

THIRD COLLEGE EDITION

Webster's New World Dictionary™

OF AMERICAN ENGLISH

VICTORIA NEUFELDT

Editor in Chief

DAVID B. GURALNIK

Editor in Chief Emeritus



THIRD COLLEGE EDITION

*Dedicated
to David B. Guralnik
lexicographical mentor
and friend*

Webster's New World Dictionary, Third College Edition

Copyright © 1988 by Simon & Schuster, Inc.

Fourth printing, with corrections

This edition is a major revision of Webster's New World Dictionary, Second College Edition, copyright © 1986 and 1970, 1972, 1974, 1976, 1978, 1979, 1980, 1982, and 1984 by Simon & Schuster, Inc.

All rights reserved
including the right of reproduction
in whole or in part in any form

Published by Webster's New World Dictionaries
A Division of Simon & Schuster, Inc.
Gulf + Western Building
One Gulf + Western Plaza
New York, New York 10023

Dictionary Editorial Offices: New World Dictionaries,
850 Euclid Avenue, Cleveland, Ohio 44114

WEBSTER'S NEW WORLD and colophons are registered trademarks of
Simon & Schuster, Inc.

DISTRIBUTED BY PRENTICE HALL TRADE

Database design and creation by Lexi-Comp, Inc., Hudson, Ohio.

The typefaces used are Century Schoolbook and Helvetica.

Manufactured in the United States of America

5 6 7 8 9 93 92 91 90 89

Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data

Webster's New World dictionary of American English / Victoria
E. Neufeldt, editor-in-chief. — 3rd college ed.

1. English language—Dictionaries. 2. Americanisms—
Dictionaries.

I. Neufeldt, Victoria E.
PE1628.W5633 1988

88-1712

ISBN 0-13-947169-3 (thumb-indexed)

0-13-949280-1 (plain-edged)

0-13-949314-X (leatherkraft)

model, usually a full-sized replica, of a structure or apparatus used for instructional or experimental purposes

mod (mäd) *n.* [*< MOD(ERN)*] [*also M-*] any of the young people in England in the mid-1960s noted for their emphasis on stylish dress, often as a symbol of their alienation from conventional society — *adj.* 1 [*also M-*] of or characteristic of the mods or the styles they favored 2 of or relating to anything up-to-date, fashionable, stylish, etc., esp. clothes

moderate 1 moderate 2 *Music* *moderato* 3 modern

mod abbrev. 1 moderate 2 *Music* *moderato* 3 modern

mod-acrylic (mä'dä kril'ik) *adj.* [*mod(ified) acrylic*] designating or of any of various synthetic fibers that resist combustion, made from long-chain polymers composed primarily of acrylonitrile modified by other polymers; used in making fabrics, carpets, etc.

modal (mäd'äl) *adj.* [*ML modalis < L. modus, MODE*] 1 of or indicating a mode or mood 2 *Gram.* of or expressing mood [*a modal auxiliary*] 3 a) *Jazz* of or relating to compositions or improvisations based on an arrangement of modes rather than a series of chord progressions b) in popular music, of or characterized by the repetition of one or two chords as a harmonic base 4 *Logic* expressing or characterized by modality 5 *Music* of or composed in any of the medieval church modes 6 *Philos.* of mode, or form, as opposed to substance 7 *Statistics* having to do with a statistical mode — *n.* *Gram.* MODAL AUXILIARY — **mod'ally** *adv.*

modal auxiliary an auxiliary verb that is used with another verb to indicate its mood, as *can, could, may, might, must, shall, should, will, and would*; it has no special form in the third person singular and no present or past participle [*the modal auxiliary "would" indicates the subjunctive mood in "We would go if we could"*]

modality (mö dal'ä tē) *n., pl. -ties* [*ML modalitas*] 1 the fact, state, or quality of being modal 2 a special attribute, emphasis, etc. that marks certain individuals, things, groups, etc. 3 *Logic* the qualification in a proposition that indicates that what is affirmed or denied is possible, impossible, necessary, contingent, etc. 4 *Med.* a) the employment of, or the method of employment of, a therapeutic agent b) a specific sensory channel, as vision or hearing

mode (mäd) *n.* [*ME moede < L. modus, measure, manner, mode < IE base *med-, to measure; see MEDICAL*] 1 a manner or way of acting, doing, or being; method or form 2 [*Fr < L. modus*] customary usage, or current fashion or style, as in manners or dress 3 *Geol.* the actual mineral composition of an unaltered igneous rock 4 *Gram.* MOOD² (sense 1) 5 *Logic* a) modality or the form of a proposition with reference to its modality b) MOOD¹ (sense 2) 6 *Metaphysics* the form, or way of being, of something, as distinct from its substance 7 *Music* a) the selection and arrangement of tones and semitones in a scale, esp. any of such arrangements in medieval church music b) a rhythmical system of the 13th cent. c) either of the two forms of scale arrangement in later music (MAJOR MODE and MINOR MODE) 8 *Statistics* the value, number, etc. that occurs most frequently in a given series — **SYN.** FASHION

model (mäd'l) *n.* [*Fr modèle < It modello, dim. of modo < L. modus, prec.*] 1 a) a small copy or imitation of an existing object, as a ship, building, etc., made to scale b) a preliminary representation of something, serving as the plan from which the final, usually larger; object is to be constructed c) ARCHETYPE (sense 1) d) a hypothetical or stylized representation, as of an atom e) a generalized, hypothetical description, often based on an analogy, used in analyzing or explaining something f) a piece of sculpture in wax or clay from which a finished work in bronze, marble, etc. is to be made 2 a person or thing considered as a standard of excellence to be imitated 3 a style or design; specif., any of a series of different styles or designs of a particular product [*a two-door model, a heavy-duty model, a 1969 model*] 4 a) a person who poses for an artist or photographer b) any person or thing serving as a subject for an artist or writer c) a person employed to display clothes by wearing them; mannequin — **adj.** 1 serving as a model, pattern, or standard of excellence [*a model student*] 2 representative of others of the same kind, style, etc. [*a model home*] — **vt.** -eled or -elled, -eling or -elling 1 a) to make a model of b) to plan, form, or design after a model c) to make conform to a standard of excellence [*to model one's behavior on that of one's elders*] 2 to shape or form in or as in clay, wax, etc. 3 to display (a dress, suit, etc.) by wearing 4 *Drawing, Painting, etc.* to create a three-dimensional image of on a flat surface through the use of color, shading, etc. — **vi.** 1 to make a model or models [*to model in clay*] *2 to serve as a MODEL. (sense 4) — **mod'eler** or **mod'eler** *n.*

SYN.—model refers to a representation made to be copied or, more generally, to any person or thing to be followed or imitated because of excellence, worth, etc. **example** suggests that which is presented as a sample, or that which sets a precedent for imitation, whether good or bad; a **pattern** is a model, guide, plan, etc. to be strictly followed; **paradigm** is common now only in its grammatical sense of an example of a declension or conjugation, giving all the inflectional forms of a word; **archetype** applies to the original pattern serving as the model for all later things of the same kind; **standard** refers to something established for use as a rule or a basis of comparison in judging quality, etc.

modem (mö'dem; also, -dəm) *n.* [*MO(DULATOR) + DEM(ODULATOR)*] a device that converts data to a form that can be transmitted, as by telephone, to data-processing equipment where a similar device reconverts it

Modena (möd'n ä, möd'-; -ä') commune in N Italy, in Emilia-Romagna pop. 180,000

moderate (for *adj.* & *n.*, mäd'är it; for *v.*, -ät') *adj.* [*ME moderat < L. moderatus, pp. of moderare, to keep within bounds, restrain < modus; see MODE*] 1 within reasonable limits; avoiding excesses or extremes; temperate or restrained 2 mild; calm; gentle; not violent [*moderate weather*] 3 of average or medium quality, amount, scope, range, etc. [*moderate skills, moderate prices*] — *n.* a person holding moderate views or opinions, as in politics or religion — **vt.** -at'ed, -at'

ing 1 to cause to become moderate; make less extreme, violent, et cetera 2 to preside over (a meeting, etc.) — **vi.** 1 to become moderate **n.**

SYN.—moderate and temperate are often interchangeable in denoting staying within reasonable limits, but in strict discrimination, moderate gets deliberate self-restraint [moderate demands, a temperate reply] **ANT.** excessive, extreme

moderate breeze a wind whose speed is 13 to 18 miles per hour: BEAUFORT SCALE

moderate gale a wind whose speed is 32 to 38 miles per hour: BEAUFORT SCALE

moderation (mä'där ä'shän) *n.* 1 a moderating, or bringing into calmness — *in moderation* to a moderate degree; without excess 2 *Music* *moderation* [*It*] *Musical Direct* with moderation in tempo

moderator (mä'där ät'är) *n.* [*ME moderatour < L. moderator*] person or thing that moderates; specif., a) a person who presides over town meeting, debate, assembly, etc. b) the presiding officer of governing body, as of the Presbyterian Church c) a substance graphite or heavy water, used to slow down high-energy neutrons in a nuclear reactor

modern (mäd'ärn) *adj.* [*Fr moderne < LL modernus < L. modo, now, orig. abl. of modus; see MODE*] 1 of the present or recent time; specif., a) of or having to do with the latest styles, methods, or ideas; up-to-date b) designating or of certain contemporary trends, schools of art, music, literature, dance, etc. 2 of or relating to a period of history after the Middle Ages, from c. A.D. 1450 to present day 3 [*often M-*] designating the form of a language; most recent stage of development — *n.* 1 a person living in modern times 2 a person having modern ideas, beliefs, standards, etc. 3 *Printing* a style of typeface characterized by heavy down strokes contrasting with narrow cross strokes — **SYN.** NEW — **mod'ern-ness** *n.*

modern dance a form of dance as a performing art, var developed in the 20th cent. by Isadora Duncan, Ruth St. D. Martha Graham, etc., and characterized by bodily movement rhythms less formalized than in classical ballet and less firmly bound to predetermined musical form

Modern English the English language since about the mid-16th cent.: cf. EARLY MODERN ENGLISH

Modern Greek the Greek language as spoken and written in Greece since about 1500

Modern Hebrew Hebrew as spoken and written in post-Biblical times; esp., the language of modern Israel

modern-ism (mäd'ärn iz'əm) *n.* 1 a) modern practices, ideas, etc., or sympathy with any of these b) an instance of modern idiom, practice, or usage 2 [*often M-*] any of several movements variously attempting to redefine Biblical and Christian and traditional teachings in the light of modern science, his research, etc.: condemned in the Roman Catholic Church in 1864 as a negation of faith 3 the general trend in the methods, style, philosophy of modern artists and writers involving a break with traditions of the past and a search for new modes of expression

modern-ist *n., adj.*

modern-istic (mäd'ärn is'tik) *adj.* 1 of or characteristic of modern-ism or modernists 2 modern: used esp. to designate certain contemporary trends and schools of art, music, etc., sometimes in a derogatory sense — **SYN.** NEW — **modern-istic-ally** *adv.*

modern-ity (mä'där'nä tē, mä-) *n.* 1 the state or quality of being modern 2 *pl.* -ities something modern

modern-ize (mäd'ärn iz') *vt.* -ized', -iz'ing [*Fr moderniser*] to make modern; bring up-to-date in style, design, methods, etc. — **vi.** to modernize; become modern — **modern-iza'tion** or **mod'ern-ization** *n.*

Modern Latin the Latin that has come into use since about 1500, chiefly in scientific literature

modest (mäd'ist) *adj.* [*Fr modeste < L. modestus, keeping down, modest < modus; see MODE*] 1 having or showing a low opinion of one's own value, abilities, achievements, etc.; no boastful; unassuming 2 not forward; shy or reserved [*modestly*] 3 behaving, dressing, speaking, etc. in a way that is correct or proper or decorous; decent 4 moderate or reasonable; not pretentious [*a modest request*] 5 quiet and humble in appearance, etc. — **SYN.** CHASTE, SHY — **mod'estly** *adv.*

Modesto (mä des'tō) [*Sp, lit., modest: said to be with restrained*] Wm. C. Ralston's modest refusal to have the place named a city in central Calif.: pop. 106,000

modesty (mäd'is tē) *n.* [*Fr modestie < L. modestia*] the state of being modest; specif., a) unassuming or humble because of lack of excesses or pretensions; moderation c) decency

ModGr Modern Greek

ModHeb Modern Hebrew

modicum (mäd'ikäm) *n.* [*LME < L, neut. of modicus, i. modus; see MODE*] a small amount; bit

modifi-cation (mäd'ä fi kä'shän) *n.* [*MFr < L modifica*] a modifying or being modified; **modificare**: see MODIFY

at. äte, cär; ten, éve; is, ice; gö, hörn, look, tööl; o fur; ä for unstressed vowels, as a in ago, u in focus; ' in (lat'n); chin; she; zh as in azure (azh'är); thin, the; j as in etymologies: * = unattested; < = derived from; > = Americanism

See inside front and