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of Guangzhou. 2. The Chinese dialect of Guangzhou (formerly Canton), China. — **Can'ton·ese'** *adj.*
Can·ton flannel (kän'tön'flän) *n.* Flannelette. [After Canton (Guangzhou), China.]
can·ton·ment (kän-tön'mənt, -tön'-) *n.* 1. a. A group of temporary billets for troops. b. Assignment of troops to temporary quarters. 2. A permanent military installation in India. [CANTON, to quarter soldiers.]
Can·ton River (kän'tön'riv) *n.* See **Zhu Jiang**.
can·tor (kän'tör) *n.* 1. The religious official who leads the musical part of a Jewish service. 2. The person who leads the singing in a church; a precursor. [Lat., singer < *canere*, to sing. See **kan·***.] — **can·to·ri·al** (kän-tör'i·äl, -tör'-) *adj.*
can·trip (kän'trip) *n.* 1. *Scots.* A magic spell; a witch's trick. 2. *Chiefly British.* A deceptive move; a sham. [?]
can·tus fir·mus (kän'təs fir'məs, fir'-) *n.* *Mus.* A plainsong melody serving as the basis of a polyphonic composition. [Med. Lat.: Lat. *cantus*, song + Lat. *firmitas*, fixed.]
Ca·nuck (kä-nük) *n.* *Offensive Slang.* Used as a disparaging term for a Canadian, esp. a French Canadian. [Prob. alteration of **CANADIAN**.]
can·u·la (kän'yə-lə) *n.* Var. of **cannula**.
can·u·lar (kän'yə-lər) *adj.* Var. of **cannular**.
can·u·late (kän'yə-lät') *v.* & *adj.* Var. of **cannulate**.
Ca·nut also **Cnut** or **Knut** (kä-noot', -nyoot'). "the Great." 994?–1035. King of England (1016–35), Denmark (1018–35), and Norway (1028–35).
can·vas (kän'vəs) *n.* 1. A heavy, coarse fabric of cotton, hemp, or flax, used for tents and sails. 2. a. A piece of canvas on which a painting is created. b. A painting thus created. 3. A fabric of coarse open weave, used as a foundation for needlework. 4. The background of events. 5. *Naut.* A sail or set of sails. 6. a. A tent or group of tents. b. A circus tent. 7. *Sports.* The floor of a boxing or wrestling ring. — *idiom.* **under canvas.** 1. *Naut.* With sails spread. 2. In a tent or tents. [ME *canevas* < OFr. and < Med. Lat. *canavāsium*, both ult. < Lat. *cannabis*, hemp. See **CANNABIS**.]
can·vas·back (kän'vəs-bäk') *n.* A North American wild duck (*Aythya valisineria*) having a reddish-brown head and neck and a whitish back.
can·vas duck *n.* A fabric made of lightweight cotton or linen.
can·vass (kän'vəs) *v.* -vassed, -vass·ing, -vass·es. — *tr.* 1. To examine carefully or discuss thoroughly; scrutinize. 2. a. To go through (a region) or go to (persons) to solicit votes or orders. b. To survey (public opinion). — *intr.* 1. To make or conduct a thorough canvass. 2. To solicit voters, orders, or opinions. — *n.* 1. An examination or discussion. 2. A solicitation of votes or orders. 3. A survey of public opinion. [< obsolete canvass, to toss in a canvas sheet as punishment < CANVAS.] — **can·vass·er** *n.*
can·yon also **ca·ñon** (kän'yan) *n.* A narrow chasm with steep cliff walls, cut into the earth by running water; a gorge. [Sp. *cañon*, aug. of *caña*, tube, cane < Lat. *canna*, reed. See **CANE**.]
can·zo·ne (kän-zō'nē, känd-sō'nē) *n., pl. -nes* (-nēz, -nāz) or *-ni* (-nē). 1. A medieval Italian or Provençal lyric of varying stanzaic form. 2. *Mus.* A polyphonic song evolving from this form of poetry. [Ital. < Lat. *cantiō*, *cantiōn-*, song < *cantus*, part. of *canere*, to sing. See **kan·***.]
can·zo·net (kän'zə-nēt') *n.* *Mus.* A short lighthearted song. [< Ital. *canzonetta*, dim. of *canzone*. See **CANZONE**.]
caou·tchouc (kou'chōök', -chōök') *n.* See **rubber** 1. [Fr., prob. < Sp. *caucho* < Tupi *cau-ucha*.]
cap (kăp) *n.* 1. A usu. soft and close-fitting head covering. 2. a. A head covering worn to indicate rank, occupation, or membership in a group. b. An academic mortarboard. 3. a. A protective cover or seal, esp. one that closes off an end or a tip. b. A crown for covering or sealing a tooth. c. A tread for a worn pneumatic tire. d. A fitted covering used to seal a well or large pipe. 4. A summit or top, as of a mountain. 5. An upper limit; a ceiling. 6. *Archit.* The capital of a column. 7. *Bot.* a. The pileus of a mushroom. b. A calyptra. 8. a. A percussion cap. b. A small explosive charge enclosed in paper for use in a toy gun. 9. Any of several sizes of writing paper, such as foolscap. — *tr.v.* **cap·ped**, **cap·ping**, **caps.** 1. To cover, protect, or seal with a cap. 2. To award a special cap to as a sign of rank or achievement. 3. To lie over or on top of; cover. 4. To apply the finishing touch to; complete. 5. To follow with something better; surpass or outdo. 6. To set an upper limit on. — *idioms.* **cap in hand.** Respectfully or humbly; unpretentiously. **set (one's) cap for.** To attempt to attract and win as a mate. [ME *cappe* < OE *cappe* < LLat. *cappa*.]
cap² (kăp) *Informal.* — *n.* A capital letter. — *tr.v.* **cap·ped**, **cap·ping**, **caps.** To capitalize. [Shortened form of **CAPITAL**.]
CAP *abbr.* Civil Air Patrol.
cap. *abbr.* 1. Capacity. 2. Capital.
ca·pa·bil·i·ty (kā'pə-bil'i-tē) *n., pl. -ties.* 1. The quality of being capable; ability. 2. A talent or ability that has potential for development or use. Often used in the plural. 3. The capacity to be used, treated, or developed for a specific purpose.
ca·pa·ble (kā'pə-bəl) *adj.* 1. Having capacity or ability; efficient and able. 2. Having the ability required for a specific task or accomplishment; qualified. 3. Having the inclination

or disposition. 4. Susceptible; permitting: *capable of remedy*. [LLat. *capabilis* < *capere*, to take. See **kap·***.] — **ca'pa·ble·ness** *n.* — **ca'pa·bly** *adv.*
ca·pa·cious (kā'pə'shəs) *adj.* Capable of containing a large quantity; spacious or roomy. [< Lat. *capāx*, *capāc-* < *capere*, to take. See **kap·***.] — **ca·pa'cious·ly** *adv.* — **ca·pa'cious·ness** *n.*
ca·pac·i·tance (kā'päs'i-təns) *n.* 1. *Symbol C* The ratio of electric charge to potential on an isolated conductor. 2. *Symbol C* The ratio of the electric charge on one of a pair of conductors to the potential difference between them. 3. a. The property of a circuit element that permits it to store charge. b. The part of the circuit exhibiting capacitance. [CAPACIT(Y) + ANCE.] — **ca·pac'i·tive** (-tīv) *adj.* — **ca·pac'i·tive·ly** *adv.*
ca·pac·i·tate (kā'päs'i-tāt') *tr.v.* -tat·ed, -tat·ing, -tates. 1. To render fit or make qualified; enable. 2. *Biol.* To cause (spermatozoa) to undergo the physical changes needed to fertilize an egg. [CAPACIT(Y) + -ATE¹.] — **ca·pac'i·ta'tion** *n.*
ca·pac·i·tor (kā'päs'i-tör) *n.* An electric circuit element used to store charge temporarily, consisting in general of two metallic plates separated and insulated from each other by a dielectric.
ca·pac·i·ty (kā'päs'i-tē) *n., pl. -ties.* 1. a. The ability to receive, hold, or absorb. b. A measure of this ability; volume. 2. The maximum amount that can be contained. 3. a. Ability to perform or produce; capability. b. The maximum or optimum amount that can be produced. 4. The power to learn or retain knowledge; mental ability. 5. Innate potential for development or accomplishment; faculty. 6. The quality of being suitable for specified treatment. 7. The position in which one functions; role. 8. Legal qualification or authority. 9. *Elect.* Capacitance. — *adj.* Filling a space to capacity. [ME *capacite* < OFr. < Lat. *capācitas* < *capāx*, *capāc-*, spacious. See **CAPACIOUS**.]
ca·par·i·son (kā'pär'i-sən) *n.* 1. An ornamental covering for a horse or for its saddle or harness; trappings. 2. Richly ornamented clothing; finery. — *tr.v.* -soned, -son·ing, -sons. 1. To outfit (a horse) with an ornamental covering. 2. To dress (another) in rich clothing. [Obsolete Fr. *caparasson* < OSp. *caparazón* < Med. Lat. *cappa*, cloak. See **CAPE** 1.]
Cap de la Ma·de·leine or **Cap-de-la-Ma·de·leine** (kăp' də lä mä-dlä-nä', -län'). A city of S Quebec, Canada, on the St. Lawrence R. NE of Montreal. Pop. 32,626.
cape¹ (kăp) *n.* A sleeveless outer garment fastened at the throat and worn over the shoulders. [ME *cape*, partly var. of *cope*, *cope*; see **COPE** 2, and partly < AN *cape* (< Med. Lat. *cāpa*, var. of LLat. *cappa*).]
cape² (kăp) *n.* A point or head of land projecting into a body of water. [ME *cap* < OFr. < OProv. < Lat. *caput*, head. See **kaput·***.]
Cape (kăp) or **Cape of.** For names of actual capes, see the specific element of the names, for example, **Hatteras, Cape**; **Good Hope, Cape of**.
Cape Bret·on Island (brēt'n, brīt'n). An island forming the NE part of Nova Scotia, Canada.
Cape buffalo *n.* A large, often fierce buffalo (*Syncerus caffer*) of Africa having massive downward-curving horns.
Cape Cod Canal (kōd). A waterway, c. 28 km (17.5 mi), of SE MA connecting Buzzards Bay with Cape Cod Bay, the S part of Massachusetts Bay.
Cape Cod cottage *n.* A compact house of one or one-and-a-half stories with a gabled roof and a central chimney.
Cape Cor·al (kôr'al, kōr'-). A city of SW FL on the estuary of the Caloosahatchee R. SW of Fort Myers. Pop. 74,991.
Cape Fear River. A river rising in central NC and flowing c. 325 km (202 mi) SE to the Atlantic N of Cape Fear.
Cape Gi·rar·deau (jä-rär'dō, -rä'-). A city of SE MO on the Mississippi SSE of St. Louis; founded 1793. Pop. 34,438.
Cape gooseberry *n.* A tropical South American plant (*Physalis peruviana*) having an edible yellow berry.
Çape jasmine *n.* See **gardenia**.
Ca·pek (chä'pěk'), **Karel.** 1890–1938. Czechoslovakian writer whose works include the play *R.U.R.* (1921).
cap·e·lin (kăp'ə-lin, kăp'līn) also **cap·lin** (kăp'līn) *n.* A small edible marine fish (*Mallotus villosus*) of northern Atlantic and Pacific waters. [Canadian Fr. *capelan* < Fr., codfish < OProv. < Med. Lat. *cappelānus*. See **CHAPLAIN**.]
Ca·pel·la (kā'pəl'ə) *n.* A double star in Auriga, the brightest star in the constellation. [Lat., dim. of *caper*, goat.]
Cape primrose *n.* Any of various chiefly African plants of the genus *Streptocarpus*, having clusters of showy flowers.
Cape Province. Officially Cape of Good Hope Province; formerly (before 1910) Cape Colony. A province and historical region of S South Africa on the Atlantic and Indian oceans.
ca·per¹ (kā'pər) *n.* 1. A playful leap or hop. 2. A frivolous escapade or prank. 3. *Slang.* An illegal plot or enterprise, esp. one involving theft. — *intr.v.* -pered, -per·ing, -pers. To leap or frisk about; frolic. [Alteration of **CAPRIOLE**.]
ca·per² (kā'pər) *n.* 1. A usu. spiny Mediterranean shrub (*Caparis spinosa*) having dehiscent fruits with reddish pulp. 2. A pickled flower bud of this plant, used as a pungent condiment. [ME *caperis*, *capar* < Lat. *capparis* < Gk. *kapparis*.]



canvasback
Male canvasback
Aythya valisineria

ă pat	oi boy
ā pay	ou out
âr care	ōō tōök
ă father	ōō bōöt
ě pet	ũ cut
ē be	ûr urge
ĩ pit	th thin
ĩ pie	th this
îr pier	hw which
ō pot	zh vision
ō toe	ə about,
ô paw	item

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