

Webster's III
New College Dictionary

THIRD EDITION

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substance abuse ■ suburbia

senses: MATTER. **b.** A material of a particular kind or constitution. **2.** The most central and material part: ESSENCE. **3.** Solid, substantial quality or character <a plan with substance> **4.** Physical density: BODY <Air has little substance.> **5.** Material possessions: WEALTH <a person of substance>

substance abuse *n.* Excessive use of addictive substances, esp. alcohol and narcotic drugs. — **substance abuser** *n.*

sub-stan-dard (süb'stän'därd) *adj.* **1.** Being below standard, as in quality. **2.** Considered unacceptable usage by the educated members of a speech community.

sub-stan-tial (süb'stän'shəl) *adj.* [ME *substancial* < LLat. *substantialis* < Lat. *substantia*, substance.] **1.** Of, relating to, or having substance: MATERIAL. **2.** Not imaginary: REAL. **3.** Solidly built: STRONG. **4.** Ample <a substantial dinner> **5.** Being of considerable importance, value, degree, amount, or extent <lost the election by a substantial margin> **6.** Possessing wealth or property: WELL-TO-DO. — *pl. n.* **sub-stantials** Substantial things. — **sub-stan-ti-al-i-ty** (-shē-äl'tē), **sub-stan-ti-al-ness** *n.* — **sub-stan-ti-al-ly** *adv.*

sub-stan-ti-ate (süb'stän'shē-ät') *vt.* -at-ed, -at-ing, -ates [Med. Lat. *substantiare*, *substantiatus* < Lat. *substantia*, substance.] **1.** To support and verify with proof or evidence <subststantiate previous testimony> **2a.** To give material form to: EMBODY. **b.** To make firm or solid. **3.** To give substance or reality to: make real or actual. — **sub-stan-ti-a-tion** (süb'stä'shən) *n.* — **sub-stan-ti-ally** *adv.*

sub-stan-ti-val (süb'stän-ti'vəl) *adj.* Of, relating to, or of the nature of a grammatical substantive. — **sub-stan-ti-val-ly** *adv.*

sub-stan-tive (süb'stän-tiv) *adj.* [ME *substantif* < OFr. < LLat. *substantivus* < Lat. *substantia*, substance.] **1.** SUBSTANTIAL. **5.** Independent in function or existence: not subordinate. **3.** Not imaginary: ACTUAL. **4.** Of or relating to the essence or substance: ESSENTIAL <substantive data> **5.** Having a solid basis: FIRM. **6.** Expressing or denoting existence; e.g., the verb *to be*. **7.** Denoting a noun or noun equivalent. — *n.* A word or group of words functioning as a noun. — **sub-stan-tive-ly** *adv.* — **sub-stan-tive-ness** *n.*

sub-sta-tion (süb'stä'shən) *n.* A subsidiary or branch station, as of a power plant.

sub-stit-u-ent (süb'stich'ō-ənt) *n.* [Lat. *substituens*, *substitutent*, *pr. part.* of *substituere*, to substitute.] An atom, radical, or group substituted for another in a compound. — **sub-stit'u-ent** *adj.*

sub-sti-tute (süb'stī-tōōt', -tyōōt') *n.* [*Lat. substitutus*, *p. part.* of *substituere*, to substitute: *sub-*, in place of + *statuere*, to cause to stand.] **1.** One that takes the place of another: FILL-IN. **2.** A word or construction used in place of another word or construction. — *v.* -tut-ed, -tut-ing, -tutes — *vt.* **1.** To put or use in place of another. **2.** Chem. To replace (one or more elements or radicals in a compound) by other elements or radicals. — *vi.* To take the place of another <"Only art can substitute for nature" — Leonard Bernstein> — **sub-sti-tut'a-ble** (süb'stī-tut'ə-bəl) *adj.* — **sub-sti-tu-tion** (-tōō'shən, -tyōō't') *n.*

♦ **synonyms:** SUBSTITUTE, ALTERNATE, FILL-IN, PINCH HITTER, REPLACEMENT, STAND-IN, SUB, SURROGATE *n.* **core meaning:** one that takes the place of another <hired a substitute for the sick teacher>

sub-sti-tu-tive (süb'stī-tōōv', -tyōōv') *adj.* Serving or capable of serving as a substitute.

sub-strate (süb'strät') *n.* [*Substratum*.] **1.** The material or substance on which an enzyme acts. **2.** BIOL. A surface on which a plant or animal grows or is attached. **3.** An underlying layer: SUBSTRATUM. **4.** Ling. An indigenous language that contributes features to the language of an invading people who impose their language on the indigenous population.

sub-stratum (süb'strät'əm, -strät'əm) *n., pl.* -stra-ta (-strät'ä, -strät'ä) or -stra-tums [Med. Lat. < Lat. *substratus*, *p. part.* of *substernere*, to lay under: *sub-*, under + *sternere*, to spread out.] **1a.** An underlying layer. **b.** A layer of earth beneath the surface soil: SUBSOIL. **2.** The foundation: groundwork. **3.** The material upon which another material is coated or fabricated. **4.** Philol. The characterless substance that supports attributes of reality. **5.** Biol. SUBSTRATE. **2.** **6.** Ling. SUBSTRATE. **4.** — **sub-strate** *adj.*

sub-struct-ion (süb'strük'shən) *n.* [Lat. *structio* < *struere*, to build beneath: *sub-*, beneath + *struere*, to build.] A foundation: substructure. — **sub-struct-ion-al** *adj.*

sub-struct-ure (süb'strük'chər) *n.* **1.** A supporting structural part: FOUNDATION. **2.** The earth bank or bed supporting railroad tracks. — **sub-struct-ur-al** *adj.*

sub-sume (süb'sōōm') *vt.* -sum-ed, -sum-ing, -sumes [Med. Lat. *subsumere*: Lat. *sub-*, from below + Lat. *sumere*, to take up.] **1.** To include within a broader class, group, category, or order. **2.** To show (e.g., an idea) to be covered by a broad principle or rule. — **sub-sum'a-ble** *adj.*

sub-sump-tion (süb-sümp'shən) *n.* [Med. Lat. *subsumptio*, a subsampling < *subsumere*, to subsume.] **1a.** An act or instance of subsampling. **b.** Something subsampled. **2.** Logic. The minor premise of a syllogism. — **sub-sump-tive** *adj.*

sub-tem-per-ate (süb-tēm'pär-ät', -tēm'pär-ät) *adj.* Of, relating to, or occurring within the colder regions of the Temperate Zones.

sub-ten-ant (süb-tēn'ənt) *n.* One that rents property, as land or a house, from a tenant. — **sub-ten'an-cy** *n.*

sub-tend (süb-tēnd') *vt.* -tend-ed, -tend-ing, -tends, -tending To extend underneath: *sub-*, beneath + *tendere*, to stretch. **1.** To be opposite to and delimit <The side of a triangle subtends the opposite angle.> **2.** To underlie so as to enclose or extend by leafy bracts

sub-ter-fuge (süb'tär-fyōōj') *n.* [Fr. < LLat. *subterfugere*, to escape: *subter*, secretly + *fugere*, to flee.] A deceptive stratagem or device. **2.** Deception by concealment, evasion, or escape.

sub-ter-ra-ne-an (süb'tä-rä-nē-ən) *adj.* [Lat. *subter*, under + *terra*, earth.] **1.** Situated or operating beneath the surface: UNDERGROUND. **2.** Hidden: secret <subterranean activities> — **sub-ter-ra-ne-an-ly** *adv.*

sub-ter-res-trial (süb'tä-rēs'trē-əl) *adj.* SUBTERRANEAN. Relating to or of the nature of subterranean living underground.

sub-text (süb'tēkst') *n.* **1.** The implicit meaning of a text. **2.** The underlying personality of a drama implied by a script or text and interpreted by an actor. — **sub-text-u-al** (-tēks'chōō-əl) *adj.*

sub-tile (süt'til, süb'täl) *adj.* -tül-er, -tül-est Subtle. — **sub-til'i-ty** (süb-til'i-tē), **sub-til-ly** *n.*

sub-ti-lin (süb'tō-lin) *n.* [NLat. *subtilis*, specific epithet of *subtilis* + *-in*.] An antibiotic obtained from the bacterium *subtilis* that is active against Gram-positive microorganisms.

sub-ti-lize (süt'l-'iz', süb'tä-liz') *v.* -ized, -iz-ing, -izes, -izing To render subtle or discuss with subtlety. — **sub-ti-liz'a-tion** (süb'til-'iz-ə-shən) *n.*

sub-ti-let (süb'tir'l') *n.* **1.** A secondary, usu. explanatory, literary work. **2.** A printed translation of the dialogue in a language film shown at the bottom of the screen.

sub-tle (süt'til) *adj.* -tül-er, -tül-est [ME *subtil* < OFr. *sotil* < Lat. *subtilis*.] **1a.** So slight as to be difficult to detect or analyze: not immediately clear: ABSTRACT. **2.** Capable of making distinctions <a subtle mind> **3a.** Skillful or ingenious: clever <subtly by craft or slyness> DEVOUS. *c.* Operating in a hidden or injurious way: INSIDIOUS <subtle demoralization of the staff> — **sub-tle-ness** *n.* — **sub-tly** *adv.*

sub-tle-ty (süt'til-tē) *n., pl.* -ties **1.** The quality or state of being subtle. **2.** Something subtle, esp. a fine distinction.

sub-tonic (süb'tōn'ik) *n.* Mus. The seventh tone of a diatonic scale, immediately below the tonic.

sub-to-pi-a (süb-tō'pē-ə) *n.* [SUB(URB) + (U)TOPIA.] One of a city's suburbs. — **sub-to'pi-an** *adj.*

sub-top-ic (süb'tōp'ik) *n.* One of the divisions into which a subject may be divided.

sub-tor-rid (süb'tōr'id, -tōr'l') *adj.* Subtropical.

sub-tot-al (süb-tōt'l) *adj.* Less than total: INCOMPLETE. — **sub-tot-als** (süb'tōt'ə-lz) *n., pl.* -als **1.** The total of part of a series of numbers. — **sub-tot-aled**, -tal-ing, -tals also -tal-ling, -tals — *vt.* To total (a series of numbers). — *vi.* To arrive at a subtotal.

sub-tract (süb-träkt') *v.* -tract-ed, -tract-ing, -tracts [Lat. *subtrahere*: *sub-*, away + *trahere*, to draw.] — *vt.* To take away. — *vi.* To perform the arithmetic operation of subtraction. — **sub-tract'er** *n.*

sub-trac-tion (süb-träk'shən) *n.* **1.** The act or process of subtracting. **2.** The arithmetic operation of finding a quantity when added to one of two quantities produces the other. — **sub-trac-tive** (süb-träk'tiv) *adj.* **1.** Producing or involving subtraction. **2.** Designating a color produced by light passing through or reflecting off a colorant, such as a filter or pigment, that absorbs certain wavelengths and transmits or reflects others. **b.** Of or being the primary colors cyan, magenta, or yellow. **3.** Designating a photographic process that produces a positive image by superimposing mixing substances that selectively absorb colored light.

sub-tra-hend (süb'trä-hēnd') *n.* [*Lat. subtrahendum*, neuter plural of *subtrahere*, to subtract.] A quantity or number to be subtracted from another.

sub-trop-ic-al (süb-trōp'ik-əl) *adj.* Of, relating to, or being the geographic areas adjacent to the tropics.

sub-trop-ics (süb-trōp'iks) *pl. n.* Subtropical regions.

sub-type (süb'tip') *n.* A group forming a type within a larger type.

sub-ub-ulate (sōō'byū-lit, -lät', süb'yū-ə) *adj.* [NLat. *subulatus* < *subula*, awl.] Biol. Tapering to a point <subulate leaves>

sub-um-brel-la (süb'üm-brē-lä) *n.* Zool. The concave undersurface of the body of a jellyfish.

sub-urb (süb'ürb') *n.* [ME < OFr. *suburbe* < Lat. *suburbium* < *sub-*, close to + *urbs*, city.] **1.** A usu. residential area or community surrounding a city. **2.** SUBURBS. The usu. residential region around a large city: ENVIRONS.

sub-urb-an (sə-bür'bən) *adj.* **1.** Of, relating to, or characteristic of a suburb. **2.** Located or living in a suburb. **3.** Of or relating to the lifestyle of those living in the suburbs. — *n.* A suburbanite.

sub-urb-an-ite (sə-bür'bā-nit') *n.* One who lives in a suburb.

sub-urb-an-ize (sə-bür'bā-niz') *v.* -ized, -iz-ing, -izes To impart a suburban character to. — **sub-urb'an-i-za-tion** *n.*

sub-urb-i-a (süb-ür'bē-ə) *n.* **1.** Suburbs. **2a.** Suburbanites as a group. **2b.** Suburbanites as a cultural class.

sub-ver-sion (süb-vēr'shən) *n.* [ME *subvercioun* < OFr. *subver*, to turn < Lat. *subvertere*, to come to help: *sub-*, under + *vertere*, to turn.] **1.** Provision of help or support. **2.** A grant or endorsement, as that given by a government to a researcher. — **sub-ver'sion-ar'y** *adj.*

sub-ver-sive (süb-vēr'siv, -shən) *n.* [ME *subversivoun* < *subversio* < Lat. *subvertere*, to subvert.] **1.** A person who advocates the overthrow of the state of being subverted. **2.** Obs. A cause or movement. — **sub-ver'sive-ly** *adv.*

sub-ver-sive-ness *n.*

sub-ver-sive-ness *n.* [ME *subvertivoun* < *subvertere*: *sub-*, from below + *vertere*, to turn.] **1.** The quality of being subversive. **2.** To undermine the character or authority of. **3.** To overthrow completely <econ- omist subvert the existing . . . feudal or tribal order> — **sub-ver't'er** *n.*

sub-ver-sive-ness *n.* **1a.** An underground urban railroad, especially in New York City. **b.** A passage for such a railroad. **2.** A pipe or passage, as for a water main.

sub-vert (süb-vēr't) *v.* -vert-ed, -vert-ing, -verts [ME *subvert* < *subvertere*: *sub-*, from below + *vertere*, to turn.] **1.** To undermine completely: RUIN. **2.** To undermine the character or authority of. **3.** To overthrow completely <econ- omist subvert the existing . . . feudal or tribal order> — **sub-ver't'er** *n.*

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