"A WORD OF DIFFERENCE"

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A selection of some neologisms for publication in *Word Ways*: starting with the letters C through E, submitted on 2 Nov 2010.

C

cactopia n. (kæk to pi uh) (fr. caco- + utopia) a horrible place; hell; a

nightmarish event, place, or experience; a terrible city; a horrible

workplace.

calendrome n. (kæl In drom) (fr. calendar & palindrome) a year or numerical date

which reads the same backwards and forwards, e.g., 1991, or 4-19-14.

campbellation n. (fr. Campbell's soup & compilation) hastily jamming things in and

condensing them into a bland presentation.

Capracorn n. (kæp ruh korn) (fr. Frank Capra + corn) hokey lines from old 1940's

era movies.

carbolator n. (kar bo lay t'r) (fr. car + carburetor + alternator, etc.) the car engine

part which is designed to make an alarming noise at a most inconvenient

time, then fall silent when tested by mechanic.

Carpool Tunnel Syndrome n. (fr. carpool & carpal tunnels) the experience of being stuck in

commuter traffic in the Holland Tunnel while experiencing pain in

the wrists from gripping the steering wheel.

cathletic n. (kath let ik) (fr. catholic and athletic) able to jump through all the hoops

of the Roman Catholic faith to earn one's salvation.

catholischism n. (kath ol a skIzm) (fr. catholic and schism) when Henry VIII broke with

the church.

cavement n. (kev mInt) (fr. cave & pavement) rocky ground surface in front of a

cave [often depicted in comics].

cellphabsorbed adj. (sEl fub zorbd) (fr. cell-phone and self-absorbed) intent on one's

cellular phone conversation to the point of public rudeness.

centsability adj. (fr. cents and ability) financial wisdom.

cereal killer n. (sir i 'l kIl 'r) (fr. cereal & serial killer) a child who begs for large

quantities of breakfast cereal and then eats only a couple spoonfuls,

causing the rest to be wasted.

Charlottan n. (Shar l' t'n) (fr. Charlotte, [NC]) a yankee-born resident of North

Carolina with a phony Southern Accent.

cigarbage n. (Sig ar bij)(fr. cigar + garbage) cigarette butts, wrappers, and other

garbage left behind after smoking.

climb-ax n. (fr. climax and climb and ax) a hiking tool used on mountain peak

cobsgrave n. (kabz grev) (fr. corn cob & grave) the designated plate at dinner on

which people dump used corncobs, chicken bones, shells of seafood, etc.

coevil n. (ko iv 'l) (fr. coeval & evil) a peer or friend who is badnatured,

wicked, or naughty; a badly behaved child who is a peer or friend of one's

own child.

cognize v. (kag naiz) (fr. recognize) to get to know; to acquaint oneself for the

first time with a place or person.

Cole's Law n. (kolz law) (fr. Cole slaw and law) an unwritten regulation which

prevents diner waitresses from substituting something good for something

yucky.

collectomaniac n. (kuh lEk to men i æk) (fr. collect and kleptomaniac) someone who

cannot part with possessions to an unhealthy degree.

colloquacious adj. (ko lo kway shuhs) (fr. colloquium & loquacious) given to rambling

endlessly, esp. at a conference.

comaline n. (ko muh lain) (fr. coma & deadline) a flexible deadline; a deadline that

is not firm; a deadline that is only mostly dead.

complexit n. (kuhm plEk sIt) (fr. complex & exit) a multi-ramped, multi-bridged

interstate highway interchange.

consillyatory adj. (kuhn sIl i uh tor i) (fr. conciliatory & silly) given to making absurd

concessions.

cost/defective adj. (kawst di fEk tIv) (fr. cost/effective and defective) ref. to a product

that is not effectively priced; or, having an erroneous price-tag.

counselying n. ((fr. counsel + lying) not telling the truth while counseling someone.

cravatational pull n. (kræv I tay shun 'l p'l) (fr. cravate & gravitational pull) a wringing of

a man's neck by his necktie when he leans over or otherwise causes the

necktie to begin to strangle him.

critical mass

n. (krIt Ik '1 mæs) an angry mob; harsh, biting or sarcastic Bostonians.

cross-politization

n. (fr. cross-pollinization & political) the combining and blurring of differing political views.

crumbies

n. (kruhm iz) (fr. crummy & crumbs & goodies) baked goods set out for an affair that are disappointing in taste, freshness, or visual appeal.

crustard

n. (krust erd) (fr. crust & mustard) dried mustard at the tip of the dispenser.

D

data-date demand

n. (dei tuh dei duh mand) (fr. day-to-day demand and data) the need to record the date when data was last modified.

debtriment

n. (de trI ment) (fr. debt & detriment) a liability; an unwise purchase which increases one's personal debt to no gain.

desmoinesia

v. (dEz mwEn I Zha) (fr. Des Moines, IA & amnesia) sudden inability to remember the state capital of some state out in the Midwest.

dessert sheriff

n. (fr. dessert & sheriff) self-appointed family official who presides over all ort court (q.v.) hearings.

Deus est maquina

n. (de 's Est ma ki na) (fr. deus ex maquina) worship of machines as solvers of all problems, lit. 'God is a machine'.

deyortsed

adj. (di yortst) ("destroyed", backwards) electronically resurrected from oblivion; undeleted (as in computer storage, referring to the recovery of deleted data).

draft dodger

n. an office employee who does not first circulate a draft document for peer review.

dragony

n. (dræg 'ni) (fr. dragon & agony) a horrific agony in which a person is consumed by a monster; used hyperbolically to describe frustrating modern predicaments like traffic jams, long waiting lines, etc.

dredreamam

n. (dri drim uhm) (from dream inserted into dream) a frame tale; a story within a story; a dream within a dream; a dream in which another dream is dreamed; the act of awakening from a dream and describing it to people only to awaken and discover that experience was itself a dream; life.

duplexicon

n. (doo plEk sIk an) (fr. duplex & lexicon) a book which provides the translations from one language to another and vice versa; e.g. an English-Spanish, Spanish-English Dictionary.

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econoclast n. (i kan o klæst) (fr. economize & iconoclast) a person who breaks the

rules of expensive vacations by finding cheap shortcuts like staying at a

Motel 6 or renting a Budget car.

education n.. (Ed joo kaw shun) (fr. education and caution) the philosophy of

education which demands that a child not be taught anything which is offensive to any minority group, or religious or moral in nature; politically

correct educational philosophy

eggstract v. (Eg strækt) (fr. egg & extract) to choose from various containers

twelve perfect eggs and place them in one container (which is then

purchased).

El Camaro n. (El Kuh mei ro) (fr. El Camino and Camaro) an old beat-up '70's car

that has been modified beyond recognition.

elevoider n. (El uh voyd 'r) (fr. elevator & avoid) someone who prefers to use the

stairs.

endorsephins n. (en dors finz) (fr. endorse and endorphins) rush of adrenalin while

endorsing a check for a large sum of money.

eurphremism n. (yur fr'm Iz 'm) (fr. euphemism & you're from + -ism) small talk;

conventional questions, platitudes, etc. by which strangers size up each

other in terms of identity, past, ethnos, origins, etc.

eyerony n. (ay ro ni) (fr. eye + irony) an optometrist that is blind to spiritual truth;

a blind optometrist.