

ENCARTA® WORLD ENGLISH DICTIONARY

St. Martin's Press



New York

A BLOOMSBURY REFERENCE BOOK
Created from the Bloomsbury Database of World English

First published in the United States of America in 1999 by
St. Martin's Press
175 Fifth Avenue
New York, NY 10010

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Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data

Soukhanov, Anne H., 1943-
Encarta world English dictionary.
p. cm.

The symbol for registered trademark follows "Encarta" in title.
ISBN 0-312-22222-X

1. English language-Dictionaries. I. Title.
PE1628.S5824 1999
423 -- dc21

99-15350
CIP

Typeset by Selwood Systems, Midsomer Norton, Bath, United Kingdom
Printed in the United States of America

when-ev-er, **when ev-er** **WHEN** used as an intensive form of "when" (informal) *Whenever will you learn?*

when-so-ev-er /wɪnsoʊ ɛvər, hwɛnsoʊ- / *adv., conj.* used as an intensive form of "whenever"

whē-nū-a /hɛnnoʊ ə/ *n.* NZ land [From Maori]

where /waɪr, hwaɪr/ **CORE MEANING:** an adverb used to ask a question about the place somebody or something is in, at, coming from, or going to *Where are my keys?* *Where are you going?* *Guess where I've been. - Where?*

1. adv. IN OR TO A PLACE used to indicate the place in which something is located or happens *I want to live where it's warm.* *Nobody really knew where she had gone.* *They went to the beach, where they spent the afternoon.* **2. adv. WHAT PURPOSE** used to ask questions about the purpose or goal of something *Where will all your hard work get you?* **3. adv. IN ANY SITUATION** in any situation in which *Where there's life, there's hope.* *They're at a stage where they can now talk about their problems.* **4. n. UNKNOWN PLACE** used to refer to an unspecified place or event (usually used in the plural) *Let us know the wheres and whens of your itinerary.* [Old English *hwær, hwar*. Ultimately from an Indo-European base that is also the ancestor of English *who, when, and why.*]

where-a-bouts /wəɪr ə ɒbwaɪts, hwaɪr- / *adv.* **IN WHAT PLACE** in, at, or near what location *Do you know whereabouts the hotel is?* *I've forgotten whereabouts I parked the car.* **n.** **LOCATION OF SOMEBODY OR SOMETHING** the approximate place where somebody or something is *Could you give us any information regarding the whereabouts of your brother?*

where-after /waɪr ɛftər, hwaɪr- / *adv.* after which time or event (formal) *She left, whereafter he also departed.*

where-as /waɪr əz, hwaɪr- / *conj.* **1. WHILE IN CONTRAST** while on the other hand *She was saving money, whereas you were living in the fast lane.* **2. BECAUSE** for the reason that (formal) *Whereas you've proven your worth, you're welcome to join the team.* **3. CONNECTING SERIES** used to introduce each clause in a series (formal)

where-at /waɪr ət, hwaɪr- / *adv.* **TO OR AT WHICH PLACE** toward or at which place (archaic) **conj.** **BECAUSE OF WHICH** because or as a consequence of which (archaic)

where-by /waɪr bi, hwaɪr- / *adv.* by means of or through which *the invention whereby he made his millions*

where'er /waɪr ɛər, hwaɪr- / *adv.* wherever (literary)

where-fore /waɪr fɔːr, hwaɪr- / *n.* **REASON** a reason or purpose for something *I don't want to know the whys or the wherefores of your decision.* **adv.** (archaic) **1. THEREFORE** for the foregoing reason **2. FOR WHAT REASON** for what reason or purpose

where-from /waɪr frɒm, hwaɪr- / *adv.* from what place or origin (archaic) *Do we know wherefrom this stranger comes?*

where-in /waɪr ɪn, hwaɪr- / *adv.* (archaic) **1. HOW** in what particular way or respect *Wherein did I misspeak myself?* **2. WHERE** in which particular place *the country wherein they dwelled* **3. DURING WHICH** during the time which *the years wherein we were ignorant and happy*

where-in-to /waɪr ɪntoʊ, hwaɪr- / *adv.* into which place or thing (archaic)

where-of /waɪr ɒv, hwaɪr- / *adv.* of or about what thing or person (formal or archaic) *Do you know whereof you speak?*

where-on /waɪr ɒn, hwaɪr- / *adv.* on which thing or place (archaic or formal) *the couch whereon she lay*

where-so-ev-er /wəɪrsoʊ ɛvər, hwaɪrsoʊ- / *adv., conj.* used as an emphatic form of "wherever" (archaic)

where-to /waɪr toʊ, hwaɪr- / **where-un-to** /waɪr ʌntoʊ, hwaɪr- / *adv.* where or to which (archaic formal) *the place whereto you've brought me*

where-up-on /wəɪrə ɒn, hwaɪrə- / *conj.* **AT WHICH POINT** at which time or as a result of (formal) *The rain began to come down hard, whereupon we ran for the house.* **adv.** **ON WHICH** on or upon which (archaic or formal) *the pillow whereupon she laid her head*

where-ev-er /waɪr ɛvər, hwaɪr- / *adv.* **1. TO ANY PLACE** in, at, or to any place *I'll go wherever you go.* **2. NO MATTER WHERE** at or in an indefinite place *I'll sleep on the couch, the floor, wherever.* **3. AT AN UNKNOWN PLACE** to, in, or at an unknown or unidentified place or position **4. where-ev-er, where ev-er** where indeed used as an emphatic form of *where* *Wherever have my*

glasses gone? **conj.** **EVERY TIME OR PLACE** that on every occasion or in every place that *Take exercise wherever possible.* *I crossed the fields wherever there was a gate.*

where-with /waɪr wɪθ, hwaɪr- / *adv.* with or by means of which (archaic) *the tool wherewith the deed was done*

where-with-al /wəɪrwi θɒl, hwaɪrwi-, θɒl/ *n.* the money or resources required for a purpose

wher-ry /wɛrɪe, hwɛrɪe/ (plural -ries) *n.* **1. LIGHT ROWBOAT** a small light rowboat used in inland waters **2. ENGLISH COMMERCIAL BARGE** a small barge, once used for commercial purposes in parts of England, now used largely for pleasure cruises [15thC. Origin unknown.] — **wher-ry-man** *n.*

whet /wɛt, hwɛt/ *vt.* (whet-ted, whet-ting, whets) **1. STIMULATE** something to make a feeling, sense, or desire more keen or intense *The thought of easy money whetted my enthusiasm for the undertaking.* **2. WHETTED** **A TOOL OR WEAPON** to sharpen the cutting edge or blade of a tool or weapon, usually by rubbing it on a stone **n.** **1. SHARPENING OR INTENSIFYING** an act of sharpening, intensifying, or stimulating something **2. SHARPENING BLOCK** something that sharpens a cutting edge **3. SOMETHING THAT WHETS** the senses something that stimulates a feeling, sense, or desire, especially a small amount that makes somebody want more (informal) [Old English *hwettan* "to sharpen." Ultimately from a prehistoric Germanic word meaning "sharp."] — **whet-ter** *n.*

wheth-er /wɛðər, hwɛðər/ *conj.* **1. INTRODUCES ALTERNATIVES** used to indicate alternatives in an indirect question or a clause following a verb that expresses or implies doubt or the possibility of choice *We should try to meet them whether it's raining or not.* **2. INTRODUCES AN INDIRECT QUESTION** used to introduce an indirect question *I wonder whether it's worth the effort.* **3. EITHER** used to introduce doubt regarding two equal possibilities *She said she'd get here whether by car or by train.* [Old English *hwæþer, hwepere*. Ultimately from an Indo-European word that is also the ancestor of English *where* and *other*.] *whether or no* whatever the circumstances might be

whet-stone /wɛt stɒn, hwɛt- / *n.* a stone used to sharpen the cutting edge or blade of a tool or weapon by rubbing [Old English *hwetstān*]

whew /fyoʊ, hwoʊ/ *interj.* used to express great relief, surprise, or discomfort [15thC. An imitation of the sound.]

whey /waɪ, hwaɪ/ *n.* the watery liquid that separates from the solid part of milk when it turns sour or when enzymes are added in cheesemaking [Old English *hwæg, hwæg*, of prehistoric Germanic origin] — **why-ey** *adj.*

why-face /waɪ fæɪs, hwaɪ- / *n.* **1. PALE FACE** a very pale face (informal) **2. SOMEBODY WITH VERY PALE FACE** somebody whose face is regarded as too pale (insult) — **why-faced** *adj.*

whf. *abbr.* wharf

which /wɪtʃ, hwɪtʃ/ **CORE MEANING:** used to ask for something to be identified from a known larger group or range of possibilities (adj) *Which part of it don't you understand?* (pron) *Which would you like?* (pron) *Which of the colors do you prefer?* (pron) *At which stage do we start to cut our losses?*

1. pron. **INTRODUCES A RELATIVE CLAUSE** used to introduce a clause that provides additional information about something previously mentioned *The cabin, which we bought last spring, sits high on the dunes.* *A success for which she is to be congratulated.* **2. pron.** **THAT** used to introduce a relative clause that provides necessary information about its antecedent *Please return the money which I loaned to you.* **3. pron.** **REFERS BACK TO A PHRASE OR SENTENCE** used to refer back to an entire verb phrase or sentence *Swimming after eating, which I've told you not to do, can be very dangerous.* **4. adj., pron.** **ONE FROM KNOWN SET** one of a range of things or possibilities specified or implied by the immediate context (adj) *I can't decide which activity would be the most fun.* (pron) *He decided which to buy and paid the money.* **5. adj., pron.** **INDICATES CHOICE** used to indicate one or any number of things (adj) *Use which method best suits you.* (pron) *Take which you prefer.* [Old English *hwilc*, literally "of what form, like what." Ultimately from a prehistoric Germanic word that is also the ancestor of English *like* and *such*.]

WORD KEY: USAGE
See Usage note at that.

which-ev-er /wɪtʃ ɛvər, hwɪtʃ- / *adj., pron.* used to refer to any one or any number of items in a class (adj) *Whichever job you take, starting out will be hard.* (pron) *I'll buy whichever you think best.*

which-so-ev-er /wɪtʃsoʊ ɛvər, hwɪtʃsoʊ- / *adj., pron.* whichever (archaic)

whick-er /wɪkər, hwɪkər/ (-ered, -er-ing, -ers) *vi.* to neigh softly [Mid-17thC. An imitation of the sound.] — **whick-er** *n.*

whid-ah *n.* **BIRDS = whydah**

whiff /wɪf, hwɪf/ *n.* **1. SLIGHT OR BRIEF ODOR** a faint smell of something, pleasant or unpleasant, often perceived briefly *a whiff of disinfectant* **2. TRACE OF SOMETHING** a slight sign or trace of something *a whiff of corruption* **3. GENTLE GUST OR PUFF** a short light gust, puff, or breath of wind **4. SNIFF OF SOMETHING** a sniff, smell, or brief inhalation of something *took one whiff of the concoction and started coughing* **5. U.K. NAUT SMALL SKIFF** a narrow skiff for one rower **6. BASEBALL STRIKEOUT** an instance of swinging at and missing the third strike in a turn at bat **7. GOLF COMPLETE MISS** a swing that completely misses the golfball **v.** (whiffed, whiff-ing, whiffs) **1. vti.** **WAFT OR PUFF** to come or send something in short light gusts or puffs *The smoke whiffed and curled around the room.* **2. vti.** **SNIFF SOMETHING** to sniff, smell, or inhale something *The hyena whiffed the night air for predators.* **3. vti.** **BASEBALL STRIKE OUT** to strike out a batter or to strike out *That pitcher whiffed all the batters this inning.* **4. vi.** **GOLF FAIL TO HIT A BALL** to swing at and miss a ball completely [Late 16thC. Thought to suggest a light puff of wind that carries a smell.] — **whiff-er** *n.*

whif-fle /wɪfəl, hwɪfəl/ (-fled, -fling, -fles) *v.* **1. vi.** **BEHAVE ERRATICALLY** to be indecisive or unpredictable in thought or action **2. vti.** **BLOW GENTLY** to blow or move in short light variable gusts or puffs, or to blow or move something in this way **3. vi.** **WHISTLE** to whistle softly [Late 17thC. Formed from WHIFF.]

whif-fer /wɪfər, hwɪfər/ *n.* somebody who vacillates or is evasive

whif-fle-tree /wɪfəl triː, hwɪfəl- / *n.* Northeast U.S. a horizontal crossbar used to attach the harness traces of a draft animal that is then attached to a vehicle or device [Mid-19thC. Variant of WHIFFLETREE.]

Whig /wɪg, hwɪg/ *n.* **1. MEMBER OF 19C U.S. POLITICAL PARTY** a member of a 19th-century U.S. political party that favored loose interpretation of the Constitution and opposed the Democratic Party **2. SUPPORTER OF THE REVOLUTION AGAINST BRITISH CONTROL** somebody who supported the American side against the British in the American Revolution **3. U.K. MEMBER OF A FORMER BRITISH POLITICAL PARTY** a member of a reforming English political party that supported the aristocracy and later the business community, finally becoming the core of the Liberal Party **4. U.K. CONSERVATIVE IN THE BRITISH LIBERAL PARTY** a conservative member of the Liberal Party in the United Kingdom **5. U.K. SUPPORTER OF FREE ENTERPRISE** somebody who opposes government regulation of commerce and the economy **6. SCOTLAND SCOTCH PRESBYTERIAN** a 17th-century Presbyterian in Scotland [Mid-17thC. Shortening of obsolete Scots dialect *whiggamaire*, literally "horse driver."] — **Whig-gery** *n.* — **Whig-gism** *n.* — **Whig-gish** *adj.* — **Whig-gish-ly** *adv.* — **Whig-gish-ness** *n.*

WORD KEY: ORIGIN
The Scots word *Whig* seems originally to have been used as a contemptuous term for a country dweller, but by the middle of the 17th century it was being applied to Presbyterian supporters in Scotland. It was later adopted as a name for those who opposed the succession of the Catholic King James II of England, and by 1689 it had established itself as the title of one of the two main British political parties, opposed to the Tories.

while /waɪl, hwɪl/ *conj.* **1. AT OR DURING SAME TIME** at or during the same time that *We can talk while I fix supper.* **2. EVEN THOUGH** in spite of the fact that *While I admire your tenacity, I cannot support your aims.* **3. BUT IN CONTRAST** and on the contrary *An older car would be cheaper to buy while a newer one might be more reliable.* **n.** **PERIOD OF TIME** a period of time or some interval *It's been a while since I saw her.* [Old English *hwil* "period of time." Ultimately from an Indo-European word meaning "rest, period of rest," which is also the ancestor of English *tranquil* and *quiet*.] *once in a*

in foreign words: kh German Bach; aN French vin; aaN French blanc; o German schön, French féu; oN French bon; oN French un; ð as in French rue Stress marks: * as in secret 'sekret' / as in secretary 'sektrəri'

while very occasionally \diamond worth (somebody's) while 1. deserving somebody's time, money, or support 2. rewarding in terms of money or advantage

while away *vt.* to pass time in an idle, leisurely, and usually pleasant way

whiles /wɪlz, hwɪlz/ *conj.* while (*archaic*)

whi-lom /hwɪlɒm/ *adv.* FORMERLY at or during some past time (*archaic*) **adj.** FORMER having been at an earlier time (*archaic*) [Old English *hwilom*, a form of *whil* (see WHILE)]

whim /wɪm, hwɪm/ *n.* 1. PASSING IMPULSE a sudden thought, idea, or desire, especially one based on impulse rather than reason or necessity 2. MINING HORSE-DRAWN WINCH a winch used to lift ore or water from a mine, drawn by a horse [Mid-17thC. Origin uncertain: perhaps a shortening of WHIMS or WHIM-WHAM. The main modern meaning evolved from "pun" via "quaint idea."]

whim-brel /wɪmbrel, hwɪmbrel/ (*plural* -brel or -brels) *n.* a large shorebird that has a long downward curving bill and breeds in the Arctic. It is related to but smaller than the curlew. Latin name: *Numenius phaeopus*. [Mid-16thC. Origin uncertain: formed from obsolete dialect *whimp* "to whimper" (with reference to the bird's cry), or from WHIMPER.]

whim-per /wɪmpər, hwɪmpər/ *v.* (-pered, -per-ing, -pers) 1. *vi.* SOB SOFTLY to make repeated weak plaintive crying or whining sounds of pain, distress, or fear 2. *vi.* COMPLAIN PEEVISHLY to complain in a weak, whining, or irritated manner 3. *vt.* SAY SOMETHING PLAINTIVELY to say something in a plaintive or whining voice **n.** 1. WHINE a weak plaintive cry or whine 2. COMPLAINT a feeble or peevish complaint [Early 16thC. Formed from earlier *whimp* "to whimper," of imitative origin.] —whim-per-ing-ly *adv.*

whim-si-cal /wɪmzɪkəl, hwɪmzɪkəl/ *adj.* 1. FANCIFUL imaginative and impulsive 2. AMUSING slightly odd, old-fashioned, or playful, especially in an endearing way \diamond He gave me that whimsical smile of his. 3. ERATIC OR UNPREDICTABLE behaving in such a way as to be impossible to predict \diamond She distrusted his whimsical nature. [Mid-17thC. Formed from WHIMS.] —whim-si-cal-ly *adv.* /wɪmzɪ kəl-lee, hwɪmzɪ kəl-lee/ *n.* —whim-si-cal-ness *n.*

whim-sy /wɪmzɪ, hwɪmzɪ/ (*plural* -sies), **whim-sy** (*plural* -seys, comparative -si-er, superlative -si-est) *n.* 1. ENDERING QUANTITY OR ODDITY the quality of being quaint, odd, or playfully humorous, especially in an endearing way \diamond There's a touch of whimsy about the old cottage. 2. IMPULSIVE NOTION an idea that has no immediately obvious reason to exist \diamond We can't always be catering to their whimsies. [Early 17thC. Origin uncertain: probably based on WHIM-WHAM, perhaps modeled on words like *dropsy*.]

whim-wham *n.* a quaint, odd, or fanciful object such as an ornament, toy, or device (*archaic*) \diamond some whim-wham he bought somewhere [Origin uncertain: perhaps thought to suggest something frivolous]

whin /wɪn, hwɪn/ (*plural* whin or whins) *n.* = **gorse** [15thC. Origin uncertain: probably from a Scandinavian word related to Old Danish *hvinegræs*, literally "rough grass."]

whin² /wɪn, hwɪn/ *n.* = **whinstone**

whin-chat /wɪn tʃæt, hwɪn-t/ (*plural* -chat or -chats) *n.* a small songbird of the thrush family, native to Asia and Europe, that has mottled brown and white plumage and a streaky reddish brown breast. It is found in meadows. Latin name: *Saxicola rubetra*. [Late 17thC. From WHIN² + CHAT "warbler."]

whine /wɪn, hwɪn/ *v.* (whined, whin-ing, whines) 1. *vi.* MAKE A HIGH SORROWFUL SOUND to cry, moan, or plead with a long, plaintive, high-pitched sound 2. *vi.* GRUMBLE PEEVISHLY to complain or protest about something, often in an annoyingly plaintive voice 3. *vt.* UTTER SOMETHING IN A WHINING VOICE to say something in a plaintive high-pitched voice 4. *vi.* MAKE A HIGH-PITCHED SOUND to make a continuous high-pitched sound \diamond The wind whined and moaned through the trees. **n.** 1. HIGH-PITCHED CRY a long, plaintive, high-pitched cry 2. PEEVISH COMPLAINT a complaint or protest, especially one made repeatedly in a whining voice 3. CONTINUOUS HIGH-PITCHED SOUND a long or continuous high-pitched sound \diamond The whine of the jet engines woke me up. [Old English *hwīnan* ("of an arrow) to whistle through the air." Ultimately of imitative origin.] —whin-er *n.* —whin-ing-ly *adv.* —whin-y *adj.*

WORD KEY: SYNONYMS
See Synonyms at *complain*.

whinge /wɪnʃ, hwɪnʃ/ (whinged, whinge-ing, whinge-es) *vi.* U.K., Aus. to complain annoyingly or continuously about something perceived as relatively unimportant (*informal*) [Old English *hwinsian* "to whine." Ultimately an imitation of the sound of a whining dog.] —whing-er *n.*

whinge-ing Pom /wɪnʃɪŋ pɒm, hwɪnʃɪŋ-ɪ/ *n.* Aus an English person, especially one perceived as constantly complaining, particularly about life in Australia (*insult*)

whin-ny /wɪnnee, hwɪnnee/ *v.* (-nied, -ny-ing, -nies) 1. *vi.* NEIGH to neigh softly 2. *vi.* MAKE A NEIGHING SOUND to make a neighing sound, especially when laughing 3. *vt.* UTTER WITH A NEIGHING SOUND to say or express something with a neighing sound **n.** (*plural* -nies) NEIGHING SOUND a soft neigh or neighing sound [Mid-16thC. An imitation of the sound.]

whin-stone /wɪn stɒn, hwɪn-ɪ/ *n.* a hard, dark, fine-grained rock such as basalt or chert [Early 16thC. From WHIN² + STONE.]

whip /wɪp, hwɪp/ *v.* (whipped, whip-ping, whips) 1. *vt.* LASH SOMEBODY OR SOMETHING to strike a person or animal repeatedly with a flexible rod, length of rope, thin strip of leather attached to a handle, or something similar, especially as a punishment 2. *vt.* STRIKE AGAINST SOMETHING SHARPLY to strike something or somebody very hard, sharply, or repeatedly \diamond The icy rain whipped our faces. 3. *vt.* CRITICIZE SOMEBODY SEVERELY to criticize or reproach somebody very strongly or severely 4. *vt.* MOVE RAPIDLY to move very quickly, forcefully, or suddenly, or to make something move in this way \diamond She whipped around guiltily as I came in. 5. *vt.* MOVE SOMETHING WITH RAPID ACTION to move, remove, or produce something very quickly, suddenly, or forcefully 6. *vt.* DEFEAT SOMEBODY to defeat, overcome, or outdo somebody (*informal*) 7. *vt.* COOK BEAT LIQUID UNTIL STIFF to make a food substance such as batter or whipping cream stiff and creamy by adding air to it with short quick movements using a fork, whisk, or electric beater 8. *vt.* BIND THE END OF A ROPE to wind thread, cord, or twine around the end of a rope or cable to keep it from fraying or unraveling 9. *vt.* NAUT LIFT SOMETHING BY A ROPE AND PULLEY to lift something by means of a device consisting of a rope passed through a single pulley 10. *vt.* SEW SEW SOMETHING IN WHIPSTITCH to sew the edge of a piece of fabric using whipstitch **n.** 1. INSTRUMENT FOR INFLECTING PAIN a flexible rod, a length of rope, or a thin strip of leather attached to a handle, used to strike people or animals 2. LASHING STROKE OR BLOW a stroke or blow with a whip or something similar \diamond a whip across the face 3. SOMETHING RESEMBLING A WHIP something that resembles a whip in form, motion, or flexibility 4. SOMEBODY WHO USES A WHIP somebody who is experienced or skilled in the use of a whip, e.g., the driver of a horse-drawn carriage 5. POL SOMEBODY IN CHARGE OF PARTY DISCIPLINE an elected representative in a legislative body such as Congress or the U.K. Parliament who has special responsibility for ensuring discipline and attendance among his or her party's representatives 6. POL CALL FOR PARTY SOLIDARITY a call issued to a party's elected legislators to ensure they attend for an important vote and vote the party line 7. FOOD SWEET DISH a light creamy dessert made from whipped cream with added sweetening and flavoring 8. NAUT HOISTING APPARATUS a device that consists of a rope, a pulley, and a snatch block, used to raise heavy cargo 9. MUSIC FLEXIBLE PERCUSSION INSTRUMENT a percussion instrument with two flexible strips of wood attached in the shape of a V that make a loud clapping sound when they are waved in the air 10. HUNT = WHIPPER-IN 11. WINDMILL VANE a sail or arm of a windmill 12. FAIRGROUND AMUSEMENT a ride at an amusement park with small cars that travel with sudden rapid jerking movements around a track 13. WRESTLING WRESTLING THROW in wrestling, a throw in which an opponent is seized by an outstretched arm and thrown to the floor 14. LONG FLEXIBLE BRANCH a long, slender, flexible branch of some trees such as some willows \diamond furniture made of willow whips [13thC. Origin uncertain: probably from Middle Low German or Middle Dutch *wippen* "to swing," from, ultimately, a prehistoric Germanic base meaning "to move quickly" (ancestor also of English *wipe*).] \diamond crack the whip a children's game in which they join hands in a line and pull each other around sharply

whip *in vt. POL* to keep the members of a political party in line with the party's aims
whip through *vt.* to do something very quickly (*informal*)

whip up *vt.* 1. EXCITE SOMETHING OR SOMEBODY to arouse or provoke a strong feeling or reaction in a group of people 2. MAKE SOMETHING RISE UP to stir or disturb something with force so that it rises or flies up 3. PREPARE SOMETHING RAPIDLY to make something quickly, especially an impromptu meal (*informal*)

whip-cord /wɪp kɔːrd, hwɪp-ɪ/ *n.* 1. STRONG FABRIC a strong cotton or woolen fabric woven with diagonal ribs 2. CORD USED TO MAKE A WHIP a tough twisted cord used for the flexible part of a whip

whip graft *n.* a way of grafting two plants by inserting the cut end of a scion into a similar cut in a rootstock and tying them securely together until they join

whip hand *n.* 1. MOST POWERFUL POSITION the most powerful or advantageous position in a particular situation \diamond She has the whip hand. 2. HAND HOLDING A WHIP a hand that holds a whip, especially one used to drive horses

whip-lash /wɪp lɑːʃ, hwɪp-ɪ/ *n.* 1. FLEXIBLE PART OF A WHIP the flexible part of a whip 2. MED INJURY TO THE NECK an injury to the muscles, ligaments, vertebrae, or nerves of the neck caused when the head is suddenly thrown forward and then sharply back 3. LASHING STROKE OR BLOW a stroke or blow from a whip, or something that resembles this in motion, speed, or force

whip-per-in /wɪpər-, hwɪpər-/ (*plural* whip-pers-in) *n.* POL = whip *n.* 5

whip-per-snap-per /wɪpər snæpər, hwɪpər-ɪ/ *n.* somebody who is impudent and unimportant, especially a young person (*dated*) [Late 17thC. Origin uncertain: perhaps from WHIP + SNAPPER, modeled on earlier *snipper-snapper* "somebody who cracks whips."]

whip-per snip-per /wɪpər snɪpər, hwɪpər-ɪ/ *n.* Aus a machine for trimming the edges of lawns



Whippet

whip-pet /wɪpət, hwɪpət/ *n.* a fast slender short-haired dog of a breed that resembles but is smaller than a greyhound. They are bred in the British Isles for racing. [Mid-16thC. Formed from WHIP in the sense "to move quickly."]

whip-ping /wɪpɪŋ, hwɪpɪŋ/ *n.* 1. PUNISHMENT a beating, spanking, or flogging with a whip or something similar 2. CORD BINDING thread, cord, or twine wound around the end of a rope or cable to keep it from fraying or unraveling 3. SPORTS DEFEAT a convincing defeat (*informal*) \diamond They really gave us a whipping in that last game.

whip-ping boy *n.* somebody who takes the blame or punishment for the mistakes or wrongdoings of more important people [Originally, this referred to a boy raised and educated with a prince. If the prince misbehaved, the whipping boy would be punished in his place (typically by whipping).]

whip-ping cream *n.* a heavy cream containing a high proportion of butterfat, which causes it to stiffen when whipped

Whip-ple /wɪpəl, hwɪpəl/, William (1730–85) American patriot. Representing New Hampshire, he signed the Declaration of Independence (1776) and fought in the Revolution (1775–83).

whip-ple-tree /wɪpəl trɪ, hwɪpəl-ɪ/ *n.* = **whiffletree** [Mid-18thC. [Whiffletree] formed from WHIP. The underlying idea is of a spring, flexible wooden pole.]

a; as; aa father; aw all; ay; days; air hair; a about, edible, item, common, circus; e egg; ee ce; hw when; i; i ice; 'l apple; 'm rhythm; 'n fashion; o odd; o open; oo good; oo pool; ow owl; oy oil; th thin; th this; u up; ur urger