A WORD OF DIFFERENCE

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A selection of neologisms starting with the letters A & B

A

APR financing n. (tax refunds come in APRIL) using a tax refund for necessary household purchases.

ad ridiculum n. (æd ri dIlk yoo lum) (like ad nauseam) a sensationalized commercial advertisement.

advice versa n. (æd vais uh ver suh) (fr. advice + vice versa) advice which is contrary to what is wise and true; bad advice or wrong advice.

a-fense-ive adj. (fr. a fence & offensive) so obnoxious as to provoke one’s neighbor to build a fence.

afterblow n. (æf t’r blo) (fr. afterglow & blow) that column of dark, musky-scented smoke that rises from a candle whose flame has just been extinguished.

aks murderer n. (æks m’r d’r ‘r) (fr. ask inverted to aks & ax murderer) a person who murders the English language through non-standard speech.

al studente adj. (al stoo don te) (fr. student and It. al dente) half-baked; incomplete, not well thought out.

architexture n. (uhrk I teks cher) (fr. architecture and texture) the study of how fabrics are used in creating interior home design.

asker v. (æs ker) (fr. ask and answer) to answer a question by asking another question.

astrophy n. (æs tro fi) (fr. astro- & distrophy) the collapse of a star previous to supernova.

alternative spelling n.. (æt l’rn uht Iv spEl Ing) (fr. alternative) an erroneous occurrence of a written word wherein the writer has unintentionally crossed the l instead of the t.

attique n. (æt eek) (fr. attic & antique) old junk from an attic that is pawned off as a valuable antique.

auld-lang-xieties n. (Fr. Auld Lang Syne + anxieties) apprehensions of the coming New Year; or, the fear of being dateless and alone on New Year’s Eve.

B

backrupt adj. (bæk ruhpt) (fr. back & bankrupt) having a broken or ailing back; in ill health due to overexertion in the pursuit of wealth.

bagdad n. (bæg dæd) (fr. Baghdad) a father who is carrying a diaper bag, many shopping bags, beach things, or in general a lot of baggage; a dad who has much baggage that he cannot Iraq-and-roll.

beddread n. (bEd drEd) (fr. bed + dread) an emotional resistance to going to bed.

betweeth adv. (bi twith) (fr. between & teeth) stuck between two teeth.

biceptionist n. (bai sEp shuhn 1st) (fr. biceps & receptionist) employee at a health club who mans the front desk.

picture n. (fr. Bic and picture) a hasty pen drawing.

bilk chocolate n. (bIlk chawlt 1It) (fr. milk & milk chocoholate) hollow Easter bunnies.

biWord n. (bai w’rd) (fr. Bi + word) a word or brand name created by conjoining two words and capitalizing the initial letter of the second one (ex.: TurboTax)

blerse n. (bl’rs) (fr. blessing & curse) something which is first perceived as a blessing, but then becomes a curse; a disappointment.

blunderstruck adj. (blund ‘r struk) (fr. blunder + thunderstruck) laid low by the realization of one’s own error.

blurbatim adv. (bl’r bei tlIm) (fr. blurb + verbatim) method of quoting commercial advertisements word for word.

blurral adj. (bl’r ‘l) (fr. blurred plural) refers to the number of persons involved when referring to a pregnant woman; in nature, a plant or animal that contains young and is therefore no longer singular but not yet fully plural.

boardom n. (bor dum) (fr. board & boredom) a state of being bored at a board meeting.


browntuber n. (fr. the inner tube of a roll of tissue or paper towels) one who uses up resources with no regard for replacement—e.g., someone who uses the last paper towel but does not replace it with a fresh roll.

bronxiety n. (fr. Bronx and anxiety) fear of traveling through the Bronx.