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forming part of commercial asbestos. [German *Chrysotil*: Greek *khryso-*, *chryso-* + Greek *tilos*, something plucked (< *tillain*, to pluck).]

chthonic (thŏn'ik) also **chtho-ni-an** (thŏ'nĕ-ən) *adj.* Greek *Mythology* Of or relating to the underworld. [*<* Greek *khthonios*, of the earth < *khthōn*, earth; see *dhghem-* in App. I.]

Chuang Tzu (chwāng' dzū) also **Zhuang-zi** (jwāng'dzū) c. 369–286 bc. Chinese Taoist philosopher who advocated a skeptical approach to knowledge and a willing acceptance of change as a means of unifying oneself with the Tao.

chub¹ (chüb) *n., pl. chub or chubs* 1. Any of various usually stout-bodied freshwater fishes of the family Cyprinidae, especially a Eurasian species, *Leuciscus cephalus*. 2. Any of various other fishes, such as several freshwater whitefishes of the genus *Coregonus* or various marine fishes of the family Kyphosidae. [Middle English *chubbe*.]

chub² (chüb) *n.* A hermetically sealed plastic tube used for packaging products such as ground meat or caulk. [Perhaps back-formation < CHUBBY.]

chub-by (chüb'ē) *adj.* **-bi-er, -bi-est** Rounded and plump. See Synonyms at **fat**. ♦ *n., pl. -bies* 1. Informal A chubby person. 2. *Vulgar Slang* An erection of the penis. [Probably < ЧУВ (from the plumpness of the fish).] —**chub/bi-ly** *adv.* —**chub/bi-ness** *n.*

Chu-but (chā-bŏot', chŏ-) A river rising in the Andes of southwest Argentina and flowing about 805 km (500 mi) eastward to the Atlantic Ocean.

chuck¹ (chük) *tr.v. chucked, chuck-ing, chucks* 1. To pat or squeeze fondly or playfully, especially under the chin. 2a. To throw or toss: *chucked stones into the water*. b. Informal To throw out; discard: *chucked my old sweater*. c. Informal To force out; eject: *chucking out the trouble-makers*. 3. Informal To give up; quit: *chucked her job*. ♦ *n.* 1. An affectionate pat or squeeze under the chin. 2. A throw, toss, or pitch. [Variant of *chock*, possibly < French *choc*, knock, blow; see SHOCK¹.]

chuck² (chük) *n.* 1. A cut of beef extending from the neck to the ribs and including the shoulder blade. 2a. A clamp that holds a tool or the material being worked in a machine such as a lathe. b. A clamping device for holding a drill bit. 3. Informal Food. [Dialectal *chuck*, lump, perhaps variant of CHOCK.]

chuck³ (chük) *intr.v. chucked, chuck-ing, chucks* To make a clucking sound. ♦ *n.* A clucking sound. [Middle English *chucken*, of imitative origin.]

chuck-a-luck (chük'ə-lŭk') *n.* A gambling game in which players bet on the possible combinations of three thrown dice. [Probably CHUCK¹ + LUCK.]

chuck-hole (chük'hŏl') *n.* See **pothole** (sense 1). [Probably < CHUCK¹.]

chuck-le (chük'lē) *intr.v. -led, -ling, -les* 1. To laugh quietly or to oneself. 2. To cluck or chuck, as a hen. ♦ *n.* A quiet laugh of mild amusement or satisfaction. [Probably frequentative of CHUCK².] —**chuck/ler** *n.* —**chuck/le-some** *adj.* —**chuck/ling-ly** (-lĭng-lē) *adv.*

chuck-le-head (chük'lē-hĕd') *n.* Informal A stupid, gauche person; a blockhead. [Possibly < CHUCK².] —**chuck/le-head'ed** *adj.*

chuck wagon *n.* A wagon equipped with food and cooking utensils, as on a ranch or in a lumber camp.

chuck-wal-la (chük'wŏl'ə) *n.* Any of several large herbivorous lizards of the genus *Sauromalus* of the southwest United States and Mexico, especially *S. ater*. [American Spanish *chacahualla* < *Cahuilla* *tcáxwal*.]

chuck-will's-wid-ow (chük'wĭlz-wĭd'ŏ) *n.* A nightjar (*Caprimulgus carolinensis*) resembling the whip-poor-will and found in southeast North America, Central America, and northern South America. [Imitative of its call.]

chud-dar (chüd'ər) *n.* 1. A chador. 2. A cotton shawl traditionally worn in India by men and women. [Hindi *caddar* and Urdu *čaddar*, both < Persian *čaddar*, variant of *čador*, *čadar*; see CHADOR.]

chu-fa (chŏō'fə) *n.* A sedge (*Cyperus esculentus*) sometimes cultivated for its edible nutlike tubers, and often occurring as a weed. [Spanish < earlier *chufa*, mockery, joke (probably used of the tubers because they were considered to be of little value and perhaps also influenced by *trufa*, truffle), alteration of *chufra* < *chufalar*, to whistle, ridicule < Vulgar Latin **sufilāre*, alteration of Latin *sibilāre*, *sifilāre*, to hiss, whistle at.]

chuff¹ (chŭf) *n.* A rude, insensitive person; a boor. [Middle English *chuffe*.]

chuff² (chŭf) *intr.v. chuffed, chuf-fing, chuffs* To produce or move with noisy puffing or explosive sounds: "Switch engines *chuffed impatiently in busy rail yards*" (Robert Paul Jordan). ♦ *n.* A noisy puffing or explosive sound, such as one made by a locomotive. [Imitative.]

chuff³ (chŭf) *n.* Chiefly British *Vulgar Slang* 1. The buttocks. 2. The anus.

chug¹ (chŭg) *n.* A dull explosive sound, usually short and repeated, made by or as if by a laboring engine. ♦ *intr.v. chugged, chug-ging, chugs* 1. To make dull explosive sounds. 2. To move or travel while making dull explosive sounds. [Imitative.] —**chug/ger** *n.*

chug² (chŭg) *tr. & intr.v. chugged, chug-ging, chugs* *Slang* To chugalug.

Chu-gach Mountains (chŏō'gäch', -gāsh') A range of the Coast Ranges in southern Alaska extending eastward from Cook Inlet to the Canadian border and rising to 4,016 m (13,176 ft).

chua-a-lua (chŭō'ə-lŭē') *Slang v. -luaed, -lua-ging, -luas* —*tr.*

Chuk-chi also **Chuk-chee** (chŏōk'chē) *n., pl. Chukchi* or **-chis** also **Chukchee** or **-chees** 1. A member of a people of northeast Siberia. 2. The language of the Chukchi, noted for being pronounced differently by men and women. [Russian, pl. of *chukcha* < Chukchi *chawchaw*.]

Chukchi Peninsula A peninsula of extreme northeast Russia across the Bering Strait from northwest Alaska. It borders on the Chukchi Sea, a section of the Arctic Ocean.

Chu-kiang (chŏō'kyāng', jŏō'gyāng') See **Pearl River** (sense 2).

chuk-ka (chük'ə) *n.* A short, ankle-length boot having two or three pairs of eyelets. [Alteration of CHUKKER (so called because polo players wear a similar boot).]

chuk-ker also **chuk-kar** (chük'ər) *n.* One of the periods of play, lasting 7½ minutes, in a polo match. [Hindi *cakkar*, circle, turn < Sanskrit *cakram*; see k'el-1 in App. I.]

chum¹ (chŭm) *n.* An intimate friend or companion. ♦ *intr.v. chummed, chum-ming, chums* 1a. To be an intimate friend. b. To display good-natured friendliness: *chummed around with the other teammates*. 2. To share the same room, as in a dormitory. [Perhaps short for *chamber fellow*, roommate.]

chum² (chŭm) *n.* Bait usually consisting of oily fish ground up and scattered on the water. ♦ *v. chummed, chum-ming, chums* —*intr.* To scatter such bait in order to lure fish. —*tr.* To lure (fish) with such bait. [Origin unknown.]

chum³ (chŭm) *n.* A chum salmon.

Chu-mash (chŏō'māsh) *n., pl. Chumash* or **-mash-es** A member of any of a group of Hokan-speaking Native American peoples formerly inhabiting the southern California coastal region around Santa Barbara and the northern Channel Islands, with a small present-day population near Santa Barbara.

chum-my (chŭm'ē) *adj. -mi-er, -mi-est* Intimate; friendly. —**chum-/mi-ly** *adv.* —**chum/mi-ness** *n.*

chump¹ (chŭmp) *n.* 1. A gullible person; a dupe. 2. A stupid or foolish person; a dolt. [Perhaps blend of CHUNK and LUMP¹ or STUMP.]

chump² (chŭmp) *tr. & intr.v. chumped, chump-ing, chumps* To chew or make a chewing movement. [Variant of CHAMP¹.]

chump change *n. Slang* A small amount of money.

chum salmon *n.* A Pacific salmon (*Oncorhynchus keta*) valued as a food and game fish, having tiny specks on the back and large teeth in spawning males. Also called *dog salmon*. [Chinook jargon *cam*, spotted, striped < Lower Chinook *c'ám*, *c'ám-*, variegated.]

Chung-king (chŏōng'king', jŏōng'ging') See **Chongqing**.

chunk (chŭngk) *n.* 1. A thick mass or piece: *a chunk of ice*. 2. Informal A substantial amount: *won quite a chunk of money*. 3. A strong stocky horse. ♦ *v. chunked, chunk-ing, chunks* —*tr.* To form into chunks. —*intr.* To make a dull clacking sound: *listened to the rundown copier chunk along*. [Perhaps variant of CHUCK².]

chunk-y (chŭng'kē) *adj. -i-er, -i-est* 1. Short and thick; stocky. 2. Heavy or bulky; *chunky shoes; chunky gold jewelry*. 3. Containing small thick pieces: *chunky peanut butter; chunky soup*. —**chunk/i-ly** *adv.* —**chunk/i-ness** *n.*

Chun-nel (chŭn'əl) *n.* An underground rail tunnel that runs below the English Channel and connects Great Britain and France. [CH(ANNEL)¹ + (T)UNNEL.]

chup-pah also **hup-pah** (khŏō'pə, khŏō-pā') *n., pl. chup-pahs* or **chup-poth** (khŏō-pŏt', -pŏs') or **chup-pot** (khŏō-pŏt', -pŏs') also **hup-pahs** or **hup-poth** (khŏō-pŏt', -pŏs') or **hup-pot** (khŏō-pŏt', -pŏs') A canopy on four posts held over the couple being married during a traditional Jewish wedding ceremony. [Hebrew *huppá*, covering, canopy, bridal chamber < *hāpap*, to surround, cover; see **hpp** in App. II.]

church (chŭrch) *n.* 1. A building for public, especially Christian worship. 2. Often **Church** a. The company of all Christians regarded as a spiritual body. b. A specified Christian denomination: *the Presbyterian Church*. c. A congregation. 3. Public divine worship in a church; a religious service: *goes to church at Christmas and Easter*. 4. The clerical profession; clergy. 5. Ecclesiastical power as distinguished from the secular: *the separation of church and state*. ♦ *tr.v. churched, church-ing, churches* To conduct a church service for, especially to perform a religious service for (a woman after childbirth). ♦ *adj.* Of or relating to the church; ecclesiastical. [Middle English *chirche* < Old English *cirice*, ultimately < Medieval Greek *kūriakon* < Late Greek *kūriakon* (*dōma*), the Lord's (house), neuter of Greek *kūriakos*, of the lord < *kūrios*, lord; see **keuə-** in App. I.]

Church, Frederic Edwin 1826–1900. American painter and leader of the Hudson River School. His works include *Heart of the Andes* (1859).

churched (chŭrch) *adj.* Belonging to or participating in a church. ♦ *n. (used with a pl. verb)* People who belong to or participate in a church considered as a group. Often used with *the*.

Church Father or **church father** *n.* Any of the authoritative early writers in the Christian church who formulated doctrines and codified religious observances.

church-go-er (chŭrch'gŏ'ər) *n.* One who attends church. —**church-/gŏ'ing** *adj. & n.*

Chur-chill (chăr'chĭl', chŭrch'hĭl'), **Caryl** Born 1938. British playwright. Her best-known work, *Cloud 9* (1979), is considered a landmark of feminist and postmodern literature.

Churchill, John First Duke of Marlborough. 1650–1722. English gen-



chukar
Alectoris chukar



chukka



Sir Winston Churchill
photographed in 1953

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