

Chapter Three

50 Shades of Green: Conceptpoor to Experience-Rich

We are conceptpoor due partly to the following fact: Experience is continuous, but language is discrete.

When we see the world from multiple points of view, we need a language that can adequately describe our experiences.

The Eskimos' approximately 50 words for snow are a much cited—but apt— example of a family of languages that provides an experience-rich way of looking at an important aspect of life. The possibilities for what we call “snow” include “aqilokoq” for softly falling snow, “piegnartoq” for snow good for driving sled, “matsaaruti” for wet snow used to ice a sleigh’s runners, and “pukak,” for the powder snow that looks like salt. And there are also some 70 terms for ice, including “utuqaq,” which lasts from year to year; “siguliaksraq,” crystals that form as the sea begins to freeze; and “auniq,” which is filled with holes.

Clearly, English is a bit "concept poor" (or "conceptpoor") in terms of snow. And I believe languages in general often lack adequate concepts—or fail to use available concepts—to describe a range of colors, feelings, sensations, or other aspects of experience. And this lack or richness can impact how we experience and remember things. In those areas in which we are conceptpoor, we may also be "experience-poor," failing to notice the details of experience.

Over the past 30 years I have arrived at the conclusion that our language is not really adequate to describe our experience. I believe that just as there are many more different shades of color in our experience than we have names for, there are so many other aspects of experience with “shades” that are not adequately reflected in our language.

This is because the representations our minds form are extremely complex and varied, and words are discrete and limited. Our minds construct representations of events and objects in the world and in our bodies based on input received through the senses. For example, when the clapper strikes the side of the bell, the mind constructs the sound of a ringing bell, encoding this disturbance in sound waves that strike our ears. Our ears convert these sound waves into neural patterns that encode the original physical event in different form. Then the mind constructs the sound we hear from this neural pattern, locating it at the point of the original disturbance. Vision works in a similar way.

50 Shades of Green

Think of all the different shades of color that have the same name: "green". We do distinguish shades of green by referring to them as "light green," "dark green," "forest green," "lime," "teal," "avocado" and so forth. But there is no generally accepted set of words to describe the many shades of green, and we are conceptpoor in our color language in that we often use only one widely accepted word, "green," to describe a wide range of color experiences.

I thought of the idea of being more discriminating about shades of color one day while driving to philosophy class in the springtime. Alongside the road were many trees,



Points of view: 1 Shades of green behind a lighthouse in Lake Superior, Michigan



Points of view 2 Shades of green next to Haggetts Pond in Andover, Massachusetts

each with different shades of green. In looking at these many shades of green, I realized that I simply thought of them all as “green,” and that if I remembered this experience, I would remember seeing many green trees. Yet many of these trees were different shades of green. At this point, I realized that if I had a way to pick out all these different shades of green, I would better be able to remember my experience. Yet at the time, I could only think of one or two different terms used to describe shades of green. I decided that a more systematic approach is required if we are to be able to distinguish and remember the many different shades in our color experience.

One result of not having a systematic method for distinguishing shades of color is that we tend not to notice differences in shades of colors. Because we call these colors all green, we see them as the same color, not noticing the tremendous variety in shades. The same argument applies to other colors such as red and blue.

Our language does contain color words to pick out color shades; for example, 'sky blue', 'pea green', 'maroon', 'ivory', 'lemon yellow', 'crimson', 'copper', 'livid pink', 'scarlet', 'rose', and 'apple green'. But these shade words do not form a complete or systematic set.

Nevertheless, becoming aware of existing shade words is a good way to improve color awareness.



Points of view 3 Shades of red and shades of blue

Emotion and Feeling

The idea that we are conceptpoor with respect to some color experiences can be generalized to other areas of experience as well. We have one word, 'love', to describe a whole range of emotional experiences. Yet there are many types of love and the experience varies greatly from one type to another. There's a big difference, for example, between love for one's parents and romantic love. Likewise, there are many types of fear and anger. Our emotions represent another area in which we may be conceptpoor, and our language blurs important distinctions in experience.

Not only are there many types of love, the feeling of love varies greatly in intensity from one person to another. With some love, there may be very little feeling at all. With other love, the feeling may be almost indescribably intense. And of course, there are many examples of love that fall somewhere in between these two extremes. Besides different kinds of love, it would be helpful if our language were more flexible in describing where on a continuum a certain experience falls. Of course, we can say “I love him very much” or “I hardly love her at all.” But apart from these types of statements, it is not easy to specify where on a continuum a certain experience of love lies.

In the area of feeling, we use the word 'friend' to describe many different people we have different feelings for. There are work friends, play friends, girlfriends, boyfriends, hobby friends, animal friends, best friends, worst friends, casual friends, distant friends, college friends, computer friends, racquetball friends, dinner friends, phone friends, political friends, etc. Yet we may describe them all as "friends," sometimes without noticing differences in friend types, and without noticing the shades of differences in our feelings for different friends.

Taste

Taste is another area in which we may be conceptpoor. We have a few basic words such as 'salty', 'sweet', 'cold', and 'hot'. Yet there are many differences in how foods taste. Because we have the idea of sweetness in our minds, we may just think of something as tasting "sweet" without noticing differences in sweet tastes. Experience here forms a continuum, just as in the case of color. Taste, then, is another area in which we may be conceptpoor.

Taste is an interesting example, because so much of our taste language is dominated by talk of what things taste like. If we are trying a new fruit, we might say “It tastes a little like an apple, but more like a pear.” Or an unknown white fish may “taste a lot like whiting.” Foods taste so different that it is often difficult to describe them in any other way. For example, how can we describe the taste of oysters without mentioning oysters? Of course, there are fried oysters, baked oysters, and oysters on the half shell. Some

foods stand out because they are extreme in one way or another. For example, who can doubt that anchovies taste salty, that chocolate tastes sweet, or that lemons taste sour? Because we share many taste experiences in common, these well-known experiences can be used as a common frame of reference for describing food tastes.

There is a physiological reason why we use the terms ‘sweet,’ ‘salty,’ ‘cold,’ and ‘hot’ so frequently when describing the tastes of food. This is because we have taste buds that detect sweet and sour flavors, and our tongue is also very sensitive to hot and cold foods. These physiological facts may place a limit on how much our language of taste can be developed. But we can still become more concept-rich in taste by noticing differences in how the same kind of food tastes on different occasions, and also in developing our ability to describe where along the continuum of sweet, sour, hot, and cold different foods lie.

If We Are Conceptpoor, We May Be Experiencepoor

In those areas in which we are conceptpoor, we may also be "experience-poor." One way to be experience-poor is to fail to notice the details of experience. It is easy not to notice the details of experience for which there's no name or ready description. And the details of experience are harder to remember if we don't remember their name or description.

If you remember that someone was wearing a red shirt, for instance, this could be true of a wide variety of shades and you are less likely to remember the shade unless you think of its name. On the other hand, if you remember that someone was wearing a maroon shirt, this calls a specific shade to mind, and you can more easily remember the shade the person was wearing.

This philosophical insight has a practical application. Ask yourself:

- Do I fail to notice the details of some of my experiences because I lack adequate concepts to describe them?
- Are there any areas in which I am experience-poor because I am concept-poor?

Seek out New Experiences and Become Experience-Rich

One way to become experience-rich is to be aware of the details of your experiences. You can become experience-rich by becoming more discriminating in areas of experience in which our language doesn't provide tools to discriminate. Start being aware of the difference shades of green, red, blue, and other colors. Start noticing different variations in sweet and sour tastes, and in hot and cold foods. Reflect on the variety in your emotional experience, and on the differences in your feelings for different friends.

You can also enrich your life by seeking out new experiences. Your mind forms representations of bodily and physical events based on its input, so different input yields different representations. Try stimulating your

tastebuds with new inputs: try foods you've never tried before just to see what they taste like. Try to meet new people and do things you've never even thought of doing before!

Of course, the fact that an experience is a new experience may not be sufficient reason to justify having it if there are stronger reasons not to have the experience. Some new experiences are unpleasant or even painful. But seeking out new experiences makes you more discriminating within particular areas of experience, and within a broader range of experience.

By having new experiences you acquire new points of view of the world and thereby



increase your knowledge and understanding of yourself and of the world around you. For example, try taking a different route to work or school. Or, try a new restaurant, try food you've never had, or start a conversation with someone you say "Hello" to but never converse with.

By taking new points of view you become aware of details and aspects of the world you didn't notice before, or you see the same thing in a new way. Seeking out new experiences also gives you a wider range in types of experience, making you more experience-rich in this sense as well.

One basic principle of experience is: You can't know what an experience is like unless you've had the experience.

The reason for this is that there's no reliable method for inferring from our physiology or our brain state to the nature of our subjective experience. So you won't know what squid or mussels taste like until you try them, and you won't know what it's like to fall in love until you do.

If you follow these suggestions, you will have a richer and a more interesting and varied life. And you may wish to add this principle to your philosophy of life: Seek out new experiences for their own sake, unless there is a stronger reason not to have a particular new experience.



Create New Words to Describe Your Experiences

Once you become more aware of the details of your experiences, you may want a method for remembering these details and for describing them to others. In some cases you may not be able to find the words to express yourself. In these cases, you might try creating new words to describe your experiences. For example, you might describe something that's hot (spicy) and sweet as "hotsweet". An example of a hotsweet taste is the taste of hot mustard with honey.

We use words to express points of view. The points of view we can express are limited by the words available to us. And if there is no way to express a point of view, we tend not to notice that it's a possible point of view. Hence, our language limits our experience.

Our language grows out of our experience. A word becomes part of a language when it is used by enough people to become accepted as a word by speakers of the language. But we need not wait for words to evolve; we can also propose new words that represent new points of view. These words will become part of the language if the points of view they are used to express are sufficiently significant that enough speakers of the language choose to express themselves using these words.

Three Simple Tricks to Enhance Expression

If we are indeed conceptpoor and experience-poor, is there anything we can do to improve our language? We are conceptpoor due partly to the following fact: Experience is continuous; language is discrete.

The word 'green' refers not to a set of discrete shades of green but rather to a continuous range of colors that shade into one another. But when we say "That's a green car", we say that it falls somewhere on the spectrum of green; we don't say where it falls. So language is and concepts are discrete in the sense that something is either green or it's not. Our experience is continuous and our language often does not easily tell us where on the continuum an experience occurs.

In some cases, we do have the ability to be precise. For example, we can say "It's 101 degrees out." But in the area of color, we don't even have words to pick out many of the different shades. Color charts that printers use to select different shades of ink and that designate shades by number reflect this fact.

We can enhance the power of our language to describe our experiences and express our points of view with three simple tricks, or rules:

- Twice as Much Rule
- The Duonym Rule
- The Rule of Degree

The Twice as Much Rule and the Rule of Degree address the fact that our experience is continuous while our language is discrete. Both rules provide greater flexibility in expressing points of view that require saying where on a continuum a quality or property lies.

The Duonym Rule is a rule for generating new words by combining existing words into a new word. Many aspects of experience are more complex than any single word reflects and the Duonym Rule addresses this fact. The "Dictionary of Duonyms" that follows gives words with definitions created in accordance with the Duonym Rule.

1) Twice as Much Is Twice as Good

I propose the following rule which helps provide a way to express where a quality or property falls on a continuum: **To express the idea that something is "twice as much," or has a very high degree of some quality, repeat the word.**

For example, instead of saying

"It's a hot day"

:

"It's a hot hot day"

A hot hot day is one that's twice as hot as you expected, twice as hot as usual, or just extremely hot.

Here's another example:

That's a red red car.

A red red car is one that's twice as red as you expected, twice as red as the normal shade for red cars, or extremely red.

Here are some other examples:

She's a sweet sweet girl.

He's a fat fat cat.

This is white white paper.

This is the final final version.

It was a dark dark night.

Think of the extension of a term (the class of things that fall under it) as follows:

xx
least most

The Twice as Much Rule enables us to select another point on the spectrum - one that's higher in degree. So here are the relative values of hot, hot hot, and hot hot hot days:

xx
hot hot hot hot hot hot

The Twice as Much Rule is one that is already used on an ad hoc basis in ordinary language. People sometimes repeat a word for emphasis, or they underline it. Alternatively, they say "It's a very hot day". But "very hot" is less precise because it just points to the upper range of the spectrum. So 'very hot' and 'extremely hot' suffer from

the same defect as 'hot': they pick out a range, though it's a smaller range, on the spectrum of hot things. The Twice as Much Rule picks out a point that's twice what you'd expect, or substantially more than. Of course, it doesn't pick out an exact number, and the speaker or listener has to figure out where it falls on the range.

A discussion I remember on a sports radio talk show in Boston, Massachusetts concerned whether there should be several different categories for baseball players entering the Hall of Fame. The question discussed was whether there should simply be a single category for all players entering the Hall of Fame, as there is now, or whether there should be special categories for especially talented players. The discussion centered on whether, besides the existing group of stars and superstars, there is also a group of super-superstars, or even super-super-superstars. Presumably, the super-super-superstars would be in a class to themselves, and players like Babe Ruth, Joe DiMaggio, and Ted Williams would fit into this category. This is a good example of applying the twice as much rule to pick out different points on a spectrum when the single words 'star' or even 'superstar' are not adequate to do the job.

I propose that we make the Twice as Much Rule into a general rule of language that can be used in a range of contexts.

2) Duonyms: One Word Is Better Than Two

Many aspects of experience are too complex to express with a single word. Of course, many words do represent a complex of qualities. The words 'aristocrat', 'supercilious', and 'bungalow' are examples of such words. But often in our experience we encounter a complex of qualities that we would like to describe and for which no word already exists.

One solution to this problem is simply to describe the complex of qualities by listing them together. However, if this complex of qualities is one we often encounter, it is easier to refer to if a word exists to denote it. It is also easier to point out this complex of qualities to another person if you can do so using a word they understand.

Terms such as 'couchpotato' and 'yuppie' come into vogue precisely because they capture a complex of qualities (e.g., young urban professional) commonly encountered by a large number of people. Terms of this type are often coined by someone taking a particular point of view and expressing it. For example, a columnist for the Boston Globe coined the term 'yuppie', while a New York Times reporter coined the term 'brain trust' at a press conference held by Franklin Delano Roosevelt. George Orwell coined the word 'doublethink'.

Yet there are many common aspects of experience not easily describable in a single word. For example, what is a word for the margin of time you allow yourself when calculating when to leave for an appointment in case you encounter an unexpected delay (buffertime?)? What is a word for the experience of looking at a word and thinking it's not spelled correctly even though it is (wordperceptionitis?)? What's a word for someone who seems to spend all their time on the phone (phonehead?)?

The Duonym Rule proposes a way to form new words out of existing words by combining existing words into a single word made of the existing words. By using this rule, you can create new words that express your own point of view. If enough people share your point of view, your word may become an accepted part of the language.

The term 'duonym' or "dual word", refers to the idea of a single word made from two words. Like 'synonym', 'antonym', and 'homonym', it refers to a fundamental word category.

I propose the following Duonym Rule for generating new concepts: **To form a duonym, find two aspects of experience that go together. Find two words that individually describe these two different aspects of experience. Take these two words and join them together to form a single word. This resulting word, which consists of two existing words joined together into a single word, is a duonym.**

Obviously, not just any two words, when put together, can form a duonym. If two words describe aspects of experience that do not go together, the result of putting them together is not a duonym. For example, it is difficult to imagine how “candlepants” could be a duonym, since candles and pants don’t go together in any obvious way. This is why the rule specifies to find two aspects of experience that go together. The term “aspects of experience” is deliberately broad, since the relevant aspects might be qualities (like yellow), things (like books), or people (like lovers). Of course, part of the challenge of duonyms is finding new ways to combine aspects of experience together. Even so, some aspects of experience simply do not go together, and putting these words together does not create duonyms.

For a word to be a duonym, it must be composed of words that are words on their own. This rules out certain duonym-like combinations of words that may, in fact, combine two concepts together into a single concept. Nonetheless, if the components of a word themselves are not words, then the word is not a duonym. For example, ‘synfuel’ is not a duonym because ‘syn’ is not a word by itself, even though it is an abbreviation for the word ‘synthetic.’ Other examples of “compound words” that are not duonyms are ‘pavement,’ ‘hologram,’ and ‘semiconductor.’

Duonyms that refer to more than the sum of their parts stand a better chance of being accepted as duonyms than ones that simply consist in joining the two words together. For example, duonyms like ‘egghead’ and ‘bookworm’ are popular because they describe a familiar aspect of experience in a unique and interesting way. On the other hand, a prospective duonym like ‘yellowcup’ that simply combines the quality of yellowness

with the quality of being a cup stands less chance of being adopted into the language. If ‘yellow’ had a different meaning, for example if it meant “yellow” as in “afraid,” then a duonym using ‘yellow’ as a component would have a better chance of adoption.

Once you create a duonym, there is, of course, no guarantee that enough people will adopt your word to make it become a part of the language. In reality, it is very difficult to single-handedly add a word to an existing language. In many cases, adopting a new word takes many years, and is often the result of events beyond the control of the person who originates the word. The presence of television, newspapers, and magazines has a lot to do with the popularity of certain words that seem to spring up into use almost overnight. On the other hand, if you do create a new duonym and your friends like it well enough to use it, then you have the potential of a word that could eventually be adopted by speakers of your language.

The Duonym rule has already been used to create a number of words. For example, the words 'girlfriend' and 'boyfriend' are two very popular duonyms that have been created by putting together two words that described two aspects of experience that go together. And notice that the word 'girlfriend' is more than the sum of its parts: a girlfriend is not just a friend who's a girl; she's a friend who's a girl with whom one has a romantic relationship.

Once a word is created, it acquires its own special connotations and emotive meanings. For example, the word 'redhead' has a use partly because redheads have a reputation for having a certain personality type ("Redheads are hotheads"). Whether this stereotype is true or not, the fact remains that we as speakers of English have found it useful (so far) to have a special word for redheads, and not for blackheads, brownheads, and blondheads. Maybe we should also think of people as blackheads, brownheads, or blondheads. Since “blondes have more fun,” perhaps we could think of fun-loving people as “blondheads.”

Here are some duonyms that are already widely used in the English language:

- baseball
- catnap
- coffeecup
- dinnerplate
- fruitcake
- hotcake
- pancake
- teaspoon
- watercolor
- milkshake

The Dictionary of Duonyms, which is chapter three of this book, contains other words that were created using the Duonyms rule.

You can also generate new words by stringing together words that fall at different places on the same spectrum. In some cases, it is necessary to hyphenate these words so it is clear where the divisions in the words fall. Here are some examples:

- darling-dearest
- honey-pie-sweet-darling-face
- superspectacular
- sweet-angelcake
- mega-wickedawesome

Try making up your own new words!

It's a Matter of Degree (.07)

I have already discussed in previous sections the fact that in some cases it is difficult to express degrees of a continuous quality or property. We can say "It's very hot", "That car is very red", or "This tea is not very sweet". But words such as 'very' and 'little' just pick out a subset of the continuum, like this:

Sometimes we say "On a scale of 1 to 10, that's a 7". The Rule of Degree provides a ready way to provide a scale for any appropriate word. To be appropriate, a word must admit of degree. There is no reason why we cannot use two or even three digits in the rule of degree, so that something can be sweet (.99) or even sweet (.994).

When I originally wrote Duonyms, I proposed drawing a line over the word and marking an "x" at the point where you feel the quality exists on the continuum. This line is supposed to correspond to the continuum marked out by this word, from very little to very much. There are several problems with this proposal:

- While it can readily be done when writing by hand, it is very difficult and often impossible to duplicate on a word-processor.
- This proposal cannot readily be adapted to conversation (though see below).

Some of my students at the University of Massachusetts Lowell suggested the idea of using numbers in parentheses after a word to indicate degree. While I agree that this is a good solution, I don't know how readily people will adapt to phrases such as "I love you (.9)"

While I concede that the idea of introducing a numerical scale into our language when talking about qualities that have degrees may not appeal to some, I still maintain that there should be a better way to indicate degrees than we have yet discovered. And I believe that, in fact, this numerical addition to our language could add descriptive value in certain contexts.

Using the Rule of Degree in Conversation

The Rule of Degree can be used in conversation. Think of the distance between your thumb and forefinger (the finger next to your thumb) as equal to a scale from 1 to 10. You can show degrees of a word or quality in conversation by holding your thumb and forefinger an appropriate distance apart while saying the word. Here holding them as far

apart as possible indicates the maximum amount or degree, while holding them close together indicates a small amount or degree.

Another method of applying the Rule of Degree is to hold both hands in front of you. Here the distance between your hands is equal to the line you draw above a word. Holding your hands far apart indicates a high amount or degree, while holding them close together indicates a small amount or degree. When Johnny Carson used to respond with another joke to the question "How hot was it?" or "How (blank) was it?" he was trying to do verbally what this rule does visually.

Still another method to apply the Rule of Degree in conversation is to say the number after the word. So if you're maximally hungry, say "I'm hungry one." Or, if you're "about average" tired, say "I'm tired point five." If a movie was absolutely terrible, you can say "That movie was terrible one," or "That movie was terrible point 99," or "That movie was good zero." If your audience is unfamiliar with the Rule of Degree, you can say "On a goodness scale from zero to one, that movie was an absolute zero."



A Word about Hyphens

How do hyphens fit into the picture? Can a duonym contain a hyphen? How do we know when to hyphenate a word and when not to hyphenate it?

When I first wrote Duonyms, I had the benefit of an extended online discussion with some very interesting and talented members of the Delphi computer network, based in the Boston, Massachusetts area. For months we discussed the merits of duonyms, and in particular the role of hyphens in duonyms. At the time, I was pretty much opposed to the

use of hyphens when creating duonyms, while many of the members of Delphi were very adamant in defending the role of hyphens.

Over time, I have come to appreciate more the value of hyphens. I believe now we primarily use hyphens to indicate where a word should be broken up when not using a hyphen might create confusion. This often is a matter of how the end of one word and the beginning of another word happen to look together, and also how long the words are. For example, the word “experiencerich” and “bluejeansonlyperson” are sufficiently long that hyphens are helpful in showing what components these words are made up of. Thus, we can write “experience-rich” and “bluejeans-only-person.” A similar example is “continuous-experience,” which is more easily grasped with a hyphen. Sometimes it is not the length of the words, but the way they go together, that seems to require a hyphen. For example, “fire engine” would be a good candidate for a duonym, but putting the two words together yields fireengine,’ which might be confusing because of the double e’s. Another approach is to write ‘fire-engine.’ Similarly, “hot hot” could be written as a duonym, but this yields ‘hothot,” which looks like ‘ho-thot.’ As a result, if ‘hot hot’ is written together, the best solution is to write ‘hot-hot.’ Of course, these words can also be written as two separate words.

The best type of duonym is created from two short words that can be put together in a way that it is easy to tell at a glance what the components are. Words such as ‘egghead,’ ‘catnap,’ and ‘suntan’ fit this category. We might call these “paradigm examples” of duonyms, meaning that they most clearly exemplify the requirements for a word to be a duonym. Words that require hyphenation do not fit the criteria for a word’s being a duonym as well, but they can still be considered duonyms. The reason is that the hyphens are used is to make the word easier to understand when its components are written together. The two words are still being used together to form a single concept. So ‘experience-rich’ can still be considered a duonym even though it contains a hyphen. On the other hand, sometimes two words are normally written separately and they are hyphenated only because they occur before a noun. An example is “much-repeated” in the sentence “‘Go with the flow’ is a much-repeated slogan.” In this case, “much-

repeated” should not be considered a duonym, since this phrase is normally written as two words.

In some cases, a duonym starts out as two words, then becomes hyphenated, and eventually becomes a single word. For example, the words ‘free-lance’ and ‘on-line’ are often written as ‘freelance’ and ‘online.’ A term is a good candidate to become a duonym when it describes a unique aspect of experience that there is reason to refer to periodically or frequently. Obviously, the term ‘online’ is used more and more today as more people buy computers and sign up for the Internet. On the other hand, if the components of a word are sufficiently long, or the two words don’t go together well, then the word may remain as two words or it may always be written with hyphens.

Duonyms and the Internet

The advent of the Internet has suddenly made duonyms a lot more common. This is because Internet addresses cannot contain blank spaces. Many companies create their Internet address by creating a duonym out of their company name. For example, the company I work for is called Flow Research, and our Internet address is <http://www.flowresearch.com/>. Of course, a proper name that is in the form of a duonym may not actually be a duonym if it is not a descriptive word but a proper name. Nonetheless, the popularity of the Internet has made the idea of putting words together to form a single word more popular, especially as people search for domain names that have not yet been taken.

It is likely that the Internet will also become as effective a vehicle for popularizing new words as television has been over the past 30 years. One advantage of the Internet is that it is truly international in scope, while television is normally either national or local, depending on the show. Widespread use of the Internet will make it easier to spread ideas, and will also facilitate discussion of ideas. New ideas may get a more sympathetic hearing on the Internet than on television, since the number of television shows is much more limited than the number of Internet websites. The presence of the Internet is

beginning to create something of a “global village,” since it is now feasible to communicate with a large number of people in other countries at the click of a mouse.

The following section consists of a dictionary of English duonyms. Some of these words are proposed new words, while others are already an accepted part of our language. Students in my philosophy or logic classes submitted some words. Each word has a definition, along with an example of the use of the word. It is my hope that these words will facilitate self-expression, and will encourage you to take new points of view!

A Dictionary of English Duonyms

Duonym (doo-o-nim)

- n. 1. A single word formed by putting two existing words together
- 2. A continuous word

"It is a great honor to share a birthday with the originator of the duonyms 'doublethink' and 'doublespeak'."

The following is a dictionary of English duonyms. The word 'duonym,' which is modeled on the words 'synonym' and 'antonym,' refers to a single word formed by putting two existing words together to form a double word. This dictionary contains definitions and sample usage examples for each duonym. The word in parentheses after each duonym is intended as a guide to pronunciation.

Adshirt (ad-shirt)

n.: a tshirt with an ad or slogan on it

"I supplement my income by wearing adshirts in downtown Chicago."

Automile (au-to-mile)

n.: a short stretch of road that's filled with car dealers

"A one mile stretch of road in Norwood, Massachusetts is the original automile."

Bananayellow (ba-na-na-yel-low)

Adj.: a shade of yellow like the color of a half-ripened banana

"I'll take a Rolls if I can have it in bananayellow."

Bandprint (band-print)

- n. 1. The mark that a watch leaves on your arm when you take it off
- 2. A photograph of a musical group

"As she slowly undressed in the locker room, she felt the pressure of a dozen eyes on her as she took off her watch, revealing an embarrassing bandprint on her arm."

Beachperson (beach-per-son)

- n. 1. One who finds great enjoyment in being on a beach.
- 2. A funloving individual

"She has become a beachperson, and spends many hours dreaming about where to catch the next perfect wave."

Bedhead (bed-head)

- n. 1. A condition of irregularly shaped hair, resulting from reclining
- 2. A person who typically has a bedhead

"After a restless night of fitful sleep, to my surprise I awoke with a bedhead."



Beerchaser (beer-cha-ser)

n.: A salty snack that is consumed while drinking alcoholic beverages

“Once the beerchasers arrived, I had all I wanted; I could have sat there all night.”

Blackhead (black-head)

- n. 1. Anyone with black hair
- 2. Someone with a dark view of the future

"He is a typical blackhead and always looks at the darkest side of everything."

Blondhead (blond-head)

- n. 1. Anyone with light yellowish brown to dark grayish yellow hair
 - 2. Someone who thinks constantly about having fun
- "A blondhead, he spends most of his days on the beach observing the scenery and eating hot dogs."

Bluehead (blue-head)

- n. 1. A person who seems always to be depressed

2. An older woman who puts bluing in her hair

"Eventually I wearied of her, a bluehead, due to her unexplained tendency to be depressed at all times."

Bluejeans (blue-jeans)

n.: A type of usually blue close-fitting pants made of jean or denim (twillweave fabric) that are especially comfortable when worn



"She is sick of wearing uncomfortable clothes just because other people expect it. Knowing that her boss is out, she risks wearing bluejeans to work."

Bluejeans-only-person (blue-jeans-only-per-son)

n.: Someone who as a matter of policy wears bluejeans for pants on every possible occasion except when forced not to by others' expectations



"I am a bluejeans-only-person because dress clothes are uncomfortable and thus they reduce my productivity."

Bonehead (bone-head)

n.: Someone who is not very intelligent

adj. Intended for someone who lacks knowledge of the fundamentals of a subject

"He had never learned the basic rules of grammar, so when he got to college, he enrolled in bonehead English."

Bowlhead (bowl-head)

n.: 1. An ardent fan of football bowl games, especially the Superbowl

2. an early American style of haircut

"The bowlheads gather around the tube, anxiously awaiting the kickoff."

Braindead (brain-dead)

n.: A condition marked by the irreversible end of all brain functions

"As the doctor declared him braindead, his anxious relative breathed a sigh of relief."

Braindeadhead (brain-dead-head)

n. A person who shows no apparent sign of having a brain

"A braindeadhead, he can never remember his own phone number."

Braintrust (brain-trust)

n.: A group of smartheds who serve as advisors to a person or group

"The term 'braintrust' was originally coined by a New York Times reporter to refer to FDR's closest advisors."

Brewpub (broo-pub)



n. A restaurant or drinking establishment that serves beer brewed onsite

"Brewpubs, which are a combination of microbreweries and restaurants, derive their popularity from their ability to offer a wide variety of types of freshly brewed beer.

Brownhead (brown-head)

- n. 1. Anyone with hair ranging from light to dark brown
- 2. A mild-mannered person

"She resented being called a brownhead and longed for the day when she could dye her hair red."

Bubblehead (bub-ble-head)



n. Someone who doesn't think before they speak

"I thought but did not say that I was dealing with a bubblehead."

Bubblebreath (bub-ble-breath)

n. Someone with an overly enthusiastic personality

"Regardless of what she had to say, she always bubbled over with enthusiasm. Her friends knew her as 'Bubblebreath.'"

Buffertime (buf-fer-time)

n.: The extra time that a person allots when deciding how long it will take to reach a destination or perform a task to allow for unexpected difficulties or delays

"Once again he was late for class because he did not allow enough buffertime; this time, rain slowed his driving and he got stuck behind a funeral procession for a deadhead."

Butterball (but-ter-ball)

- n. 1. A very fat person
- 2. A type of turkey

"It was immediately apparent to us that a butterball had just entered the room. We all stared as she paused whimsically, then wandered aimlessly into the corner to see if any Danish pastries were left for her second breakfast."

Buttons witch (but-ton-switch)

v.: to change radio stations on a radio by pushing present station buttons

"What I really need is a remote radio tuner so I can buttons witch from my chair at home like I do in my car."

Carplane (car-plane)

n.: A device appearing in James Bond movies consisting of an automobile that has wings and can fly

"Just as it seems as James Bond was about to perish, his carplane took off into the air, enabling him once again to escape almost certain destruction."

Catperson (cat-per-son)

n.: Someone who loves cats and prefers cats to other animals

"He is a catperson who prefers independent females."

Celluloidperson (cel-u-loid-per-son)

n.: A person with no feelings

"He seems to be a celluloidperson - I see no sign of feelings in him."

Chartclimber (chart-climb-er)

- n. 1. A hot-hit that's quickly climbing the charts
2. Someone who devotes much time and energy trying to get a promotion

"He disguises his penchant for chartclimbing in the cloak of generosity by buying extravagant presents for his business associates."

Celticsgreen (cel-tics-green)

Adj.: the shade of green that Boston Celtics jerseys have

"This mug will pass for celticsgreen."

Chernobyrock (cher-no-byl-rock)

- n. 1. Rock 'n roll from Russia
- 2. Doomsday music

"This station has been playing nothing by chernobyrock all day; now I feel morose"

Chiphead (chip-head)

n.: Someone who constantly talks and thinks about computers

"Could you please take some time to be with your family and leave that computer alone? You're becoming a chiphead."

Closetfan (clos-et-fan)

n.: A secret admirer

"She has several closetfans who spend much of their time dreaming about her."

Cloudburst (cloud-burst)

n.: A sudden, intense rainfall

"During the height of the baseball game, an unexpected cloudburst caused the fans to stream for the rafters."

Coffeeshirt (cof-fee-shirt)

- n. 1. A tshirt with coffee stains, or other type of liquid stain
- 2. Any shirt stained with liquid

"After she won the racquetball tournament in her coffeeshirt, she became very devoted to it and wore it continuously."

Concept-poor (con-cept-poor)

Adj.: having a wealth of concepts for describing experience

"I became conceptrich by becoming more away of the details of my experiences."

Continuous-experience (con-tin-u-ous-ex-per-ience)

n.: A quality of experience that results from an awareness of the continuities in experience and a rejection of the discrete nature of reality that language suggests

"His philosophy of continuous-experience makes him aware of many shades of emotion that others simply ignore."

Continuous-hot-hits (con-tin-u-ous-hot-hits)

n.: An uninterrupted series of extremely popular songs

"The radio station format calls for continuous-hot-hits

Continuous-language (con-tin-u-ous-lan-guage)

n.: A language containing words that reflect the continuous nature of experience

"Imagine-how-different-your-life-would-be-if-out-language-could-adequately-reflect-the-continuity-in-experience. If-you-could-use-the-continuous-language-to-describe-your-feelings-you-would-be-able-to-say-exactly-how-happy-or-sad-you-are, how-good-apple-pie-with-ice-cream-and-coffee-really-taste, and-how-red-the-shirt-you're-wearing-is. You-would-be-much-more-capable-of-expressing-yourself-and-you-would-see-the-world-in-new-ways. Though-our-language-increases-our-freedom-we-are-also-its-slaves. We-see-the-world-through-the-eyes-and-from-the-points-of-view-of-our-language. By-creating-new-duonyms-you-increase-your-freedom-of-expression-and-others'-too!"

Continuousword (con-tin-u-ous-word)

n.: A word created by putting two or more words together into a single word to form a word that is more than the sum of its parts and that ascribes

"Continuouswords provide a way to express new points of view that no one has had the words to express before. They also call attention to features of experience that might otherwise go unnoticed. If you know what a feelingfaker is, you will be more likely to notice a feelingfaker the next time you meet one."

Continuouswords call attention to the complexity of our experience, and make us more aware of the details of experience. Continuouswords make people happy because people love to express themselves and continuouswords help people

express themselves by enabling them to take and express points of view they wouldn't otherwise have or express"

Copyperson (co-py-per-son)

- n. 1. Someone who forms opinions, values, and feelings based on those of other people.
- 2. Someone who works in a photocopy shop.

"I have never heard him express an original idea; instead, he has become a copyperson, and makes a point to repeat whatever idea seems most popular at the time."

Corner-cutter (cor-ner-cut-ter)

n.: A person who often tries to save time by taking shortcuts

"While working to beat the latest arbitrarily-determined deadline, he was grateful for his years of experience as a corner-cutter; more importantly, he is adept at hiding the corners he cuts"

Couchpotato (couch-po-ta-to)

n.: Someone who spends a lot of time being passively entertained in a reclining position on their sofa or chair

"I was dismayed to learn that they have become couchpotatoes and seldom venture forth from the safety of their own loveseat."



Covercat (cov-er-cat)

n.: A cat whose picture appears on the front of magazines or other publications

"A covercat, he achieved instant fame modeling for Catmopolitan."

Covergirl (cov-er-girl)

n.: A usually attractive female whose face appears in magazines, often on the front cover

"Now that she has modeled for Flow Research, Lisa is on her way to stardom and is sure to pick up a contract to be a covergirl for a nationally published magazine."

Cramsession (cram-ses-sion)

n.: A period of time right before exams when students try to learn a large amount of material all at once.

"Even though he had decided to avoid this, he ended up relying on cramsessions to get himself through the semester."

Crashcart (crash-cart)

n.: A cart containing drugs and equipment that might be needed to save or revive a hospital patient in an emergency

"The crashcart careened dangerously around the corner, narrowly missing an elderly visitor, as the interns raced to find the source of the emergency beeper."

Crossover-music (cross-o-ver-mu-sic)

n.: one or more songs that are popular in more than one musical category

"Emmy Lou Harris writes crossovermusic that's on popular and country charts."

Deadhead (dead-head)



- n. 1. A devoted fan of the Grateful Dead
- 2. Someone whose mind is dulled from repeated assaults by drugs and alcohol

"A deadhead, his hobbies are smoking pot and drinking alcoholic beverages."

Deepred (deep-red)

n.: A range of rich, dark shades of red

"The Washington Redskins' helmets are a shade of deepred."

Docgroup (doc-group)

- n.: 1. A group of people who write computer manuals
- 2. A group of doctors who form an association

"A docgroup director once thought;
he'd get rid of a writer who taught;
'I don't need courses
I have a woman with horses'
he was embroiled until he got caught."

Dogperson (dog-per-son)

n. Someone who loves dogs and prefers them to other animals

“She is a dogperson, and feels that dogs have more to offer than most men she knows.”

Downshifter (down-shift-er)

n. Someone who makes a lifestyle or career change to a position that is less stressful and more relaxed

“Those who engage in career downshifting are finding that they have been able to reinvigorate their personal and family lives as a result.”

Downstream (down-stream)

adj. In the same direction as the current or flow. In the oil & gas industry, downstream refers to the transportation, refining, and marketing segments of the business.

“To prepare oil for downstream sales, a company needs oil tankers, large trucks, train cars, and large refineries.”

Downtime (down-time)

n.: 1. The amount of time a computer is unavailable for use
2. Time spent doing something other than working

“I could really use some serious downtime; I can’t remember the last time I had an entire day off.”

Driftdriver (drift-driv-er)

n. A driver who drifts from one side to the other of the road, either from lack of sleep, alcohol or drug influence, or inexperience.

“Little did I know when I got into the car that he is a driftdriver; I hung on for dear life as we drifted back and forth across the road.”

Drivetime (drive-time)

n.: The period of time in the morning and evening when people typically commute between home and a daytime job

"Depending on his mood, he listens to subliminal persuasion tapes during drivetime; these have convinced him that he will be a spectacular success."



Duolook (doo-o-look)



- n. 1. The look of clothes when one or more articles of clothing are worn on top of each other in a layered fashion, as a t-shirt over another shirt, or running shorts over running pants or sweatpants.
- 2. A long, sustained, glance

Jesse and Lisa sport the duolook.

"He is determined to start a trend toward the duolook in fashion and often wears a red t-shirt over a blue long-sleeved shirt."

Enginehead (en-gine-head)

n.: An individual who spends a large amount of time working on his or her car or truck engine

"After we got married, I discovered to my disappointment that he is an enginehead, and prefers his car engine to me on most occasions. He had managed to keep this fact to himself during our lengthy courship."

Experience-poor (ex-per-i-ence-poor)

Adj. 1. The condition of a person who does not notice the details of his or her experience

2. The condition of someone who has not had very many experiences or whose experiences have not been of many types

"A bookworm, he was conceptrich but experience-poor."

Experience-rich (ex-per-i-ence-rich)

- Adj. 1. The condition of someone who is aware of the details of his or her experiences
2. The condition of someone who has had a wide range of types of experiences

"She is experience-rich in certain areas; for example, she listens to every popular rock song, has tried every Chinese restaurant in town, has her own computer, and dates different guys."

Extracredit (ex-tra-cred-it)

Adj.: Work done in addition to the regular requirement for additional grade points

"Extracredit work provides additional challenges for superior intellects."

Extraextra-credit (ex-tra-ex-tra-cred-it)

n.: Work that's worth twice as much as regular extracredit

"Her superior homework assignments plus her extraextra-credit work pushed hergrade so high that no letter exists to adequately reflect it."

Fatcat (fat-cat)

- n.: 1. A rich and privileged person
2. An overweight cat

"Sensing that fame is imminent, the fatcat relaxes with a cigar."



Feelingfaker (feel-ing-fak-er)

- n.: Someone who habitually deceives others about how he or she feels

"After talking to him I'd have to say that he's a feelingfaker; though he still claims to be in love with me."

Fire-engine-red (fire-en-gine-red)

- n.: A very bright shade of red that resembles the color of a fire engine

"Statistics show that people who drive fire-engine-red cars have a higher chance of being stopped for speeding."

Fishwatcher (fish-watch-er)

n.: A person or cat who spends much of their time watching fish swim around a fish tank



"Believing that fishwatching relieves stress, Osborne is an ardent fishwatcher who spends many hours each day carefully observing the movements of all the fish in the tank, especially the red flag fish."

Flakeface (flake-face)

n.: An eccentric and offbeat person who lacks common sense

"I'd like to meet the flakeface who wrote these error messages."

Flightpath (flight-path)

- n. 1. The path of an airplane when it flies from one point to another
2. The path a person takes when he or she flies from one point to another

"I was delighted to learn that my flightpath takes me to Karlsruhe."

Flowmeter (flow-me-ter)

n. A device used for measuring flowrate, volumetric flow, or mass flow.

"Today the new-technology flowmeters, including ultrasonic, vortex, Coriolis, and magnetic, are taking market share away from the more traditional meters."

Flowrate (flow-rate)

n.: The amount of fluid that passes through a pipe or channel in a given period of time.

“One limitation of magmeters is that they cannot be used to measure the flowrate of nonconductive liquids, gases, or steams.

Flowtime (flow-time)

n. A system of decimal time in which there are still 24 hours per day, but the number of minutes in an hour increases from 60 to 100. Likewise, the number of seconds in a minute increases from 60 to 100.

“Ever since switching to flowtime, he finds that he is more productive. The smaller units of time allow him to manage his time more efficiently.”

Freeform-radio (free-form-ra-di-o)

n. A radio station format in which the programming (e.g., songs) is not determined by a formula or rule but by the disc-jockey

"It's freeform-radio tonight."

Funhead (fun-head)

n.: Someone who spends much of their time partying.

"I would not describe here as a funhead - she spends most of her time reading existentialism and feeling morose."

Furface (fur-face)

- n. 1. Anyone with an unusual amount of hair on their face
- 2. A family pet with lots of hair

"The home sported several furfaces who peeked out from behind the chair."

Furrymouse (fur-ry-mouse)

n.: A soft, artificial mouse made to cover a computer mouse

"He feels that the furrymouse makes him a superior performer on the computer."

Ghostbuster (ghost-bust-er)

n.: Someone who claims to be able to banish ghosts and other spirits from haunted houses or areas.

"After spending the night in the haunted house, he decided to look in the yellow pages under "Ghostbusters." The apparition of the butler, who died in 1933, together with the unexplained screams in the middle of the night, convinced him that there was an explained presence there."

Girl-of-my-dreams (girl-of-my-dreams)

n.: A girl who has all the qualities you find most desirable in a girl

"He anticipates finding a girl-of-his-dreams who feels he is the boy-of-her-dreams; to accomplish this, he tries to be as irresistible as possible."

Globalgobble (glob-al-gob-ble)

- n. 1. The action of a wordprocessing program that searches for and replaces every occurrence of a term in a document
2. The sound made by all the turkeys in the world waking up at the same time

"She was so exasperated with the repeated use of the term 'function key' in her document that she proposed sending the computer on a search and destroy mission by performing a globalgobble on the term 'function key' and replacing it with 'fiction key.' Then she even proposed that we all pretend that this substitute version is the final version and wait to see if anyone notices."

Greenmusic (green-mu-sic)

- n. 1. Music played in honor of St. Patrick's Day
2. Songs about the color green

"I could get nothing but greenmusic on the radio on St. Patty's day."

Greenroom (green-room)

n.: A room in a concert hall or theatre where performers can relax before or after their appearance

“I sat down with the other actors in the dark greenroom before the performance began.”

Groupthink (group-think)

- n.: 1. Blind conformity of the sort described by George Orwell
2. A synergy of minds cooperating to create thoughts not accessible to individual minds working alone

“As the Internet evolved, some forward-looking people became aware that instead of competing with each other for every new discovery, the Internet made groupthink possible. As a result, they formed loose associations in which ideas were freely exchanged and the power of many minds were brought to bear on a single problem.”

Groupthinker (group-think-er)

- n.: Someone who does not have their own ideas but instead conforms to group values and ethics

"You have to be a groupthinker to succeed at that company - they don't tolerate anyone who has original ideas."

Hammerplayer (ham-mer-play-er)

- n.: A musician who plays his or her instrument with brute force and lack of harmony

“While I was expecting to be pleasantly entertained, I was disappointed to find that even with all his practice, he was still a hammerplayer and could not seem to find the right key.”

Hangtime (hang-time)

- n.: 1. In football, the amount of time a punt remains in the air
2. Time spent with friends

“After school, I usually have about two hours of hangtime; I generally manage to find someone else to spend it with.”

Hardspace (hard-space)

- n.: The space in a document created by pressing the space bar in a wordprocessing program

"To make the space between the end of the word and the hanging indent equal to one hardspace you have to change the tab unit from space to point on this system; otherwise, the text does not wrap at the right place."

Heart-of-gold (heart-of-gold)

n.: the kind of heart someone has whose feelings are completely pure and selfless

"It is a rare experience to find a heart-of-gold."

Homepage (home-page)

n.: The page on an Internet-accessible website that is intended to be accessed first, and that contains links and other information that is available on the site

"She put a great deal of personal information, including her photo, on her homepage, in hopes of attracting the attention of some interested viewer."

Homerhanky (hom-er-han-ky)

n.: A handkerchief that fans wave at a baseball game calling for a home run

"The Twins fans wave homerhankies as their team comes to bat."

Honeybun (hon-ey-bun)

- n. 1. A type of honey-covered round roll
- 2. A term of endearment

"Honeybun, please pass the honeybun."

Hotcar (hot-car)

- n. 1. A fast and flashy car
- 2. A stolen car

"To try to create a reputation for being a playboy, he purchased a hotcar."

Hothead (hot-head)

n.: A person with a fiery temper

"He's a hothead who flies off the handle at the slightest provocation."

Hot-red (hotred)

n.: The shade of red that is bright and orangish giving off the impression of heat

"Feeling dynamic, she pulls on a hot-red t-shirt and walks off to class."

Hypertedious (hy-per-te-di-ous)

Adj. 1. The quality of feeling you have while attending the wedding or funeral of someone you don't know well, such as a distant relative
2. Something that's extremely dull and boring

"She finds the weekly staff meetings increasingly hypertedious as they are dominated more and more by several loudmouths who love to hear themselves talk."

Ideathief (i-de-a-thief)

n.: Someone who steals other people's ideas and claims them for his own

"He's an ideathief who has no original ideas of his own."

Jamspot (jam-spot)

n.: An area where a traffic stoplight is needed because of dangerous conditions or incessant traffic congestion

"Soon after I moved into my new apartment, I realized that I am down the street from a jamspot; unfortunately, I hear the car horns blaring day and night."

Junebug (june-bug)

n.: anyone born in the month of June

"Despite the fact that they have different astrological signs, the junebugs decided to form a Junebug Club."

Knucklecurve (nuck-el-kurv)

n.: a pitch in baseball in which the ball drops suddenly just before it reaches the batter.

“In 1972, Burt Hooton of the Chicago Cubs used his knucklecurve to no-hit the Phillies, 4-0.”

Lapdog (lap-dog)

n. 1. A timid and cowardly dog who follows his master around and does his every bidding

2. A timid and cowardly person who agrees with his superiors on all issues and expresses no views of his own

"A lapdog, he has not ideas of his own and constantly parrots his superiors."

Lasersitter (la-ser-sit-ter)

n.: A cat or other pet who insists on resting on the laser printer, especially when you are ready to print

"He is a lasersitter and prefers sitting only on those places that are most objectionable."

Laughhead (laugh-head)

- n. 1. Someone who laughs constantly
- 2. Someone who makes fun of people who make him mad

"A laughhead, he laughs uproariously at things that others find barely amusing."



Layeredlook (lay-ered-look)

n.: A way of dressing that consists of wearing several clothes of the same type of top of each other in a layered fashion



"He feels that the layeredlook most adequately expresses his tendency to build one level of experience on top of another one."

Lazy lids (la-zy-lids)

n.: The condition of someone sitting in class whose eyes keep closing due to lack of sleep

"The warm room plus the extremely boring lecture contributed to an unavoidable case of lazy lids on the part of many students."

Leadbottom (lead-bot-tom)

n.: Anyone whose weight is distributed mostly below the waist, also known as pearshaped

"She considered everything from hibernation to plastic surgery, but try as she might, she could not conceal the fact that she is a leadbottom

Lemon-yellow (lem-on-yel-low)

adj.: A shade of yellow resembling the color of lemons

"Not realizing he looked like a nerd, he wore a lemon-yellow shirt with has khaki pants."

Magmeter

n.: A magnetic flowmeter, which creates a magnetic field in a flowing stream and uses the amount of voltage generated to determine flowrate.



“According to **The Global Market for Magnetic Flowmeters, Third Edition**, magmeters are the leading revenue generator among all types of flowmeters.”

Maybegirl (may-be-girl)

n.: a girl who says that maybe she'll go out with you

"I was extremely psyched about asking her out, but then was very disappointed to find out that she's a maybegirl."



Mentalspender (men-tal-spend-er)

n.: Someone who spends money in their mind before they receive it

"So far I've already mentally bought a pair of new speakers, a new computer, and a 45 gallon hexagonal fishtank with the money I'm supposed to get next week; I guess I've become a mentalspender."

Metalhead (met-al-head)

n.: A devoted fan of heavy metal music

"I didn't know you're a metalhead."

Mindmaker (mind-mak-er)

- n. 1. Someone who puts thoughts in other peoples' heads or tells them what to think
2. An advertising executive

"The White House press office is full of mindmakers who spin the news."

Mind-philosophy (mind-phi-los-o-phy)

n.: A set of a priori principles whose purpose is to define and justify the empirical principles in term of which minds are described and explained

"My mindphilosophy teacher helped send me to Rockefeller with a stipend
imagine my chagrin
to find his interest was not in
my mind but the body of my girlfriend."

Moonlover (moon-lov-er)

- n. 1. A person who idolizes the moon
2. An especially romantic person

"Moonlovers spend a lot of time staring off into space and dreaming about their next romantic relationship."

Mushmaker (mush-mak-er)

- n. 1. A machine that instantly turns food into mush
2. A blender or food processor

"A mushmaker just made a pina colada."

Mustcrust (must-crust)

n. The dried up residue found on the outside of a mustard jar

“I had no idea how that that jar of mustard had been in the refrigerator, but it must have been awhile because the outside of the jar was full of mustcrust.”

Overlook (o-ver-look)

n.: The look of clothes when one or more articles of clothing are worn on top of each other in a layered fashion, as a t-shirt over a long-sleeved shirt, or running shorts over running pants or sweatpants

"The overlook provides a means of self-expression in otherwise boring and mundane circumstances."

Overshirt (o-ver-shirt)

n.: A shirt worn over another shirt, as a tshirt worn over a long-sleeved shirt

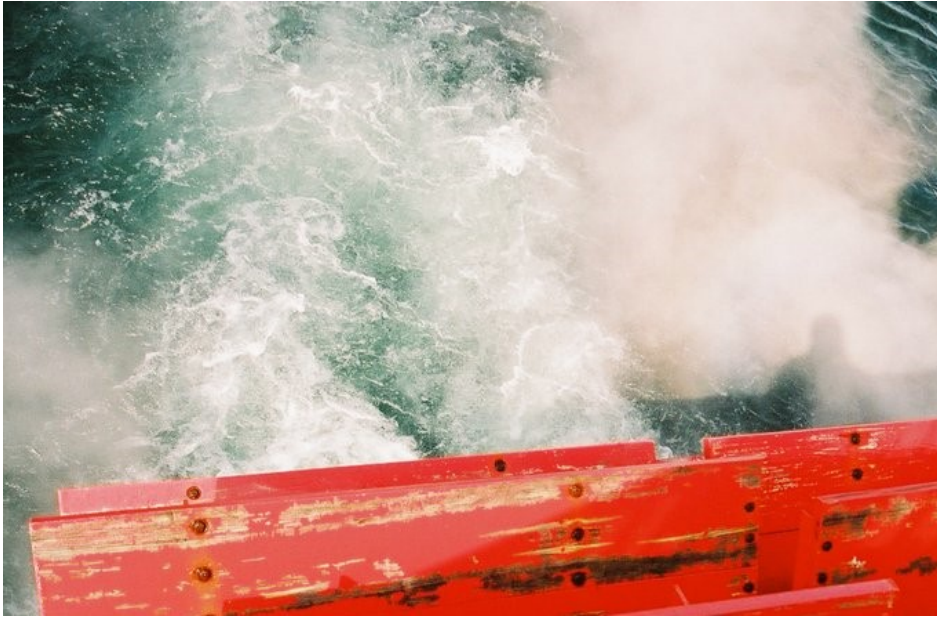
"As a devotee of the continuouslook, he acquired a huge stockpile of overshirts to wear on every conceivable occasion."

Overvote (o-ver-vote)

n.: In an election, a ballot in which someone votes for more than one person for a position when only one vote is allowed.

“Many Florida voters became confused by the structure of the ballot during the 2000 election, and ended up casting overvotes in the presidential election slot.”

Paddlewheel (pad-dle-wheel)



n.: A wheel that has boards around its circumference, that is commonly used to propel boats.

“The paddlewheel on the Mina-ha-ha is a brilliant shade of deepred.”

Partyanimal (par-ty-an-i-mal)

n.: Someone who parties constantly

"Partyanimals park here."

Peeredit (peer-ed-it)

n.: Corrections and changes by people at the same level or social status

"Peeredits are a useful tool for improving your writing and also for getting back at people you're mad at."

Pencilneck (pen-cil-neck)

n.: Someone with a long, thin neck

"You're a pencilneck and I'm not."

Pencilthief (pen-cil-thief)

n.: Someone who habitually steals small office supplies

"A pencilthief, she finds it thrilling to put an office pen in her purse and take it home for her personal use."

Pencilwriter (pen-cil-writ-er)

n.: A person who writes only with pencils

"As a pencilwriter, I disdain pens and insist on using pencils at all times."

Perryellis-blue (per-ry-el-lis-blue)

n.: A shade of deepblue that Perry Ellis used in many of the clothes he designed

"He is the proud owner of a perryellisblue shirt."

Phonefriend (fone-friend)

n.: Someone you are friendly with but whom you communicate with primarily by phone

"She is my best phonefriend and I call her almost every day."

Phonehead (fone-head)

n.: Someone who seems to spend all his or her time talking on the phone

"I didn't realize until I had started my new job several weeks ago that I would be working with several phoneheads; however, because they spend so much time on the phone, I haven't yet met them or learned their names."



Pi-system (pi-sys-tem)

n. 1. A system of thought that's so utterly confused and unalterably full of irrationalities and contradictions that the only solution to the problem that its existence creates is to completely and totally reject the system in favor of another system

2. Any confused or incoherent system of thought

"Though mathematicians to its Euclidean tune still waltz
that pi-system calculus is riddled with faults
a differential confusion
an integral illusion
for inconsistent assumptions yield contradictory results."

"He hates calculus, which he views as a pi-system, and is determined to replace it with a system of circular geometry that will eliminate irrational numbers and make it possible to give a rational value for the areas of circles."

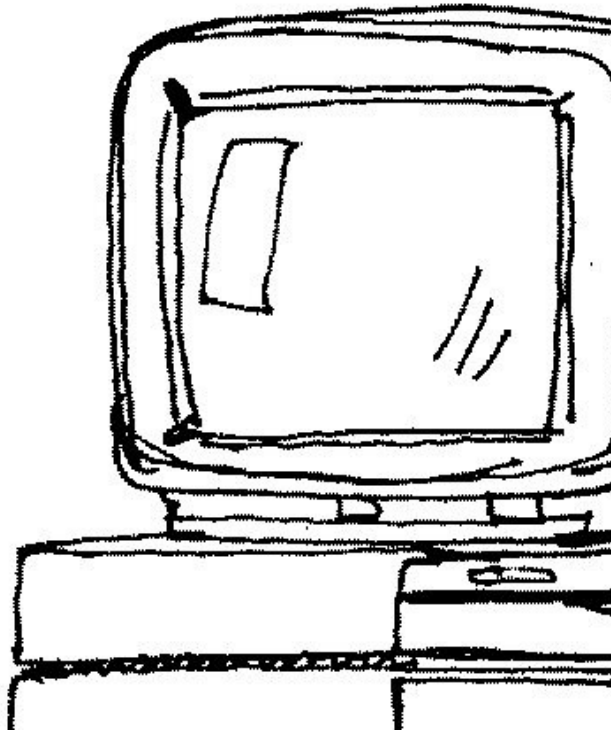
Possibledate (pos-si-ble-date)

n.: Someone who says they might go out with you

"She's a possibledate, but I'm not holding my breath"

Pricebreak (price-break)

n.: A reduction in the established price of a retail item



"She got a pricebreak on the Epson computer because she knows the dealer extremely well."

Racquetball (rack-et-ball)

- n.: 1. A game played indoors in a four-walled court with a short-handled racquet and a hollow rubber ball.
2. The hollow, rubber ball used in playing the game of racquetball.



Playing doubles in racquetball on Saturday morning is a time-honored tradition at Route One Racquet & Fitness in Saugus, Massachusetts.

Rainair (rain-air)

- n.: The quality of rain immediately after a rainstorm

“After the sudden shower, we all stepped outside to get a whiff of the fresh rainair.”

Redhead (red-head)

- n.: 1. Anyone whose hair is a shade ranging from bight sandybrown to a shade that matches the color of fire
2. A hothead
3. A person who is driven by the desire to perceive the color red

"She couldn't believe it when he said 'Redheads are nice to visit, and I wouldn't mind living with one.'"

Rimhanger (rim-hang-er)

n.: In basketball, a shot that sits on the rim for a few seconds

“At the end of the game, the score was tied as the buzzer sounded; amazingly, the last shot turned out to be a rimhanger.”

Selfedit (self-ed-it)

- v. 1. To correct your own work
- 2. To mentally edit what you say before you say it

"I have to do quite a lot of selfediting around here because you're not supposed to look like you're having any fun."

Self-expression (self-ex-pres-sion)

n.: the conscious act of making external some internal thought, feel, or emotion

"Self-expression is the meaning of life."

Shortboard (short-board)

n.: A high-performance surfboard used by top professional competitors

“Shortboards are typically about six feet long and 18 inches wide; they are opposed to longboards, which are about nine feet long and 20 inches wide. Both types of boards are about 2.5 inches thick.

Slushstate (slush-state)

n.: The condition of software that isn't supposed to be changed (frozen software) when changes continue to be made to it

"Software is never frozen solid around here; it never hardens beyond a slushstate."

Smartcard (smart-card)

n.: A credit card, bank card, or other plastic card that contains a hologram or computer microchip with information such as a voiceprint, fingerprints, credit information, or other personal information about the owner of the card.

Smarthead (smart-head)

n.: An especially bright person

"Now people say that 'MIT' stands for 'Made in Taiwan' because so many of the smartheads who attend there are Asian students."

Snowjob (snow-job)

n.: What someone does who convinces someone else to believe something that isn't true by pretending to be something or someone they're not

"When I wrote his biography I found out that he got appointed director by doing a snowjob on someone; later I found that after presiding over a birthday party he is on permanent leave of absence in Oak Grove."

Spacebridge (space-bridge)

n.: A communication link between two points or countries

"A spacebridge between the U.S. and Russia increases mutual understanding by allowing citizens to talk directly."

Stormchaser (storm-cha-ser)

n.: Someone who pursues violent and unusual weather, usually either for excitement or in the pursuit of scientific knowledge

"Every spring groups of stormchasers gather in and around Oklahoma to look for the tornadoes that occur there this time of year."

Suckysong (suck-y-song)

n.: Any song you hate

"I can't believe you like that suckysong; you must be sick."

Superbig (su-per-big)

adj. 1. Extraordinarily large
2. Extraordinarily successful

"It is sure to be a superbig event; all the right people will be there."

Supergreat (su-per-great)

adj.: Anything that's extraordinarily good

"I've had a supergreat night so far; would you like to come in for a drink?"

Supergroup (su-per-group)

- n. 1. A musical group that's supergreat
- 2. A musical group that's superbig

"The Rolling Stones are the best supergroup in this universe and all preceding universes since moments before time began."

Surfboard (surf-board)

n.: A long, narrow board used to ride the waves as they break over a shallow, shoreline feature

"After purchasing a surfboard, he flew to Hawaii in search of the perfect wave."

Sweetcake (sweet-cake)

- n. 1. A kind of cakelike desert made from sugar
- 2. A favorite person

"Everyone selected a sweetcake and rushed onto the dance floor."

Sweetgirl (sweet-girl)

- n. 1. A nice, shy, innocent female
- 2. A female who has a pleasant and likeable personality

She is a sweetgirl who compliments me three times every day. I don't know what she wants from me but the class thinks she is dying for me to ask her out, so maybe I will."

Sweet-sweet-sweetcake (sweet-sweet-sweet-cake)

- n. 1. A sweetcake that's triply sweet
- 2. A sweetcake who's triply sweet

"At the end of the evening after consuming many bottles of wine, we all looked on in delight as his sweet-sweet-sweetcake was passed out on the table. Then we crowded around to get a closer look while someone poured cold coffee on her face, and the partygoers roared their approval of this demonstration of culinary skill."

Tearjerker (tear-er-ker)

- n.: 1. A movie, story, play, or broadcast that makes you cry your eyes out
- 2. An extremely funny joke that causes a person's eyes to water due to uncontrollable laughter

"I was in the mood for an upbeat comedy, and was very disappointed when the movie turned out to be a tearjerker instead."

Teflonmemory (tef-lon-mem-o-ry)

- n.: The kind of memory someone has who constantly says "I don't remember"

"Certain Iran-Contra witnesses acquire a teflonmemory when put on the stand."

Thrillseeker (thrill-seek-er)

- n.: Someone who is constantly searching out new forms of excitement

"At the time I married her, I thought she was more of a mousy person; after several months of marriage, I was taken aback to find that, in reality, she is a thrillseeker, and is not truly happy unless she is pursuing experiences of intense excitement."

Thunderstorm (thun-der-storm)

- n.: a storm that is accompanied by lightning and thunder

"In the first stage of thunderstorm development, warm air is carried by an updraft to a level where moisture saturates the air and visible droplets start to form; this marks the beginning of cloud formation."

Trianglegirl (tri-an-gle-girl)

n.: A girl who maintains two romantic relationships at once

"I was so furious when I found out that for the past six months she has been a trianglegirl that I threw a copy of Schopenhauer against the wall. When I introduced them I didn't expect this though I should have begun to worry when she told me that he has a 300-pound wife. Now she's cold coffee and he's the mayor of Riverdale."

Tripledoube (tri-ple-dou-ble)

- n. 1. A basketball player's score of more than nine in points, assists, and rebounds in one game
- 2. Three pair of songs by a single artist in a row, each pair by a different artist
- 3. Three doublescoops of ice cream, each doublescoop a different flavor

"I'll take a VanChocStraw tripledoube."

Tripleshot (tri-ple-shot)

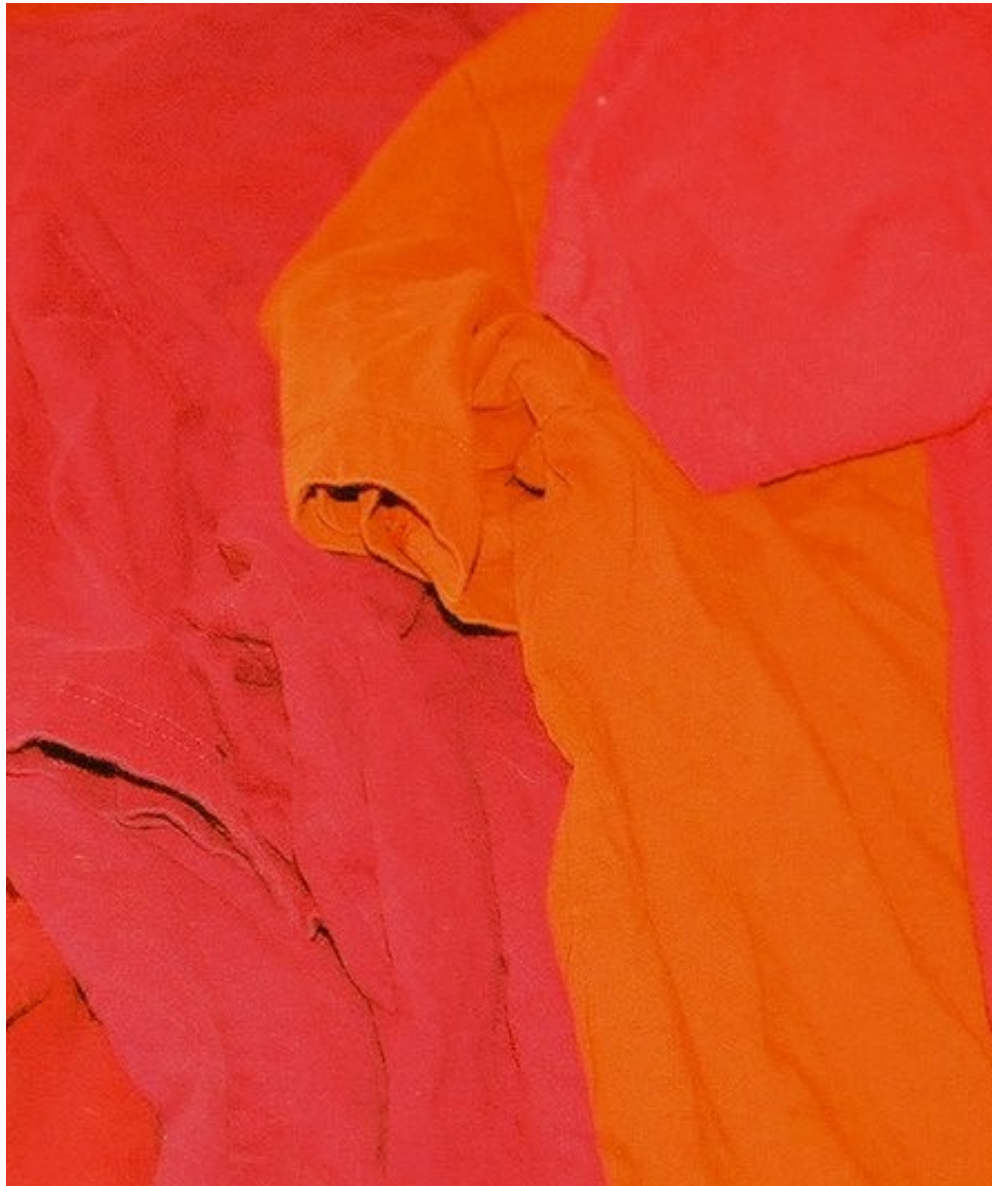
- n. 1. Three rock 'n roll songs by the same artist in a row played with no breaks
- 2. Three same flavored ice cream scoops

"I'll have a tripleshot of raspberry."

T-shirt (t-shirt)

n.: A collarless shortsleeved or sleeveless usually cotton shirt that's shaped like a capital letter T

"Some people can't understand why he insists on wearing t-shirts over his other shirts and view it as a mere eccentricity, but those who know him well understand it as an expression of his philosophy."



Twillweave (twill-weave)

n.: A textile weave in which the filling threads pass over one and under two warp threads, giving the appearance of diagonal lines



"Twillweave is what gives bluejeans their distinctive character."

Underclass (un-der-class)

n.: A group of people who feel powerless and who don't play an active role in society's decisionmaking

"They are members of the underclass; they don't vote and often are unemployed."

Undervote (un-der-vote)

n.: A ballot cast in an election in which the person fails to vote for a candidate for a particular office.

"In the 2000 presidential election, the undervotes cast in Florida became the center of a major dispute about voter intent."

Underwear-weather (un-der-wear-weath-er)

n.: Weather that's so warm
that you can comfortably
walk around in your
underwear in it



We were grateful for the underwear-weather and spent much of the day walking around town with little on. This inspired a few continuouslooks."

Upstream

- Adj. 1. Against the direction of the flow, or of a stream's current.
 2. In the oil & gas industry, 'upstream' refers to the exploration and production segments of the industry.



Points of view 1 A Christmas tree on an oil well in Bay City, Michigan

“After months of debating which was more exciting, upstream or downstream, he decided to devote his life to oil production, the upstream part of the business.”

Vendor-bender (vend-er-bend-er)

- n. 1. Someone who pressures a company that sells a product to do something, e.g., provide better service
 2. Someone who kicks a vending machine

"He was completely disgusted with the quality of the vending machines at school and despite becoming a vendorbender, he couldn't get service on the coffee machine; subsequently he arranged for a new vendor

Viewpoint (view-point)

n.: The perspective from which something is seen, perceived, or experienced



“According to the philosophy of Viewpoint Pluralism, there are indefinitely many viewpoint from which any subject or object can be seen.”

Waistwatcher (waist-watch-er)

n.: Someone who seems always to be on a diet

"She's a waistwatcher and has been on a diet since 2003."

Watchperson (watch-per-son)

n.: 1. An individual who never travels without their watch

2. Someone who is very conscious of time and punctuality

She is a watchperson, and cannot stand even the idea of being late for an appointment.

Whitecaps (white-caps)

n.: Crests of foam that appear where a wave begins to break

"The surfers were delighted by the sea of whitecaps, and spent much of the day riding ever-larger waves."

White-hot (white-hot)

Adj.: The condition of something so hot that it glows white

"The explosion sent a white-hot ball of flame into the sky."

Wicked-awesome (wick-ed-awe-some)

Adj.: Anything so extraordinary that it inspires the highest degree of awe

"The concert was awesome; the band was like totally, wow, like wickedawesome."

Wine-red (wine-red)

Adj.: a range of colorshades that resemble the color of burgundy

"I'll take a bottle of that wine-red champagne you have over there in the corner."

Word-perception (word-per-cep-tion)

n. 1. Hearing, reading, or seeing a word and understanding what it means

2. Someone's interpretation of what a word means

"His wordperception was dulled by the number of drinks he had."

Word-perceptionitis (word-per-cep-tion-i-tis)

n.: The condition that occurs when you look at a word and it doesn't look like it's spelled correctly even though it is

"Lately he's suffered from wordperceptionitis and finds himself constantly resorting to looking up word spellings in the dictionary."

Wordprocessing (word-pro-cess-ing)

n. A method of producing text from a computer that appears to be typewritten; while in the computer the text can be edited and formatted as desired before being printed

"Of course he made everyone on the project use the sucky wordprocessing program he likes - it's the only one he knows."

Wristwatcher (wrist-watch-er)

n.: Someone who constantly checks their watch for the time

"When I saw him repeatedly checking his watch in the meeting, I assumed he couldn't wait to leave; I didn't know that he's a compulsive wristwatcher."

Zippy-spirited-fun-personal (zip-py-spir-it-ed-fun-per-son-al)

[a quadronym - definition unknown]