

(rag'ŋ dē) *adj.* somewhat ragged, or tattered
 g-gle (rag'ŋ tag'ŋ) *adj.* [extended < RAGTAG] or heterogeneous mixture; motley
 gee (rag'ŋ) *n.* [Hind. *rāgi* < Sans. *rāgin*, red] a s (*Eleusine corocana*) of Africa and India whose staple food
 g'lan) *n.* [after Lord Raglan (1788–1855), Brit. r in chief in the Crimean War] a out or topcoat with sleeves that one piece to the collar, so that o seams at the shoulder —*adj.* e of such a sleeve, or having



RAGLAN SLEEVE

ig'man') *n., pl. -men' (-men')* collects, buys, and sells rags, ic.
 (rag'na rāk') [ON. *ragna rök*, the gods < *ragna*, gen. pl. of *rök*, judgment, reason; con- guaraker, twilight of the gods] the destruction of the world eat conflict between the gods s of evil
 0') *n.* [Fr. *ragoût* < *ragoûter*, appetite of < *re-*, re- + *â* (< *L. ad*) to + *gōtū* taste; see *GUSTO*] a highly seasoned s of etables —*vt.* -gōtū to and make into a ragout
 g'rik'er) *n.* a person who and selling
 made
 g')
 made

is a teasing act or remark
 rail-road (rāl'rōd) *n.* 1. a road laid with parallel rails along which cars carrying passengers or freight drawn by locomotives 2. a complete system of such roads including land, rolling stock, stations, etc. 3. the person or corporation owning and managing such a system —
 *1. to transport by railroad *2. [Colloq.] to rush through quickly, esp. so quickly as to prevent careful consideration (to railroad a bill through Congress) *3. [Slang] to call to go to prison on a trumped-up charge or with too has a trial —*vi.* *to work on a railroad —*rail-road'er n.*
 *railroad flat an apartment of rooms in a line, entered one from another, with no hallway

rail-road-ing (-in) *n.* 1. the business of operating railroads 2. the act or process of building railroads
 railroad worm 1. a female beetle (genus *Phrixothrix*) of South and Central America, whose body is covered with rows of green light organs along each side of the abdomen and red light organs at the front end *2. same as APPLE MAGGOT

rrail-splitter (split'er) *n.* a person who splits logs into rails, or for fences —the Rail-Splitter nickname of Abraham Lincoln

rail-vehicle (rāl-veh-ikl) *n.* a railroad for light vehicles (streetcars, trolleys, etc.)
 rails (rāl) *n. pl.* the iron strips that form the track of a railroad
 ral-men (rāl-mēn) *n. pl.* the men who work on a railroad
 see *RAILROAD*

rain (rān) *n.* [ME. *reim* < OE. *rean*, akin to G. *regen* < IE. base *reg-*, var. of **reb-*, moist, wet, whence L. *rigure*, to wet, madden (cf. *IRRIGATE*)] 1. water falling to earth in drops that have been condensed from the moisture in the atmosphere 2. the falling of such drops; shower or rainstorm 3. *cf.* weather *b* [pl.] seasonal rainfalls; the rainy season (the rainy season) 4. a rapid falling or propulsion of many small particles or objects
 —*vi.* 1. to fall: to rain on the roof of a building 2. to fall like rain: to rain on the parade
 —*adj.* 1. to pour down (rain poured down) 2. to give in large quantities (rain cats and dogs) [Colloq.] 3. to come out to cause (an event) to be heavily —*out* to cause (an event) to be heavily because of rain —*rain'less adj.*

-band) *n.* a dark band in the yellow part of the spectrum, due to water vapor in the atmosphere
 bō) *n.* [ME. *reynboge* < OE. *regnboğa*; see *RAINBOW*] the colors of the spectrum formed in the sky by the refraction, reflection, and dispersion of the sun's rays in falling rain or clouds

rainbow bridge in S Utah: a sandstone bridge 309 ft. high
 2. any of a number of fish (Salmo gairdneri) that live in streams and rivers of the Pacific Northwest
 —*adj.* 1. to be admitted at a time 2. an offer or proposal for water-repellent

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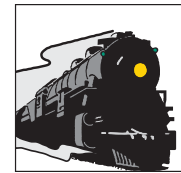
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the RAILROADS & Language



National Railroad Museum

From the 1820s to the 1950s railroads were woven into our everyday lives. During this period, railroads affected more than our transportation. They also

influenced our language. Today, there are still numerous old railroad terms that have taken on new meanings in our everyday speech.

■ Can you match these terms with their meanings?

- ___ 1. Grand Central Station
- ___ 2. Wrong side of the tracks
- ___ 3. Light at the end of the tunnel
- ___ 4. Let off steam
- ___ 5. Railroaded
- ___ 6. Jump the track
- ___ 7. All the bells and whistles

- A** To suddenly change from one thing, thought, plan or activity to another.
- B** A busy or hectic place.
- C** To do or say something that helps you get rid of strong feelings or energy.
- D** A term used to describe something that is very fancy; with all the options.
- E** The poor or undesirable side of town.
- F** The end of a difficult period or job.
- G** To force someone into doing something they don't want to; or to do something in great haste.