

New Oxford American Dictionary

Second Edition

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The New Oxford American Dictionary

SECOND EDITION

FIRST EDITION

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SECOND EDITION

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queen's pawn by moving the king's knight to the f6 square, usually following with a fianchetto.

Indian elephant ▶ *n.* the elephant of southern Asia, which is smaller than the African elephant, with smaller ears and only one lip to the trunk. It is often tamed as a beast of burden in India. Also called **ASIAN ELEPHANT**. • *Elephas maximus*, family Elephantidae.

Indian file ▶ *n.* another term for **SINGLE FILE**. ▶ mid 18th cent.: so called because it was believed that North American Indians usually marched in this order.

Indian hemp ▶ *n.* see **HEMP**.

Indian ink ▶ *n.* British term for **INDIA INK**.

Indian-ism /'indē, nīzəm/ ▶ *n.* 1 devotion to or adoption of the customs and culture of North American Indians. 2 a word or idiom characteristic of Indian English or North American Indians.

Indian meal ▶ *n.* meal ground from corn.

Indian Mutiny a revolt of Indians against British rule, 1857–58. Also called **SEPOY MUTINY**.

Discontent with British administration resulted in widespread mutinies in British garrison towns, with accompanying massacres of white soldiers and inhabitants. After a series of sieges (most notably that of Lucknow) and battles, the revolt was put down; it was followed by the institution of direct rule by the British Crown in place of the East India Company administration.

Indian National Congress a broad-based political party in India, founded in 1885 and the principal party in government since independence in 1947. Following splits in the party, the Indian National Congress (I), formed by Indira Gandhi as a break-away group, (the I standing for Indira) was confirmed in 1981 as the official Congress Party.

Indian Ocean an ocean south of India that extends from the eastern coast of Africa to the East Indies and Australia.

Indian paint-brush ▶ *n.* see **PAINTBRUSH** (sense 2).

Indian pipe ▶ *n.* a plant with a yellowish stem that bears a single drooping flower, native to North America and northeastern Asia. It lacks chlorophyll and obtains nourishment via symbiotic fungi in its roots. • *Monotropa uniflora*, family Monotropaceae.



Indian pipe

Indian poke ▶ *n.* see **POKE** (sense 2).

Indian red ▶ *n.* a red ferric oxide pigment made typically by roasting ferrous salts.

Indian rhinoceros ▶ *n.* a large one-horned rhinoceros with prominent skin folds and a prehensile upper lip, found in northeastern India and Nepal. • *Rhinoceros unicornis*, family Rhinocerotidae.

Indian rope-trick ▶ *n.* the supposed feat, performed in the Indian subcontinent, of climbing an upright, unsupported length of rope.

Indian run-ner ▶ *n.* a duck of a slender upright breed, typically with white or yellowish-brown plumage, kept for egg laying.

Indian shot ▶ *n.* see **CANNA**.

Indian sign ▶ *n.* dated a magic spell or curse.

Indian sub-continent the part of Asia south of the Himalayas that forms a peninsula, which extends into the Indian Ocean between the Arabian Sea and the Bay of Bengal. Historically forming the whole territory of greater India, the region is now divided among India, Pakistan, and Bangladesh.

Indian summer ▶ *n.* a period of unusually dry, warm weather occurring in late autumn. ■ a period of happiness or success occurring late in life.

Indian yellow ▶ *n.* an orange-yellow pigment originally obtained from the urine of cows fed on mango leaves.

India paper ▶ *n.* soft, absorbent paper, originally imported from China and used for proofs of engravings. ■ very thin, tough, opaque printing paper, used esp. for Bibles.

Indi-a rub-ber ▶ *n.* natural rubber.

Indi-a rub-ber tree ▶ *n.* another term for **RUBBER TREE**.

Indic /'indik/ ▶ *adj.* relating to or denoting the group of Indo-European languages comprising Sanskrit and the modern Indian languages that are its descendants.

▶ *n.* this language group. ▶ via Latin from Greek *Indikos*, from *India* (see **INDIA**).

indic ▶ *abbr.* ■ indicating. ■ indicative. ■ indicator. **in-di-can** /'indi,kan/ ▶ *n.* Biochemistry a potassium salt present in urine, in which it occurs as a product of the metabolism of indole. ■ Alternative name: **potassium indoxylsulphate**; chem. formula C₈H₆NOSO₂OH. ▶ mid 19th cent.: from Latin *indicium* 'indigo' (because of its early use denoting an indoxyl glucoside occurring in the leaves of indigo plants) + **-AN**.

in-di-cant /'indikənt/ ▶ *n.* a thing that indicates something. ▶ early 17th cent.: from Latin *indicant-* 'pointing out,' from the verb *indicare* (see **INDICATE**).

in-di-cate /'indi,kæt/ ▶ *trans.* ▶ *v.* 1 point out; show: *dot-dotted lines indicate the text's margins*. ■ be a sign or symptom of; strongly imply: *sales indicate a growing market for such art* | [with clause] *his tone indicated that he didn't hold out much hope*. ■ admit to or state briefly: *the president indicated his willingness to use force against the rebels*. ■ (of a person) direct attention to (someone or something) by means of a gesture: *he indicated Cindy with a brief nod of the head*. ■ (of a gauge or meter) register a reading of (a quantity, dimension, etc.). 2 (usu. **be indicated**) suggest as a desirable or necessary course of action: *the treatment is likely to be indicated in severely depressed patients*. ▶ early 17th cent.: from Latin *indicat-* 'pointed out,' from the verb *indicare*, from *in-* 'toward' + *dicare* 'make known.'

in-di-cated horse-power ▶ *n.* the power produced in a reciprocating engine by the working of the cylinders.

in-dica-tion /'indi,kə'shən/ ▶ *n.* a sign or piece of information that indicates something: *the visit was an indication of the improvement in relations between the countries*. See note at **SIGN**. ■ a reading given by a gauge or meter. ■ a symptom that suggests certain medical treatment is necessary: *heavy bleeding is a common indication for hysterectomy*.

in-dic-a-tive /'indikətiv/ ▶ *adj.* 1 serving as a sign or indication of something: *having recurrent dreams is not necessarily indicative of any psychological problem*. 2 Grammar denoting a mood of verbs expressing simple statement of a fact. Compare with **SUBJUNCTIVE**. ▶ *n.* Grammar a verb in the indicative mood. ■ (the indicative) the indicative mood. — **in-dic-a-tive-ly** *adv.*

in-di-ca-tor /'indi,kə'tɔ:/ ▶ *n.* 1 a thing, esp. a trend or fact, that indicates the state or level of something: *car ownership is frequently used as an indicator of affluence*. 2 a device providing specific information on the state or condition of something, in particular: ■ [usu. with *adj.*] a gauge or meter of a specified kind: *a speed indicator*. ■ Brit. a turn signal. 3 Chemistry a compound that changes color at a specific pH value or in the presence of a particular substance and can be used to monitor acidity, alkalinity, or the progress of a reaction. 4 (also **indicator species**) an animal or plant species that can be used to infer conditions in a particular habitat.

in-di-ca-tor di-a-gram ▶ *n.* a diagram of the variation of pressure and volume within a cylinder of a reciprocating engine.

in-dic-a-to-ry /'indikə'tɔ:ri/ ▶ *adj.* rare term for **INDICATIVE**.

in-dic-a-trix /'indi,kə'triks; in'dikə-/ (also **optical indicatrix**) ▶ *n.* (pl. **-trices** [-tri,səz]) Crystallography an imaginary ellipsoidal surface whose axes represent the refractive indices of a crystal for light following different directions with respect to the crystal axes. ▶ late 19th cent.: modern Latin, feminine of Latin *indicator* 'something that points out.'

in-di-ces /'indi,səz/ ▶ plural form of **INDEX**.

in-di-ci-a /'indis(i)ə/ ▶ plural *n.* formal signs, indications, or distinguishing marks: *learned footnotes and other indicia of scholarship*. ■ markings used on address labels or bulk mail as a substitute for stamps. ▶ early 17th cent.: plural of Latin *indicium*, from *index*, *indic-* 'informer, sign.'

in-dic-o-lite /'indikə,lit/ ▶ *n.* an indigo-blue gem variety of lithium-bearing tourmaline. ▶ early 19th cent.: from Latin *indicium* 'indigo' + **-LITE**.

in-dict /'indit/ ▶ *v.* [trans.] (usu. **be indicted**) formally accuse or charge (someone) with a serious crime: *his former manager was indicted for fraud*. ▶ Middle

English *endite*, *indite*, from Anglo-Norman French *enditer*, based on Latin *indicere* 'proclaim, appoint,' from *in-* 'toward' + *dicere* 'pronounce, utter.' — **in-dict-ee** /'indiktē/ *n.* — **in-dict-er** *n.*

in-dict-a-ble /'inditəbəl/ ▶ *adj.* (of an offense) rendering the person who commits it liable to be charged with a serious crime that warrants a trial by jury. ■ (of a person) liable to be charged with a crime.

in-dic-tion /'indik'shən/ ▶ *n.* historical a fiscal period of fifteen years used as a means of dating events and transactions in the Roman Empire and in the papal and some royal courts. The system was instituted by the Emperor Constantine in AD 313 and was used until the 16th century in some places. ■ [with *numeral*] a particular year in such a period. ▶ from Latin *indiction-*, from the verb *indicare* (see **INDICT**).

in-dict-ment /'inditmənt/ ▶ *n.* 1 Law a formal charge or accusation of a serious crime: *an indictment for conspiracy*. ■ the action of indicting or being indicted: *the indictment of twelve people who had imported cocaine*. 2 a thing that serves to illustrate that a system or situation is bad and deserves to be condemned: *these rapidly escalating crime figures are an indictment of our society*. ▶ Middle English *enditement*, *inditement*, from Anglo-Norman French *enditement*, from *enditer* (see **INDICT**).

in-die /'indē/ *informal* ▶ *adj.* (of a record label or film company) not belonging to or affiliated with a major record or film company. ■ characteristic of the deliberately unpolished or uncommercialized style of such groups.

▶ *n.* a pop group or record label of this type. ■ an independent film company. ▶ 1920s (first used with reference to film production): abbreviation of **INDEPENDENT**.

in-dif-fer-ence /'indif(ə)rəns/ ▶ *n.* lack of interest, concern, or sympathy: *she shrugged, feigning indifference*. ■ unimportance: *it cannot be regarded as a matter of indifference*. ▶ late Middle English (in the sense 'being neither good nor bad'): from Latin *indifferentia*, from *in-* 'not' + *different-* 'differing, deferring' (from the verb *differere*).

in-dif-fer-ence curve ▶ *n.* Economics a curve on a graph (the axes of which represent quantities of two commodities) linking those combinations of quantities that the consumer regards as of equal value.

in-dif-fer-ent /'indif(ə)rənt/ ▶ *adj.* 1 having no particular interest or sympathy; unconcerned: *they all seemed indifferent rather than angry* | *most workers were indifferent to foreign affairs*. 2 neither good nor bad; mediocre: *attempts to distinguish between good, bad, and indifferent work*. ■ not especially good; fairly bad: *a pair of indifferent watercolors*. 3 neutral in respect of some specified physical property. ■ archaic Biology not specialized; undifferentiated. ▶ late Middle English (in the sense 'having no partiality for or against'): via Old French from Latin *indifferent-* 'not making any difference,' from *in-* 'not' + *different-* 'differing' (see **DIFFERENT**). — **in-dif-fer-ent-ly** *adv.*

in-dif-fer-ent-ism /'indif(ə)rənt, tizəm/ ▶ *n.* the belief that differences of religious belief are of no importance. — **in-dif-fer-ent-ist** *n.*

in-di-gene /'indijən/ ▶ *n.* an indigenous person. ▶ late 16th cent.: from French *indigène*, from Latin *indigena*, from *in-* (strengthened form of *in-* 'into') + an element related to *gignere* 'beget.'

in-dig-e-nize /'indijə,niz/ ▶ *v.* [trans.] bring (something) under the control, dominance, or influence of native people: *English has been indigenized in different parts of the world*. — **in-dig-e-ni-za-tion** /-, dijən'zə'shən/ *n.*

in-dig-e-nous /'indijənəs/ ▶ *adj.* originating or occurring naturally in a particular place; native: *the indigenous peoples of Siberia* | *coriander is indigenous to southern Europe*. ▶ mid 17th cent.: from Latin *indigena* 'a native' (see **INDIGENE**) + **-OUS**. — **in-dig-e-nously** *adv.* — **in-dig-e-nous-ness** *n.*

in-di-gent /'indijənt/ ▶ *adj.* poor; needy. ▶ *n.* a needy person. ▶ late Middle English: via Old French from late Latin *indigent-* 'lacking,' from the verb *indigere*, from *in-* (strengthened form of *in-* 'into') + *egere* 'to need.' — **in-di-gence** *n.*

in-di-gest-i-ble /'indijestəbəl/ ▶ *adj.* (of food) difficult or impossible to digest. ■ figurative too complex or awkward to read or understand easily: *a turgid and indigestible book*. ▶ late 15th cent.: via French from late Latin *indigestibilis*, from *in-* 'not' + *digestibilis* (see

Pronunciation Key *ə ago; ɔr over; 'ə or, ə up; 'ər or, ɔr fur; a hat; ā rate; ā car; ɔH chew; e let; ē see; e(ə)r air; i fit; i(ə)r ear; ŋg sing; ō go; ō for; o(ə) boy; ō good; ō go; ou out; SH she; TH thin; TH then; (h)w why; ZH vision*

two-wheel drive ▶ *n.* a transmission system in a motor vehicle, providing power to either the front or the rear wheels only.

two-wheeler ▶ *n.* a bicycle or motorcycle.

twp. ▶ *abbr.* township.

TWX ▶ *abbr.* teletypewriter exchange.

TX ▶ *abbr.* Texas (in official postal use).

-ty¹ ▶ *suffix* forming nouns denoting quality or condition such as *beauty, royalty*. ▶ via Old French from Latin *-tas, -tat*.

-ty² ▶ *suffix* denoting specified groups of ten: *forty | ninety*. ▶ Old English *-tig*.

ty-chism /'ti,kizəm/ ▶ *n.* *Philosophy* the doctrine that account must be taken of the element of chance in reasoning or explanation of the universe. ▶ late 19th cent.: from Greek *tykhē* 'chance' + *-ism*.

ty-coon /'ti,koon/ ▶ *n.* **1** a wealthy, powerful person in business or industry: a newspaper tycoon. **2** a title applied by foreigners to the shogun of Japan in power between 1857 and 1868. ▶ mid 19th cent.: from Japanese *taikun* 'great lord.'

ty-ing /'ti:ɪŋ/ ▶ present participle of **TIE**.

ty-ing-up ▶ *n.* another term for **AZOTURIA** in horses.

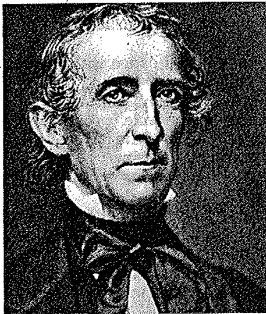
tyke /tik/ (also *tike*) ▶ *n.* **1** [usu. with *adj.*] *informal* a small child: *is the little tyke up to his tricks again?* ■ [usu. as *adj.*] *Canadian* an initiation level of sports competition for young children: *tyke hockey*. **2** *dated, chiefly Brit.* an unpleasant or coarse man. **3** a dog, esp. a mongrel. ▶ late-Middle English (in senses 2 and 3): from Old Norse *tík* 'bitch.'

Ty-le-nol /'ti:lənɒl; -nəl/ ▶ *n.* trademark for **ACETAMINOPHEN**.

Ty-ler /'ti:lər/ an industrial city in eastern Texas, noted for its roses; pop. 75,450.

Tyler², Anne (1941–), U.S. writer. Her novels include *The Accidental Tourist* (1986), *Breathing Lessons* (1988), *Ladder of Years* (1995), and *A Patchwork Planet* (1998).

Tyler³, John (1790–1862), 10th president of the U.S. 1841–45. A Virginia Whig, he served as U.S. congressman 1817–21, governor of Virginia 1825–27, U.S. senator 1827–36, and U.S. vice president 1841. He succeeded to the presidency upon the death of President William H. Harrison. Noted for securing the annexation of Texas (1845), throughout his political career he advocated states' rights. His alliance with Southern Democrats on this issue accentuated the divide between North and South prior to the Civil War.



John Tyler

Tyler⁴, Wat (died 1381), English leader of the Peasants' Revolt of 1381. He captured Canterbury and went on to take London and secure Richard II's concession to the rebels' demands, which included the lifting of the newly imposed poll tax. He was killed by royal supporters.

ty-lo-pod /'ti:lə,pɒd/ ▶ *n.* *Zoology* an even-toed ungulate mammal of a group that comprises the camels, llamas, and their extinct relatives. They are distinguished by bearing their weight on the sole-pads of the feet rather than on the hoofs, and they do not chew the cud. • Suborder Tylopoda, order Artiodactyla; family Camelidae. ▶ late 19th cent.: from modern Latin *Tylopoda*, from Greek *tylos* 'knob' or *tylē* 'callus, cushion' + *pous, pod-* 'foot.'

ty-lo-sin /'ti:lə,sɪn/ ▶ *n.* an antibiotic that is routinely fed to livestock as a growth promoter and that may contribute to antibiotic resistance in humans.

tym-bal ▶ *n.* variant spelling of **TIMBAL**.

tym-pan /'tɪmpən/ ▶ *n.* **1** (in letterpress printing) a layer of packing, typically of paper, placed between the platen and the paper to be printed to equalize the pressure over the whole forme. **2** *Architecture*

another term for **TYMPANUM**. ▶ late 16th cent. (sense 1): from French *tympan* or Latin *tympanum* (see **TYMPANUM**). Sense 2 dates from the early 18th cent.

tym-pa-na /'tɪmpənə/ ▶ plural form of **TYMPANUM**.

tym-pa-ni ▶ plural *n.* variant spelling of **TIMPANI**.

tym-pan-ic /'tɪmpə'nɪk/ ▶ *adj.* **1** *Anatomy* of, relating to, or having a tympanum. **2** resembling or acting like a drumhead.

tym-pan-ic bone ▶ *n.* *Zoology* a small bone supporting the tympanic membrane in some vertebrates.

tym-pan-ic mem-brane ▶ *n.* a membrane forming part of the organ of hearing, which vibrates in response to sound waves. In humans and other higher vertebrates it forms the eardrum, between the outer and middle ear.

tym-pa-nites /'tɪmpə'nɪtɪz/ ▶ *n.* *Medicine* swelling of the abdomen with air or gas. ▶ late Middle English: via late Latin from Greek *tympanites*, from *tympanon* (see **TYMPANUM**). —**tym-pa-nit-ic** /-'nɪtɪk/ *adj.*

tym-pa-num /'tɪmpənəm/ ▶ *n.* (*pl.* -num or -na /-nə/)

1 *Anatomy & Zoology* the tympanic membrane or eardrum. ■ *Entomology* a membrane covering the hearing organ on the leg or body of some insects, sometimes adapted (as in cicadas) for producing sound. ■ *archaic* a drum. **2** *Architecture* a vertical recessed triangular space forming the center of a pediment, typically decorated. ■ a similar space over a door between the lintel and the arch. ▶ early 17th cent.: via Latin from Greek *tympanon* 'drum,' based on *tuptein* 'to strike.'

tym-pa-ny /'tɪmpənɪ/ ▶ *n.* another term for **TYMPANITES** (used esp. in veterinary medicine). ▶ early 16th cent.: from Greek *tympanias*, from *tympanon* (see **TYMPANUM**).

Tyn-dall /'tɪndəl/, John (1820–93), Irish physicist. He is best known for his work on heat, but he also worked on diamagnetism, the transmission of sound, and the scattering of light by suspended particles. He was the first person to explain why the sky is blue.

Tyne /tɪn/ a river in northeastern England, formed by the confluence of two headstreams, the North Tyne, which rises in the Cheviot Hills, and the South Tyne, which rises in the northern Pennines. It flows east and enters the North Sea at Tynemouth.

typ. ▶ *abbr.* ■ *typographer*. ■ *typographic*. ■ *typographical*. ■ *typography*.

type /tɪp/ ▶ *n.* **1** a category of people or things having common characteristics: *this type of heather grows better in a drier habitat | blood types*. ■ a person, thing, or event considered as a representative of such a category: *it's not the type of car I'd want my daughter to drive | I'm an adventurous type*. ■ [with *adj.*] *informal* a person of a specified character or nature: *professor types in tweed*. ■ **(one's type)** *informal* the sort of person one likes or finds attractive: *she's not really my type*. ■ *Linguistics* an abstract category or class of linguistic item or unit, as distinct from actual occurrences in speech or writing. Contrasted with **TOKEN**. **2** a person or thing symbolizing or exemplifying the ideal or defining characteristics of something: *she characterized his witty sayings as the type of modern wisdom*. See note at **EMBLEM**. ■ an object, conception, or work of art serving as a model for subsequent artists.

■ *Botany & Zoology* an organism or taxon chosen as having the essential characteristics of its group. ■ short for **TYPE SPECIMEN**. **3** printed characters or letters: *bold or italic type*. ■ a piece of metal with a raised letter or character on its upper surface, for use in letterpress printing. ■ such pieces collectively. **4** a design on either side of a medal or coin. **5** *Theology* a foreshadowing in the Old Testament of a person or event of the Christian tradition.

a a a

roman boldface italic

type 3

▶ *v.* [trans.] **1** write (something) on a typewriter or computer by pressing the keys: *he typed out the second draft* | [intrans.] *I am learning how to type*. **2** *Medicine* determine the type to which (a person) or their blood or tissue belongs: *the kidney was typed*. **3** short for **TYPECAST**. ▶ late 15th cent. (in the sense 'symbol, emblem'): from French, or from Latin: *typus*, from Greek *typos* 'impression, figure, type,' from *tuptein* 'to strike.' The use in printing dates from the early

18th cent.; the general sense 'category with common characteristics' arose in the mid 19th cent. —**typ-al** /-pəl/ *adj.* (rare).

▶ **PHRASE** **D** in **type** *Printing* composed and ready for printing.

-type ▶ *suffix* (forming adjectives) resembling or having the characteristics of a specified thing: *the dish-type radio telescope | a champagne-type fizzy wine*.

Type A ▶ *n.* a personality type characterized by ambition, high energy, and competitiveness, and thought to be susceptible to stress and heart disease.

Type B ▶ *n.* a personality type characterized as easy-going and thought to have low susceptibility to stress.

type-cast /'tɪp,kast/ ▶ *v.* (*past* and *past part.* -cast) [trans.] (usu. **be** **typecast**) assign (an actor or actress) repeatedly to the same type of role, as a result of the appropriateness of their appearance or previous success in such roles: *he tends to be typecast as the cunning, intelligent male*. ■ represent or regard (a person or their role) as a stereotype: *people are not as likely to be typecast by their accents as they once were*.

type-face /'tɪp,fæs/ ▶ *n.* *Printing* a particular design of type.

type found-er ▶ *n.* *Printing* a designer and maker of metal type. —**type found-ry** *n.*

type lo-cal-ity ▶ *n.* **1** *Botany & Zoology* the place in which a type specimen was found. **2** *Geology* a place where deposits regarded as defining the characteristics of a particular geological formation or period occur.

type metal ▶ *n.* *Printing* an alloy of lead, tin, and antimony, used for casting type.

type-script /'tɪp,skript/ ▶ *n.* a typed copy of a text.

type-set /'tɪp,set/ ▶ *v.* (-**set-ting**; *past* and *past part.* -set) [trans.] arrange or generate the type for (a piece of text to be printed). —**type-setting** *n.*

type-set-ter /'tɪp,seɪtər/ ▶ *n.* *Printing* a person who typesets text. ■ a typesetting machine.

type spe-cies ▶ *n.* *Botany & Zoology* the particular species on which the description of a genus is based and with which the genus name remains associated during any taxonomic revision.

type spec-i-men ▶ *n.* *Botany & Zoology* the specimen, or each of a set of specimens, on which the description and name of a new species is based. See also **HOLOTYPE**, **SYNTYPE**.

type-writer /'tɪp,rɪtər/ ▶ *n.* an electric, electronic, or manual machine with keys for producing printlike characters one at a time on paper inserted around a roller. —**type-writing** /-,rɪtɪŋ/ *n.* —**type-written** /-,rɪtɪ/ *adj.*

typh-li-tis /'tɪf'lɪtɪs/ ▶ *n.* *Medicine* inflammation of the cecum. ▶ mid 19th cent.: modern Latin, from Greek *tuphlon* 'cecum or blind gut' (from *tuphos* 'blind') + *-itis*. —**typh-lit-ic** /-'lɪtɪk/ *adj.*

ty-phoid /'ti,fɔɪd/ (also **ty-phoid fever**) ▶ *n.* an infectious bacterial fever with an eruption of red spots on the chest and abdomen and severe intestinal irritation. • Typhoid is caused by the bacterium *Salmonella typhi*, Gram-negative rods. ▶ early 19th cent.: from **TYPHUS** + **-oid**. —**ty-phoid-al** /'ti,fɔɪd/ *adj.*

Ty-phoid Mary ▶ *n.* (*pl.* **Ty-phoid Marys**) *informal* a transmitter of undesirable opinions, sentiments, or attitudes. ▶ the nickname of *Mary Mallon* (see **MAL-LON**), an Irish-born cook who transmitted typhoid fever in the U.S.

ty-phoon /'ti,fu:n/ ▶ *n.* a tropical storm in the region of the Indian or western Pacific oceans. ▶ late 16th cent.: partly via Portuguese from Arabic *tūfān* (perhaps from Greek *tuphon* 'whirlwind'), reinforced by Chinese dialect *tai fūng* 'big wind.' —**ty-pho-n-ic** /-'fənik/ *adj.*

ty-phus /'tɪfəs/ ▶ *n.* an infectious disease caused by rickettsiae, characterized by a purple rash, headaches, fever, and usually delirium, and historically a cause of high mortality during wars and famines. There are several forms, transmitted by vectors such as lice, ticks, mites, and rat fleas. Also called **SPOTTED FEVER**. ▶ mid 17th cent.: modern Latin, from Greek *tuphos* 'smoke; stupor,' from *tuptein* 'to smoke.' —**ty-phous** /-fəs/ *adj.*

typ-i-cal /'tɪpɪkəl/ ▶ *adj.* having the distinctive qualities of a particular type of person or thing: *a typical day* | *a typical example of 1930s art deco* | *typical symptoms*. See note at **NORMAL**. ■ characteristic of a particular person or thing: *he brushed the incident aside with typical good humor*. ■ *informal* showing the characteristics expected of or popularly associated with a particular person, situation, or thing: *"Typical woman!" John said*