

D

Houghl
plete re
Dictior
apart fr
meet th
unders
and syr
illustrat

UNDE
Beacus
in a wor
Heritag
approai
first. Th
definitic
dictiona

USAG
The Se
that off
languag
opinion
The An

SYNO
Extensi
subtle c
ing. The
help the
color, a

SPEC
The late
The An
attracti
able. Ill-
leled us
mean. /
written
geograj
line dra
mation.
meanin
offer thi
you car

The American

Second College Edition

**an Heritage
Dictionary**

Houghton Mifflin Company BOSTON

A H D

Houghton Mifflin Company
complete reference
Dictionary
apart from
meet the needs of
understand
and synthesize
illustrations

UN

Because of the
in a wide
Heritage
approach
first.
definition
dictionary

US

The
that
language
opinion
The

SY

Extensive
suitable
helpful
color

SI

That
that
at
le
r
w
g
li
n

offer the most up-to-date and useful dictionary
you can own.

Words that are believed to be registered trademarks have been checked with authoritative sources. No investigation has been made of common-law trademark rights in any word, because such investigation is impracticable. Words that are known to have current registrations are shown with an initial capital and are also identified as trademarks. 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.

Copyright © 1982, 1985 by Houghton Mifflin 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, except as may be expressly permitted by the 1976 Copyright Act or in writing by the Publisher.

All correspondence and inquiries should be directed to
Reference Division, Houghton Mifflin Company
One Beacon Street, Boston, MA 02108

Library of Congress Cataloging in Publication Data

Main entry under title:
American Heritage dictionary.

Rev. ed. of: American Heritage dictionary of the
English language. New college ed. c1976.

1. English language—Dictionaries. I. Morris,
William, 1913—

PE1625.A54 1982 423 82-9346

ISBN 0-395-32943-4

ISBN 0-395-32944-2 (thumb index)

ISBN 0-395-33959-6 (deluxe edition)

Manufactured in the United States of America

able *adj.* —transcriber *n.*
 1. Something transcribed, esp. a typed copy, as of a legal record or 2. *Genetics.* The RNA sequence [ME < OFr. *transcrit* < Lat. *transcribere*, to transcribe.]
shon *n.* 1. The act or process of that has been transcribed, esp. special composition. b. A recorded im. 3. *Genetics.* The process by molecule is synthesized from a hat results in the transfer of ge DNA to the messenger RNA. *transcriptionally adv.*
is'kūl-cha-rā'shōn *n.* Cultural 'duction of elements of a foreign
nt, -kūr' *adj.* Extending, pass-ly.
tr, -dyōō', trānz- *n.* Any of var-s, as a piezoelectric crystal or a nvert input energy of one form ther. [Lat. *transducere*, to trans-ucere, to lead.] —transduce' *v.*
'shan, trānz- *n.* The transfer of bacterial cell to another by a bacio, transfer < *transducere*, to ER.]
 -sect-ed, -sect-ing, -sects. To dily. —trans'ection *n.*
chit. Either of the two lateral arms TRANS- + Lat. *septum*, partition.
adj. Philos. Productive of effect. *transiens, transeunt*, pr.part. of TRANSIENT.]
shan *n.* The infection of a cell with subsequent replication of the + (IN)FECTION.] —trans'ect' *v.*
'far *v.* -ferred, -fer-ring, -fers. —m one person or place to another session or legal title of to another (for example) from one surface to ove oneself from one location, job. To change from one motor car to r). 1. Also *trans'fer'al* (trānz-fēr'al) *n.* Also *trans'fer'al* (trānz-fēr'al) *n.* One that has r a student enrolled in a new school to be conveyed from one surface to a passenger to change from other. b. A place where such changes. 4. Also *trans'fer'al*. *Law.* a. The property from one person to another in such conveyance. [ME *transfere* < Lat. *transfere* : *trans*, across + *fer'* a-bl'i'ty *n.* —trans'fer'a'ble *adj.*
'er'al (trānz-fūr'al) *n.* 1. A transference.
'ās, -rāz' *n.* Any of various enzymes of atoms or groups of atoms (see *tr*).
'n *n.* 1. *Law.* One to whom a transfer is made. 2. One who is transferred. *trānz-far-ōns* *n.* 1. a. An act of being transferred. b. The condition of being transferred. The process in and by which an individual shifts, and wishes shift from one person to another in psychoanalysis with the aim of the shift. —trans'fer-en'tial (trānz-fēr-ēn'ti-āl) *adj.*
ōr' *n.* *Law.* A person who makes a transfer of property.
in *n.* A blood globulin that can transport iron ions in the blood and nucleic acid that acts as a carrier

to piece.] —trans'fix'ion (-fik'shōn) *n.*
trans-form (trānz-fōrm') *v.* -formed, -form-ing, -forms. —tr. 1. To change markedly the form or appearance of. 2. To change the nature, function, or condition of; convert. 3. To subject to a mathematical transformation. 4. To subject to a linguistic transformation. 5. *Elect.* To subject to the action of a transformer. —*intr.* To undergo a transformation. —*n.* (trānz-fōrm'). The result, esp. a mathematical quantity, of a transformation. [ME *transformen* < Lat. *transformare* : *trans*, across + *forma*, shape.] —trans-form'a'ble *adj.*
trans-form-a-tion (trānz-fōrm-mā'shōn, -fōr-) *n.* 1. a. An act or an instance of transforming. b. The state of being transformed. c. Something that has been transformed. 2. *Math.* a. The replacement of the variables in an algebraic expression by their values in terms of another set of variables. b. A mapping of one space onto another or onto itself. 3. *Ling.* a. The process of converting a syntactic construction into a semantically equivalent construction according to the rules shown to generate the syntax of the language. b. A construction derived by such transformation; transform. —trans-form'a-tive (-fōr-mā-tiv) *adj.*
trans-form-a-tional grammar (trānz-fōr-mā'shō-nāl, -fōr-) *n.* A grammar that accounts for the constructions of a language by linguistic transformations and phrase structures, esp. generative transformational grammar.
trans-form-er (trānz-fōr'mār) *n.* 1. One that transforms. 2. A device used to transfer electric energy, usually that of an alternating current, from one circuit to another, esp. a pair of multiply wound, inductively coupled wire coils that effect such a transfer with a change in voltage, current, phase, or other electric characteristic.
trans-fuse (trānz-fyōōz') *tr. v.* -fused, -fus-ing, -fus-es. 1. To transfer (liquid) by pouring from one vessel into another. 2. To permeate; instill. 3. *Med.* To administer a transfusion of or to. [ME *transfusen*, to transmit < Lat. *transfundere*, to pour out : *trans*, across + *funder*, to pour.] —trans-fus'er *n.* —trans-fus'i'ble *adj.* —trans-fus'ive (-fyōō'siv, -ziv) *adj.*
trans-fu-sion (trānz-fyōō'shōn) *n.* 1. The act or process of transfusing. 2. *Med.* The direct injection of whole blood, plasma, or another solution into the blood stream. —trans-fu'sion-al *adj.*
trans-gress (trānz-grēs', trānz-) *v.* -gressed, -gress-ing, -gress-es. —tr. 1. To go beyond or over (a limit or boundary). 2. To act in violation of (the law, for example). —*intr.* To trespass; sin. [Lat. *transgredi*, *transgress*; to step across : *trans*, across + *gradi*, to step.] —trans-gress'i'ble *adj.* —trans-gress'ive *adj.* —trans-gress'ive-ly *adv.* —trans-gress'er *n.*
trans-gres-sion (trānz-grēs'hōn, trānz-) *n.* 1. The violation of a law, command, or duty. 2. The exceeding of due bounds or limits.
trans-ship (trānz-shīp', trānz-) *v.* Variant of *transship*.
trans-hu-mance (trānz-hyōō'māns, trānz-) *n.* The movement of livestock and herders to different grazing grounds with the changing of the seasons. [Fr. < *transhumus*, to move livestock seasonally < Sp. *transhumar* : Lat. *trans*, across + Lat. *humus*, ground.] —trans-hu'mant *adj.* & *n.*
trans-i-ence (trānz'shōns, -zhāns, -zē-ōns) also *trans-i-en-cy* (-shōn-sē, -zhōn-sē, -zē-ōn-sē) *n.* The state or quality of being transient.
trans-i-ent (trānz'shōnt, -zhōnt, -zē-ōnt) *adj.* 1. Passing away with time; transitory. 2. Passing through from one place to another: *transient laborers*. 3. *Physics.* Decaying with time, esp. as a simple exponential function of time. —*n.* 1. One that is transient, esp. a person staying a single night at a hotel. 2. *Physics.* A transient phenomenon or property, esp. a transient electric current. [Lat. *transiens*, *transeunt*, pr.part. of *transire*, to go over : *trans*, over + *ire*, to go.] —trans-i-ent-ly *adv.*
Synonyms: transient, transitory, ephemeral, fleeting, fugitive, momentary, evanescent, temporary, provisional. These adjectives mean being present or having existence for a short or limited time. In modern usage *transient* usually refers to what literally remains only a short time, such as a guest at a hotel. It can also mean inherently short-lived or impermanent, but the latter sense is more often expressed by *transitory*. *Ephemeral, fleeting, fugitive, momentary,* and

tion, typically containing two rectifying junctions and characteristically operating so that the current between the other pair of terminals controls the current between the other pair, one terminal being common to input and output. 2. A radio equipped with transistors. [TRANS(FER) + (RES)ISTOR.]
trans-istor-ize (trānz-'zīz'tō-rīz', -sīz') *tr. v.* -ized, -iz-ing, -iz-es. To equip (an electronic circuit or device) with transistors.
transistor radio n. A transistor (sense 2).
trans-it (trānz'it, -zīt) *n.* 1. a. The act of passing over, across, or through; passage. b. The conveyance of persons or goods from one place to another, esp. on a local public transportation system. 2. A transition or change, esp. from one life to another at death. 3. *Astron.* a. The passage of a celestial body across the observer's meridian. b. The passage of a smaller celestial body across the disk of a larger celestial body. 4. A surveying instrument similar to a theodolite that measures horizontal and vertical angles. —*v.* -sited, -sit-ing, -sits. —tr. 1. To pass over, across, or through. 2. To revolve (the telescope of a surveying transit) about its horizontal transverse axis in order to reverse its direction. —*intr.* *Astron.* To make a transit. [Lat. *transitus* < p.part. of *transire*, to go across. —see TRANSIENT.]
trans-i-tion (trānz-'zīsh'ōn, -sīsh') *n.* 1. The process or an instance of changing from one form, state, activity, or place to another. 2. Passage from one subject to another, as in discourse. 3. *Mus.* a. A modulation, esp. a brief one. b. A passage connecting two themes. —trans-i-tion'al, trans-i-tion-ar'y (-ō-nēr'ē) *adj.* —trans-i-tion-al-ly *adv.*
transition element n. 1. Any of the elements that serve as transitional links between the most and the least electropositive in a series of elements, and that are characterized by high melting points, densities, magnetic moments, multiple valences, and the ability to form stable complex ions. 2. Any of the elements in which an inner electron shell rather than an outer shell is only partially filled, generally taken to include elements 21–29, 38–46, and 71–78.
transition metal n. A transition element.
trans-i-tive (trānz-'sīv, -zī) *adj.* 1. *Gram.* Expressing an action that is carried from the subject to the object; requiring a direct object to complete meaning. Used of a verb or verb construction. 2. Characterized by or effecting transition. —*n.* *Gram.* A transitive verb. [LLat. *transitivus* < *transitio*, transition < *transire*, to go over. —see TRANSIENT.] —trans-i-tive-ly *adv.* —trans-i-tive-ness, trans-i-tiv'i-ty (-tīv'itē) *n.*
trans-i-to-ry (trānz-'tōrē, -tōr'ē, trānz-'zī) *adj.* Existing only briefly; short-lived. [ME *transitorie* < AN < LLat. *transitorius* < Lat., having a passageway < *transitus*, transit. —see TRANSIT.] —trans-i-to-ri-ly *adv.* —trans-i-to-ri-ness *n.*
trans-late (trānz-lā', trānz-, trānz'lāt', trānz'-) *v.* -lat-ed, -lat-ing, -lates. —tr. 1. To express in another language, systematically retaining the original sense. 2. To put in simpler terms; explain. 3. To convey from one form or style to another; convert: *translate ideas into reality*. 4. To transfer (a bishop) to another see. 5. To forward or retransmit (a telegraphic message). 6. *Theol.* To convey to heaven without natural death. 7. *Physics.* To subject (a body) to translation. 8. *Archaic.* To transport; enrapture. 9. *Genetics.* To subject (a genetic code) to translation during protein synthesis. —*intr.* 1. a. To make a translation. b. To work as a translator. 2. To admit of translation. 3. *Aerospace.* To move from one place to another in space by means of reaction power. [ME *translaten* < Lat. *transfere*, *translat-* : *trans*, across + *ferre*, to carry.] —trans-lat'a-bl'i'ty, trans-lat'a'ble-ness *n.* —trans-lat'a'ble *adj.*
trans-la-tion (trānz-lā'shōn, trānz-) *n.* 1. a. The act or process of translating, esp. from one language to another. b. The condition of being translated. 2. A translated version of a text. 3. *Physics.* Motion of a body in which every point of the body moves parallel to and the same distance as every other point of the body; nonrotational displacement. 4. *Genetics.* The process by which the genetic information in a messenger RNA molecule directs the linear sequence of amino acids in a protein molecule during protein synthesis at a ribosomal site. —trans-la'tion-al *adj.*
trans-la-tor (trānz-lā'tōr, trānz-, trānz'lā'tōr, trānz'-) *n.* 1. One who translates, esp. one professionally employed to



transit
Surveying instrument

hat / hw which / i pit / i ple / i ple / oi noise / ou out / oō took / oō

pop / r roar / s sauce / sh ship, dish / t tight / th thin, path / th this, bathe / ü cut / ür urge / v valve / w with / y yes / z zebra, size / vision / a about, item, edible, gallop, circus / æ Fr. feu, Ger. schön / ü Fr. tu, Ger. über / x̄ Ger. ich, Scot. loch / N Fr. bon.