuclear, held by one state, etc, to deter attack by another ▷ *adj* 3 tending or used to deter; restraining [c19 from Latin *dētērrēns* hindering; see **DETERE**] > **deterrence** *n*

detest (di'tɛst) *vb* (tr) to dislike intensely; loathe [c16 from Latin *dētēstārī* to curse (while invoking a god as witness), from *DE-* + *testārī* to bear witness, from *testis* a witness] > **detestor** *n*

detestable (di'tɛstəbəl) *adj* being or deserving to be abhorred or detested; abominable; odious > **detestability** or **detestableness** *n* > **detestably** *adv*

detestation (di'tɛstə'teɪʃən) *n* 1 intense hatred; abhorrence 2 a person or thing that is detested

dethrone (di'throʊn) *vb* (tr) to remove from a throne or deprive of any high position or title; depose: *the champion was dethroned by a young boxer* > **dethronement** *n* > **dethroner** *n*

detinue (di'tɪnjuː) *n* *law* an action brought by a plaintiff to recover goods wrongfully detained [c15 from Old French *detenue*, from *detenir* to DETAIN]

Detmold ('dɛtməʊld; German 'dɛtmɔlt) *n* a city in NW Germany, in North Rhine-Westphalia. Pop: 73 880 (2003 est)

detonate ('dɛtəneɪt) *vb* to cause (a bomb, mine, etc) to explode or (of a bomb, mine, etc) to explode; set off or be set off [c18 from Latin *dētōnāre* to thunder down, from *DE-* + *tōnāre* to THUNDER]

detonation (di'tɛtə'neɪʃən) *n* 1 an explosion or the act of exploding 2 the spontaneous combustion in an internal-combustion engine of part of the mixture before it has been reached by the flame front, causing the engine to knock 3 *physics* rapid combustion, esp that occurring within a shock wave > **detonative** *adj*

detonator ('dɛtəneɪtə) *n* 1 a small amount of explosive, as in a percussion cap, used to initiate a larger explosion 2 a device, such as an electrical generator, used to set off an explosion from a distance 3 a substance or object that explodes or is capable of exploding

détour ('di:tʊə) *n* 1 a deviation from a direct, usually shorter route or course of action ▷ *vb* 2 to deviate or cause to deviate from a direct route or course of action [c18 from French *détour*, from Old French *destorner* to divert, turn away, from *des-* *DE-* + *torner* to TURN]

detox ('di:tɔks) *informal* ▷ *n* 1 treatment designed to rid the body of poisonous substances, esp alcohol and drugs ▷ *vb* 2 to undergo treatment to rid the body of poisonous substances, esp alcohol and drugs [c20 from (for sense 1) DETOXIFICATION or (for sense 2) DETOXICATE]

detoxicate (di'tɔksɪ'keɪt) *vb* (tr) 1 to rid (a patient) of a poison or its effects 2 to counteract (a poison) [c19 *DE-* + *-toxicate*, from Latin *toxicum* poison; see **TOXIC**] > **detoxicant** *adj*, *n* > **detoxification** *n*

detoxification centre *n* a place that specializes in the treatment of alcoholism or drug addiction

detoxify (di'tɔksɪ'faɪ) *vb* -fies, -fying, -fied (tr) to remove poison from; detoxicate > **detoxification** *n*

DETR (in Britain) *abbreviation* for Department of the Environment, Transport, and the Regions

detract (di'trækt) *vb* 1 (when intr, usually foll by *from*) to take away a part (of); diminish: *her anger detracts from her beauty* 2 (tr) to distract or divert 3 (tr) *obsolete* to belittle or disparage [c15 from Latin *dētractus* drawn away, from *dētrahere* to pull away, disparage, from *DE-* + *trahere* to drag] > **detractingly** *adv* > **detractive** or **detractory** *adj* > **detractively** *adv* > **detractor** *n*

⚠ **USAGE** *Detract* is sometimes wrongly

limbs and tail and long hair surrounding the face [c19 from French, of unknown origin]

guerdon ('gʊ:ɹd'n) *poetic* ▷ *n* 1 a reward or payment ▷ *vb* 2 (*tr*) to give a guerdon to [c14 from Old French *guerdon*, of Germanic origin; compare Old High German *wīdarlōn*, Old English *witherlān*; final element influenced by Latin *dōnum* gift] > **guerdoner** *n*

guereza ('gʊ:reʒə) *n* a handsome colobus monkey of the mountain forests of Ethiopia [c19 its native name]

Guernica ('gʊ:ni:kə, 'gʊ:ni:kə; Spanish *ger'nika*) *n* a town in N Spain: formerly the seat of a Basque parliament; destroyed in 1937 by German bombers during the Spanish Civil War, an event depicted in one of Picasso's most famous paintings. Pop: 15 454 (2003 est). Basque name: **Gernika**

Guernsey ('gʊ:nsi) *n* 1 an island in the English Channel: the second largest of the Channel Islands, which, with Alderney and Sark, Herm, Jethou, and some islets, forms the bailiwick of Guernsey; finance, market gardening, dairy farming, and tourism. Capital: St Peter Port. Pop: 59 710 (2001). Area: 63 sq km (24.5 sq miles) 2 a breed of dairy cattle producing rich creamy milk, originating from the island of Guernsey 3 (*sometimes not capital*) a seaman's knitted woollen sweater 4 (*not capital*) Austral a sleeveless woollen shirt or jumper worn by a football player 5 **get a guernsey Austral** to be selected or gain recognition for something

Guernsey lily *n* See **nerine**

Guerrero (Spanish *ge'rreɾo*) *n* a mountainous state of S Mexico, on the Pacific: rich mineral resources. Capital: Chilpancingo. Pop: 3 075 083 (2000 est). Area: 63 794 sq km (24 631 sq miles)

guerrilla or **guerilla** ('gʊ:ri:lə) *n* 1 a a member of an irregular usually politically motivated armed force that combats stronger regular forces, such as the army or police *b* (*as modifier*): *guerrilla warfare* 2 a form of vegetative spread in which the advance is from several individual rhizomes or stolons growing rapidly away from the centre, as in some clovers ▷ Compare **phalanx** [c19 from Spanish, diminutive of *guerra* WAR] > **guerillalism** or **gue'rillalism** *n*

guess ('ges) *vb* (when *tr*, may take a clause as object) 1 (when *intr*, often foll by *at* or *about*) to form or express an uncertain estimate or conclusion (about something), based on insufficient information 2 to arrive at a correct estimate of (something) by guessing: *he guessed my age* 3 *informal*, chiefly US and Canadian to believe, think, or suppose (something) 4 **keep a person guessing** to let a person remain in a state of uncertainty ▷ *n* 5 an estimate or conclusion arrived at by guessing 6 the act of guessing 7 **anyone's guess** something difficult to predict [c13 probably of Scandinavian origin; compare Old Swedish *gissa*, Old Danish *gitse*, Middle Dutch *gissen*; see **CET**] > **'guessable** *adj* > **'guesser** *n* > **'guessingly** *adv*

guesstimate or **gwestimate** *informal* ▷ *n* ('gestimɪt) 1 an estimate calculated mainly or only by guesswork ▷ *vb* ('gesti,meɪt) 2 to form a guesstimate of

guesswork ('ges,wɜ:k) *n* 1 a set of conclusions, estimates, etc, arrived at by guessing 2 the process of making guesses

guest ('gest) *n* 1 a person who is entertained, taken out to eat, etc, and paid for by another 2 a person who receives hospitality at the home of another: *a weekend guest* *b* (*as modifier*): *the guest room* 3 a person who receives the hospitality of a government, establishment, or organization *b* (*as modifier*): *a guest speaker* 4 a actor, contestant, entertainer, etc, taking part as a visitor in a programme in which there are also regular participants *b* (*as modifier*): *a guest appearance* 5 a patron of a hotel, boarding house, restaurant, etc 6 *zoology* a nontechnical name for **inquiline** 7 **be my guest** *informal* do as you like ▷ *vb* 8 (*intr*) (in theatre and broadcasting) to be a guest: *to guest on*

a show [Old English *giest* guest, stranger, enemy; related to Old Norse *gestr*, Gothic *gasts*, Old High German *gast*, Old Slavonic *gostŭ*, Latin *hostis* enemy]

guest beer *n* a draught beer stocked by a bar, often for a limited period, in addition to its usual range

guesthouse ('gest,haʊs) *n* a private home or boarding house offering accommodation, esp to travellers

guest rope *n* *nautical* any line sent or trailed over the side of a vessel as a convenience for boats drawing alongside, as an aid in warping or towing, etc

guff (gʌf) *n* *slang* ridiculous or insolent talk [c19 imitative of empty talk; compare dialect Norwegian *guffs* puff of wind]

guffaw ('gʌfəʊ) *n* 1 a crude and boisterous laugh ▷ *vb* 2 to laugh crudely and boisterously or express (something) in this way [c18 of imitative origin]

Guggenheim Museum ('gʊgən,haɪm) *n* an international chain of art museums, some of which are architecturally important buildings in their own right, most notably one in New York, designed by Frank Lloyd Wright (1956–59), and one in Bilbao, designed by Frank O Gehry (1997)

GUI ('gʊ:i) *n* *acronym* for graphical user interface

Guiana ('gʊ:ænə, 'gʊ:ænə) or **The Guianas** *n* a region of NE South America, including Guyana, Surinam, French Guiana, and the **Guiana Highlands** (largely in SE Venezuela and partly in N Brazil). Area: about 1 787 000 sq km (690 000 sq miles) > **Guianese** ('gʊ:æ'nɪ:z, 'gʊ:æ-) or **Guianan** ('gʊ:æ'nən, 'gʊ:ænən) *adj*, *n*

Guianese ('gʊ:æ'nɪ:z, 'gʊ:æ-) or **Guianan** ('gʊ:æ'nən, 'gʊ:ænən) *adj* 1 of or relating to the South American region of Guiana or its inhabitants ▷ *n* 2 a native or inhabitant of Guiana

guichet ('gi:ʃet) *n* a grating, hatch, or small opening in a wall, esp a ticket-office window [c19 from French]

guid (gyd, gid) *adj* a Scot word for **good**

guidance ('gaɪdəns) *n* 1 leadership, instruction, or direction 2 a counselling or advice on educational, vocational, or psychological matters *b* (*as modifier*): *the marriage-guidance counsellor* 3 something that guides 4 any process by which the flight path of a missile is controlled in flight. See also **guided missile**

guide ('gaɪd) *vb* 1 to lead the way for (a person) 2 to control the movement or course of (an animal, vehicle, etc) by physical action; steer 3 to supervise or instruct (a person) 4 (*tr*) to direct the affairs of (a person, company, nation, etc) 5 (*tr*) to advise or influence (a person) in his standards or opinions: *let truth guide you always* ▷ *n* 6 a person, animal, or thing that guides *b* (*as modifier*): *a guide dog* 7 a person, usually paid, who conducts tour expeditions, etc 8 a model or criterion, as in moral standards or accuracy 9 See **guidebook** 10 a book that instructs or explains the fundamentals of a subject or skill *n* any device that directs the motion of a tool or machine part 12 a a mark, sign, etc, that points the way *b* (*in combination*): *guidepost* 13 **spiritualism** a spirit believed to influence a medium so as to direct what he utters and convey messages through him 14 a *naval* a ship in a formation used as a reference for manoeuvres, esp with relation to maintaining the correct formation and disposition *b* *military* a soldier stationed to one side of a column or line to regulate alignment, show the way, etc [c14 from (Old) French *guider*, of Germanic origin; compare Old English *wittan* to observe] > **'guidable** *adj* > **'guideless** *adj* > **'guider** *n* > **'guiding** *adj*, *n*

Guide ('gaɪd) *n* (*sometimes not capital*) a member of an organization for girls equivalent to the Scouts. US equivalent: **Girl Scout**

guidebook ('gaɪd,bʊk) *n* a handbook with information for visitors to a place, as a historic building, museum, or foreign country. Also called:

guide

guided missile *n* a missile, esp one that is rocket-propelled, having a flight path controlled during flight either by radio signals or by internal preset or self-actuating homing devices. See also **command guidance**, **field guidance**, **homing guidance**, **inertial guidance**, **terrestrial guidance**

guide dog *n* a dog that has been specially trained to live with and accompany someone who is blind, enabling the blind person to move about safely

guideline ('gaɪd,laɪn) *n* a principle put forward to set standards or determine a course of action

guidepost ('gaɪd,pəʊst) *n* 1 a sign on a post by a road indicating directions 2 a principle or guideline

Guider ('gaɪdə) *n* (*sometimes not capital*) 1 *In full*: **Guide Guider** a woman leader of a company of Guides 2 **Brownie Guider** a woman leader of a pack of Brownie Guides

guide rope *n* 1 a stay or rope attached to another rope that is lifting a load, either to steady the load or guide the rope 2 another name for **dragrope** (sense 2)

guide vanes *pl n* fixed aerofoils that direct air, gas, or water into the moving blades of a turbine or into or around bends in ducts with minimum loss of energy

guidon ('gaɪdɒn) *n* 1 a small pennant, used as a marker or standard, esp by cavalry regiments 2 the man or vehicle that carries this [c16 from French, from Old Provençal *guidoo*, from *guida* GUIDE]

Guienne or **Cuyenne** (French *gijien*) *n* a former province of SW France: formed, with Gascony, the duchy of Aquitaine during the 12th century

guild or **gild** ('gɪld) *n* 1 an organization, club, or fellowship 2 (esp in medieval Europe) an association of men sharing the same interests, such as merchants or artisans: formed for mutual aid and protection and to maintain craft standards or pursue some other purpose such as communal worship 3 *ecology* a group of plants, such as a group of epiphytes, that share certain habits or characteristics [c14 of Scandinavian origin; compare Old Norse *gjaldr* payment, *gildi* guild; related to Old English *gield* offering, Old High German *gelt* money]

guilder, **gilder** ('gɪldə) or **guilder** *n*, *pl* -ders, -der or -dens, -den 1 the former standard monetary unit of the Netherlands, divided into 100 cents; replaced by the euro in 2002. Also called: **florin** 2 the standard monetary unit of the Netherlands Antilles and Surinam, divided into 100 cents 3 any of various former gold or silver coins of Germany, Austria, or the Netherlands [c15 changed from Middle Dutch *gilden*, literally: **GOLDEN**]

Guildford ('gɪlfəd) *n* a city in S England, in Surrey: cathedral (1936–68); seat of the University of Surrey (1966). Pop: 69 400 (2001)

guildhall ('gɪld,ho:l) *n* 1 *Brit* a the hall of a guild or corporation *b* a town hall 2 Also: **gildhall** the meeting place of a medieval guild

guildsman or **gildsman** ('gɪldzsmən) *n*, *pl* -men a man who is a member of a guild

guild socialism *n* a form of socialism advocated in Britain in the early 20th century. Industry was to be owned by the state but managed and controlled by worker-controlled guilds > **guild socialist** *n*

guildswoman or **gildswoman** ('gɪldzswʊmən) *n*, *pl* -women a woman who is a member of a guild

guile ('gaɪl) *n* clever or crafty character or behaviour [c18 from Old French *guile*, of Germanic origin; see **WILE**] > **'guileful** *adj* > **'guilefully** *adv* > **'guilefulness** *n*

guileless ('gaɪllɪs) *adj* free from guile; ingenuous > **'guilelessly** *adv* > **'guilelessness** *n*

Guilin ('gʊwɛ:lɪn, 'kwɛ:lɪn) *n* a city in S China, in Guangxi Zhuang AR on the Li River: noted for the unusual caves and formations of the