

AB

The
**AMERICAN
HERITAGE®**

dictionary

of the
**English
Language**

**FIFTH
EDITION**

Houghton Mifflin Harcourt
BOSTON NEW YORK

Words are included in this dictionary on the basis of their usage. Words that are known to have current trademark registrations are shown with an initial capital and are also identified as trademarks. No investigation has been made of common-law trademark rights in any word, because such investigation is impracticable. The inclusion of any word in this dictionary is not, however, an expression of the publisher's opinion as to whether or not it is subject to proprietary rights. Indeed, no definition in this dictionary is to be regarded as affecting the validity of any trademark.

American Heritage and the eagle logo are registered trademarks of American Heritage Inc. Their use is pursuant to a license agreement with American Heritage Inc.

Copyright © 2011 by Houghton Mifflin Harcourt Publishing Company.
All rights reserved.

No part of this work may be reproduced or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical, including photocopying and recording, or by any information storage or retrieval system without the prior written permission of Houghton Mifflin Harcourt unless such copying is expressly permitted by

federal copyright law. Address inquiries to:
Reference Permissions, Houghton Mifflin Harcourt,
222 Berkeley Street, Boston, MA 02116.

Visit our website at www.ahdictionary.com
or www.youareyourwords.com.

Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data

The American Heritage dictionary of the English language. -- 5th ed.
p. cm.

Previous ed.: 2000.

ISBN 978-0-547-04101-8

1. English language--Dictionaries.

PE1628.A623 2011

423--dc22

2011004777

Manufactured in the United States of America

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10-QGV-15 14 13 12 11

Navy, serving either with the Navy or the Marines, who has been trained to give first aid and basic medical treatment, especially in combat situations. **2.** A member of a government-sponsored group designated as a corps: *Peace Corpsmen*.

corpulence (kôr'pya-ləns) *n.* The condition of being excessively fat; obesity. [Middle English, corporality < Latin *corpulentia*, corpulence < *corpulentus*, corpulent < *corpus*, body; see **k^wrep-** in App. I.]

corpulent (kôr'pya-lənt) *adj.* Having an abundance or excess of flesh or fat. See Synonyms at **fat**.

corpul-mo-na-le (kôr' pōol'mā-nā'lē, -nāl'ē, pūl'-) *n.* Acute strain or hypertrophy of the right ventricle caused by a disorder of the lungs or of the pulmonary blood vessels. [New Latin *corpulmōnāle*: Latin *cor*, heart + New Latin *pulmōnāle*, neuter of *pulmōnālis*, of the lungs.]

corpus (kôr'pəs) *n., pl. -po-ra* (-pə-rə) **1.** A large collection of writings of a specific kind or on a specific subject. **2.** A collection of writings or recorded remarks used for linguistic analysis. **3. Economics a.** The capital or principal amount, as of an estate or trust. **b.** The principal of a bond. **4. Anatomy a.** The main part of a bodily structure or organ. **b.** A distinct bodily mass or organ having a specific function. **5.** The overall length of a violin. [Middle English < Latin; see **k^wrep-** in App. I.]

corpus albi-cans (al'bi-kānz') *n.* The white fibrous scar tissue in an ovary that results after the involution and regression of the corpus luteum. [New Latin *corpus albicans*: Latin *corpus*, body + New Latin *albicāns*, whitening.]

corpus cal-lo-sum (kə-lō'səm) *n., pl. corpora cal-lo-sa* (kə-lō'sə) The arched bridge of nervous tissue that connects the two cerebral hemispheres, allowing communication between the right and left sides of the brain. [New Latin *corpus callosum*: Latin *corpus*, body + Latin *callōsum*, neuter of *callōsus*, callous.]

Corpus Chris-ti (kôr'pəs kris'tē) A city of southern Texas on **Corpus Christi Bay**, an arm of the Gulf of Mexico at the mouth of the Nueces River. Founded as a trading post in 1839, the city developed as a port.

Corpus Chris-ti (kôr'pəs kris'tē) *n.* A Christian feast in honor of the Eucharist, observed on the first Thursday or the first Sunday after Trinity Sunday. [Middle English < Medieval Latin *Corpus Christi*, body of Christ: Latin *corpus*, body + Latin *Christi*, genitive of *Christus*, Christ.]

corpus-cle (kôr'pə-səl, -pūs'əl) *n.* **1a.** An unattached body cell, such as a blood or lymph cell. **b.** A rounded globular mass of cells, such as the pressure receptor on certain nerve endings. **2.** A discrete particle, such as a photon or an electron. **3.** A minute globular particle. [Latin *corpusculum*, diminutive of *corpus*, body; see **k^wrep-** in App. I.] —**corpus-cu-lar** (kôr-pūs'kyə-lər) *adj.*

corpus de-lic-ti (di-lik'ti) *n.* **1.** Law The corroborating evidence that shows that a crime has been committed, other than a confession or an alleged accomplice's statement. **2.** A corpse. [New Latin *corpus delicti*: Latin *corpus*, body, collection of facts + Latin *delicti*, genitive of *delictum*, crime.]

corpus lu-te-um (lōō'tē-əm) *n., pl. corpora lu-te-a* (lōō'tē-ə) A yellow, progesterone-secreting mass of cells that forms from an ovarian follicle after the release of a mature egg. Also called *yellow body*. [New Latin *corpus luteum*: Latin *corpus*, body + Latin *luteum*, neuter of *luteus*, yellow.]

corpus stri-a-tum (stri-ā'təm) *n., pl. corpora stri-a-ta* (stri-ā'ta) Either of two gray and white striated bodies of nerve fibers located in the lower lateral wall of each cerebral hemisphere. [New Latin *corpus striatum*: Latin *corpus*, body + Latin *striatum*, neuter of *striatus*, striated.]

cor-rade (kə-rād') *tr. & intr.v. -rad-ed, -rad-ing, -rades* To erode or be eroded by abrasion. [Latin *corrādere*, to scrape together: *com-*, *com-* + *radere*, to scrape; see **rēd-** in App. I.] —**cor-ra-sion** (-rā'zhən) *n.* —**cor-ra-sive** (-siv, -ziv) *adj.*

cor-ral (kə-rāl') *n.* **1.** An enclosure for confining livestock. **2.** An enclosure formed by a circle of wagons for defense against attack during an encampment. **3. tr.v. -ralled, -ral-ling, -rals 1.** To drive into and hold in a corral. **2.** To arrange (wagons) in a corral. **3.** To take control or possession of. **4.** To gather; garner: "difficult for congressional leadership to corral a majority of votes" (Don J. Pease). [Spanish < Vulgar Latin **currāle*, enclosure for carts < Latin *currus*, cart < *currere*, to run; see **kers-** in App. I.]

cor-rect (kə-rēkt') *v. -rect-ed, -rect-ing, -rects* —*tr.* **1a.** To make or put right: *correct a mistake*; *correct a misunderstanding*. **b.** To remove the errors or mistakes from: *corrected her previous testimony*. **c.** To indicate or mark the errors in: *correct an exam*. **2a.** To speak to or communicate with (someone) in order to point out a mistake or error. **b.** To scold or punish so as to improve or reform. **3.** To remedy or counteract (a defect, for example): *The new glasses corrected his blurry vision*. **4.** To adjust so as to meet a required standard or condition: *correct the wheel alignment on a car*. —*intr.* **1.** To make corrections. **2.** To make adjustments; compensate: *correcting for the effects of air resistance*. **3.** Free from error or fault; true or accurate. **2.** Conforming to standards; proper: *correct behavior*. [Middle English *correcten* < Latin *corrīgere*, *correct-*: *com-*, intensive pref.; see **COM-** + *regere*, to rule; see **reg-** in App. I.] —**cor-rect'a-ble, cor-rect'i-ble** *adj.* —**cor-rect'ly** *adv.* —**cor-rect'ness** *n.* —**cor-rect'or** *n.*

♦ **SYNONYMS** *correct, rectify, remedy, redress, revise, amend* These verbs mean to make right what is wrong. *Correct* refers to eliminating faults, errors, or defects: *I corrected the spelling mistakes*. *The new design corrected the flaws in the earlier version*. *Rectify* stresses the idea of bringing something into conformity with a standard of what is right: "It is dishonest to claim that we can rectify racial injustice without immediate cost"

thing considered a cause of harm, damage, or discontent: *He took courses to remedy his abysmal ignorance*. *Redress* refers to setting right something considered immoral or unethical and usually involves some kind of recompense: "They said he had done very little to redress the abuses that the army had committed against the civilian population" (Daniel Wilkinson). *Revise* suggests change that results from careful reconsideration: *The agency revised its safety recommendations in view of the new findings*. *Amend* implies improvement through alteration or correction: "Whenever [the people] shall grow weary of the existing government, they can exercise their constitutional right of amending it, or their revolutionary right to dismember or overthrow it" (Abraham Lincoln).

cor-rec-tion (kə-rēk'shən) *n.* **1.** The act or process of correcting. **2.** Something offered or substituted for a mistake or fault: *made corrections in the report*. **3a.** Punishment intended to rehabilitate or improve. **b. corrections** The treatment of offenders through a system of penal incarceration, rehabilitation, probation, and parole, or the administrative system by which these are effectuated. **4.** An amount or quantity added or subtracted in order to correct. **5.** A decline in stock-market activity or prices following a period of increases. —**cor-rec-tion'al** *adj.*

cor-rec-ti-tude (kə-rēk'ti-tūd', -tyūd') *n.* Appropriate manners and behavior; propriety.

cor-rec-tive (kə-rēk'tiv) *adj.* Tending or intended to correct: *corrective lenses*. **♦ n.** An agent that corrects. —**cor-rec-tive-ly** *adv.*

Cor-reg-gio (kə-rēj'ō, kə-rēd'jō), Antonio *Allegri da* 1494?–1534. Italian Renaissance painter known for his use of chiaroscuro. Among his works are devotional pictures, including *Holy Night*, and frescoes, such as those in the convent of San Paolo in Parma (1518).

Cor-reg-i-dor (kə-rēg'i-dōr', kōr-rē'hē-dōr') An island of the northern Philippines at the entrance to Manila Bay. After a prolonged siege and bombardment, Filipino and US troops surrendered the fortified island to Japan in May 1942. US paratroopers recaptured it in March 1945.

cor-re-late (kôr'ə-lāt', kôr'-) *v. -lat-ed, -lat-ing, -lates* —*tr.* To establish or demonstrate as having a correlation: *correlated drug abuse and crime*. —*intr.* To be related by a correlation. **♦ adj.** (-lit, -lāt') Related by a correlation, especially having corresponding characteristics. **♦ n.** (-lit, -lāt') Either of two correlate entities; a correlate. [Back-formation < CORRELATION.] —**cor-re-lat'a-ble** *adj.* —**cor-re-la'tor** *n.*

cor-re-la-tion (kôr'ə-lā'shən, kôr'-) *n.* **1.** A relationship or connection between two things based on co-occurrence or pattern of change: *a correlation between drug abuse and crime*. **2. Statistics** The tendency for two values or variables to change together, in either the same or opposite way: *As cigarette smoking increases, so does the incidence of lung cancer, indicating a positive correlation*. **3.** An act of correlating or the condition of being correlated. [Medieval Latin *correlatiō*, *correlatiōn-*: Latin *com-*, *com-* + Latin *relatiō*, relation, report (< *relatus*, past participle of *referre*, to carry back; see **RELATE**),] —**cor-re-la'tion'al** *adj.*

cor-re-la-tion coefficient *n.* A measure of the interdependence of two random variables that ranges in value from -1 to +1, indicating perfect negative correlation at -1, absence of correlation at zero, and perfect positive correlation at +1. Also called *coefficient of correlation*.

cor-re-la-tive (kə-rē'lə-tiv) *adj.* **1.** Related; corresponding. **2. Grammar** Indicating a reciprocal or complementary relationship: *a correlative conjunction*. **♦ n.** **1.** Either of two correlative entities; a correlate. **2. Grammar** A correlative word or expression. —**cor-re-la-tive-ly** *adv.*

cor-re-la-tive conjunction *n.* Either of a pair of conjunctions, such as *either . . . or* or *both . . . and*, that connect two parts of a sentence and are not used adjacent to each other. The second of the pair is always a coordinating conjunction.

cor-re-spond (kôr'i-spōnd', kôr'-) *intr.v. -spond-ed, -spond-ing, -sponds 1. To be in agreement, harmony, or conformity. **2.** To be similar or equivalent in character, quantity, origin, structure, or function: *English navel corresponds to Greek omphalos*. **3.** To communicate by letter, usually over a period of time. [French *correspondre* < Medieval Latin *correspondere*: Latin *com-*, *com-* + *respondere*, to respond; see **RESPOND**.]*

♦ **SYNONYMS** *correspond, conform, harmonize, coincide, accord, agree* These verbs all indicate a compatibility between people or things. *Correspond* refers to similarity in form, nature, function, character, or structure: "Scientific statements may or may not correspond to the facts of the physical world" (George Soros). *Conform* stresses correspondence in essence or basic characteristics, sometimes to an ideal or established standard: "Home was the place where I was forced to conform to someone else's image of who and what I should be" (bell hooks). *Harmonize* implies the combination or arrangement of elements in a pleasing whole: *The print on the curtains harmonized with the striped sofa*. *Coincide* stresses exact agreement: "His interest happily coincided with his duty" (Edward A. Freeman). *Accord* implies harmony, unity, or consistency, as in essential nature: "The creed [upon which America was founded] was widely seen as both progressive and universalistic: It accorded with the future, and it was open to all" (Everett Carl Ladd). *Agree* may indicate mere lack of incongruity or discord, although it often suggests acceptance of ideas or actions and thus accommodation: *We finally agreed on a price for the house*. See also synonyms at **assent**.

cor-re-spon-dence (kôr'i-spōnd'əns, kôr'-) *n.* **1.** The act, fact, or state of agreeing or conforming: *The correspondence of the witness's statement with the known facts suggests that he is telling the truth*. **2.** A similarity, connection, or equivalence: *Is there a correspondence between corporal punishment in children and criminal behavior in adults?* **3a.** Communication by the exchange of letters, e-mails, or other forms of written messages. **b.** The messages sent or received.

ā	pat	oi	boy
ā	pay	ou	out
ār	care	ōb	took
ā	father	ōor	lure
ē	pet	ōō	boot
ē	be	ū	cut
i	pit	ūr	urge
i	bite	th	thin
īr	pier	th	this
ō	pot	zh	vision
ō	toe	ə	about,
ō	paw	item	
ōr	core		

Stress marks: ' (primary); ' (secondary), as in dictionary (dik'shə-nē'ē)

correspondence course *n.* An educational course offered by a correspondence school.

correspondence principle *n.* The principle that predictions of quantum theory approach those of classical physics in the limit of large quantum numbers.

correspondence school *n.* A school that offers instruction by mail, sending lessons and examinations to a student.

cor-re-spon-den-cy (kôr'î-spôn'dan-sē, kôr'î-) *n., pl. -cies* Correspondence.

cor-re-spon-dent (kôr'î-spôn'dənt, kôr'î-) *n.* 1. One who communicates by means of letters, e-mails, or other forms of written messages. 2. One employed by the print or broadcast media to supply news stories or articles: a *foreign correspondent*. 3. One that has regular business dealings with another, especially at a distance. 4. Something that corresponds; a correlative. ♦ *adj.* Corresponding. —**cor-re-spon-dent-ly** *adv.*

cor-re-spond-ing (kôr'î-spôn'ding, kôr'î-) *adj.* 1. Having the same or nearly the same relationship. 2. Accompanying another: a *high corporate position and its corresponding problems*. 3a. Having been assigned the responsibility of written communications: a *corresponding secretary*. b. Participating at a distance from the rest of a group: a *corresponding member of the bar association*. —**cor-re-spond-ing-ly** *adv.*

cor-re-spon-sive (kôr'î-spôn'siv, kôr'î-) *adj.* Jointly responsive. —**cor-re-spon-sive-ly** *adv.*

cor-ri-da (kô-rē'dā, -dā) *n.* A bullfight, especially a program in which six bulls aged at least four years old are engaged. [Spanish *corrida* (*de toros*), running (of the bulls), bullfight < past participle of *correr*, to run < Latin *currere*; see *kers-* in App. I.]

cor-ri-do (kô-rē'dō) *n., pl. -dos* A Mexican ballad or folk song. [American Spanish < Spanish, ballad < past participle of *correr*, to run < Old Spanish < Latin *currere*; see *kers-* in App. I.]

cor-ri-dor (kôr'î-dôr, -dôr', kôr'î-) *n.* 1. A narrow hallway, passageway, or gallery, often with rooms or apartments opening onto it. 2a. A tract of land designated or used for a specific purpose, as for railroad lines, highways, or pipelines. b. A route designated for a specific purpose: a *hazardous material corridor*; a *sea corridor for shipping*; a *flight corridor*. c. A route or tract of land used by migrating animals. 3. A thickly populated strip of land connecting two or more urban areas: *people who live in the Boston-Washington corridor*. —**idiom: corridors of power** The places or positions from which people in authority wield power. [French < Italian *corridore* < *correre*, to run < Latin *currere*; see *kers-* in App. I.]

cor-rie (kôr'î, kôr'î) *n.* A round hollow in a hillside; a cirque. [Scottish Gaelic *coire*, hollow, cauldron < Old Irish, cauldron, whirlpool.]

Cor-rie-dale (kôr'î-dāl') *n.* 1. A hornless sheep of a breed developed in New Zealand and Australia, raised for its meat and dense wool. 2. The wool of this sheep. [After *Corriedale*, the sheep run in New Zealand where development of the breed was begun in the 1860s.]

Cor-ri-gan (kôr'î-gan, kôr'î-), **Mairead** Born 1944. Irish peace activist. She shared the 1976 Nobel Peace Prize for work in Northern Ireland's peace movement.

cor-ri-gen-dum (kôr'î-jèn'dam, kôr'î-) *n., pl. -da* (-dā) 1. An error to be corrected, especially a printer's error. 2. **corrigenda** A list of errors in a book along with their corrections. [Latin, neuter gerundive of *corrige*, to correct; see **CORRECT**.]

cor-ri-gi-ble (kôr'î-jī-bəl, kôr'î-) *adj.* Capable of being corrected, reformed, or improved. [Middle English < Old French < Medieval Latin *corrīgibilis* < Latin *corrige*, to correct; see **CORRECT**.] —**cor'ri-gi-bil'i-ty** *n.* —**cor'ri-gi-bly** *adv.*

cor-ri-val (kô-rī'vəl, kô-) *n.* A rival or opponent. [French < Latin *corrivalis*: *com-*, intensive pref.; see *COM-* + *rivalis*, rival; see **RIVAL**.] —**cor-ri-val-ry** (-rē) *n.*

cor-rob-o-rant (kô-rôb'ô-rənt) *adj.* Archaic Producing or stimulating physical vigor. Used of a medicine.

cor-rob-o-rate (kô-rôb'ô-rāt') *tr.v. -rat-ed, -rat-ing, -rates* To strengthen or support with other evidence; make more certain. See **SYNONYMS** at **confirm**. [Latin *corrôborare*, *corrôborat-*: *com-*, + *rôborare*, to strengthen (< *rôbur*, *rôbor-*, strength; see **REUDH-** in App. I).] —**cor-rob'o-ra-tion** *n.* —**cor-rob'o-ra-tive** (-ô-rā'tiv, -rô-tiv), **cor-rob'o-ra-to'ry** (-rô-tô-rē) *adj.* —**cor-rob'o-ra'tor** *n.*

cor-rob-o-ree (kô-rôb'ô-rē) *n.* 1. An Australian Aboriginal dance festival held at night, especially in celebration of an important event. 2. **Australian a.** A large, noisy celebration. b. A great tumult; a disturbance. [*< Dharuk garabari.*]

cor-rode (kô-rôd') *v. -rod-ed, -rod-ing, -rodes* —*tr.* 1. To destroy a metal or alloy gradually, especially by oxidation or chemical action: *acid corroding metal*. 2. To impair steadily; deteriorate: "*Doubt and mistrust could creep into our lives, corroding personal and professional relationships*" (Philip Taubman). —*intr.* To be eaten or worn away. [Middle English *corroden* < Latin *corrôdere*, to gnaw away: *com-*, intensive pref.; see *COM-* + *rôdere*, to gnaw; see **RÊD-** in App. I.] —**cor-rod'i-ble**, **cor-ro-si-ble** (-rô'sə-bəl) *adj.*

cor-ro-sion (kô-rô'zhən) *n.* 1a. The act or process of corroding. b. The condition produced by corroding. 2. A substance, such as rust, formed by corroding. [Middle English *corrosioun*, corrosion of tissue < Old French *corrosion* < Medieval Latin *corrôsiô*, *corrôsiôn-*, the act of gnawing < Latin *corrôsus*, past participle of *corrôdere*, to gnaw away; see **CORRODE**.]

cor-ro-sive (kô-rô'siv, -ziv) *adj.* 1. Having the capability or tendency to cause corrosion: a *corrosive acid*. 2. Gradually destructive; steadily harmful: *corrosive anxiety*; *corrosive increases in prices*; a *corrosive narcotics trade*. 3. Spitefully sarcastic: *corrosive criticism*; *corrosive wit*. ♦ *n.* A substance having the capability or tendency to cause corrosion. —**cor-**

corrosive sublimate *n.* See **mercuric chloride**.

cor-ru-gate (kôr'ô-gāt', kôr'î-) *v. -gat-ed, -gat-ing, -gates* —*tr.* To shape into folds or parallel and alternating ridges and grooves. —*intr.* To become shaped into such folds or ridges and grooves: "*Now the immense ocean . . . sensed the change. Its surface rippled and corrugated where sweeping cloud shadows touched it*" (John Updike). [Latin *corrûgare*, *corrûgât-*, to wrinkle up: *com-*, + *rûgare*, to wrinkle (< *rûga*, wrinkle).] —**cor'ru-gate'**, **cor'ru-gat'ed** (-gā'tid) *adj.*

corrugated iron *n.* A structural sheet iron, usually galvanized, shaped in parallel furrows and ridges for rigidity.

cor-ru-ga-tion (kôr'ô-gā'shən, kôr'î-) *n.* 1a. The act or process of corrugating. b. The state of being corrugated. 2. A groove or ridge on a corrugated surface.

cor-rupt (kô-rûpt') *adj.* 1. Marked by immorality and perversion; depraved. 2. Venal or dishonest: a *corrupt mayor*. 3. Containing errors or alterations, especially ones that prevent proper understanding or use: a *corrupt translation*; a *corrupt computer file*. 4. Archaic Tainted; putrid. ♦ *v. -rupt-ed, -rupt-ing, -rupts* —*tr.* 1. To ruin morally; pervert: "*The argument that modern life consists of a menu of horrors by which we are corrupted . . . is a founding idea of the critique of modernity*" (Susan Sontag). 2. To destroy or subvert the honesty or integrity of, as by offering bribes: "*Our politics has been corrupted by money and suffused with meanness*" (Peter Edelman). 3a. To cause to become rotten; spoil: "*There was a strange smell in the room, high and slightly sweet, like perfume corrupted in the bottle*" (Bella Bathurst). b. Archaic To render impure; contaminate. 4a. To alter from original or proper form: "*Strangers named them the Chippewa, which was corrupted to Ojibway*" (Paul Theroux). b. **Computers** To damage (data) in a file or on a disk. —*intr.* To become corrupt. [Middle English < Latin *corruptus*, past participle of *corrumpere*, to destroy: *com-*, intensive pref.; see *COM-* + *rumpere*, to break; see **REUP-** in App. I.] —**cor-rupt'er**, **cor-rupt'or** *n.* —**cor-rupt'ive** *adj.* —**cor-rupt'ly** *adv.* —**cor-rupt'ness** *n.*

♦ **SYNONYMS** *corrupt, debase, debauch, deprave, pervert, vitiate* These verbs mean to ruin utterly in character or quality: *was corrupted by power*; *debased himself by taking the bribe*; *a youth debauched by drugs*; *led a life depraved by sensual indulgence*; *perverted her talent by her pursuit of commercial success*; *a laudable goal vitiated by dishonest means*.

cor-rupt-i-ble (kô-rûp'tə-bəl) *adj.* Capable of being corrupted: *corruptible judges*. —**cor-rupt'i-bil'i-ty** *n.* —**cor-rupt'i-bly** *adv.*

cor-rup-tion (kô-rûp'shən) *n.* 1a. The act or process of corrupting. b. The state of being corrupt. 2. Decay; rot.

cor-rup-tion-ist (kô-rûp'shə-nist) *n.* One who defends or practices corruption, particularly in politics.

cor-sage (kôr-sāzh', sāj') *n.* 1. A small bouquet of flowers worn at the shoulder or waist or on the wrist. 2. The bodice or waist of a dress. [Middle English, torso < Old French < *cors*, body < Latin *corpus*; see **KWREP-** in App. I.]

cor-sair (kôr'sār') *n.* 1. A pirate, especially along the Barbary Coast. 2. A swift pirate ship, often operating with official sanction. [French *corsaire* < Old Provençal *corsari* < Old Italian *corsaro* < Medieval Latin *cursarius* < *cursus*, plunder < Latin, run, course; see **COURSE**.]

corse (kôrs) *n.* Archaic A corpse. [Middle English *cors* < Old French < Latin *corpus*; see **KWREP-** in App. I.]

cor-se-let (kôr'slēt) *n.* 1. also **cor-se-lette** (kôr'sə-lēt') An undergarment that is a combination of a light corset and a brassiere. [French, diminutive of Old French *cors*, body; see **CORSET**.]

cor-set (kôr'sit) *n.* 1. A close-fitting undergarment, often reinforced by stays, worn to support and shape the waistline, hips, and breasts. 2. A medieval outer garment, especially a laced jacket or bodice. ♦ *tr.v. -set-ed, -set-ing, -sets* To enclose in or as if in a corset. [Middle English, bodice < Old French, diminutive of *cors*, body < Latin *corpus*; see **KWREP-** in App. I.]

cor-se-tiere (kôr'sī-tīr') *n.* One who makes, fits, or sells corsets, brassieres, girdles, and similar undergarments. [French *corsetière*, feminine of *corsetier*, corset-maker < *corset*, corset < Old French; see **CORSET**.]

Cor-si-ca (kôr'sī-kā) An island of France in the Mediterranean Sea north of Sardinia. Napoleon Bonaparte was born on the island, which was ceded to France by Genoa in 1768. —**Cor'si-can** *adj. & n.*

cor-slet (kôr'slīt) *n.* Variant of **corselet** (sense 1).

cor-tege also **cor-tège** (kôr-tēzh') *n.* 1. A train of attendants, as of a distinguished person; a retinue. 2a. A ceremonial procession. b. A funeral procession. [French *cortège* < Old Italian *corteggio* < *corteggiare*, to pay honor < *corte*, court < Latin *cohors*, *cohort-*, throng; see **GHER-** in App. I.]

Cor-tés (kôr-tēz', -tēs'), **Hernando** or **Hernán** 1485–1547. Spanish explorer and conquistador who conquered Aztec Mexico for Spain.

cor-tex (kôr'tēks') *n., pl. -tices (-tī-sēz') or **-tex-es** 1. **Anatomy a.** The outer layer of an internal organ or body structure, as of the kidney or adrenal gland. b. The outer layer of gray matter that covers the surface of the cerebral hemisphere. 2. **Botany** The region of tissue in a root or stem lying between the epidermis and the vascular tissue. 3. An external layer, such as bark or rind. [Latin, bark; see **SKER-** in App. I.]*

cor-ti-cal (kôr'tī-kəl) *adj.* 1. Of, relating to, derived from, or consisting of cortex. 2. Of, relating to, associated with, or depending on the cerebral cortex. —**cor'ti-cal-ly** *adv.*

cor-ti-cate (kôr'tī-kīt, -kāt') also **cor-ti-cat-ed** (-kāt'id) *adj.* Having a cortex or a similar specialized outer layer.

cortico- or **cortic-** *pref.* **Cortex: corticotropin**. [*< Latin cortex, cortic-*



Hernando Cortés