



white supremacy noun

Save Word

Definition of *white supremacy*

- 1 : the belief that the white race is inherently superior to other races and that white people should have control over people of other races
// The alt-right is a reactionary conservative movement It is characterized by an embrace of fascism, *white supremacy*, and misogyny ...
— Constance Grady
- 2 : the social, economic, and political systems that collectively enable white people to maintain power over people of other races
// ... [William] Kelley turned his considerable intellect and imagination to the question of what it is like to be white in this country, and what it is like, for all Americans, to live under the conditions of *white supremacy* ...
— Kathryn Schulz

First Known Use of *white supremacy*

1824, in the meaning defined at [sense 1](#)

Learn More about *white supremacy*

Share *white supremacy*



Time Traveler for *white supremacy*

The first known use of *white supremacy* was in 1824

[See more words from the same year](#)

Dictionary Entries near *white supremacy*

[white sugar](#)
[White Sunday](#)
[white supremacist](#)
[white supremacy](#)
[white surf fish](#)
[white swallowwort](#)
[white swamp gum](#)

[See More Nearby Entries](#)

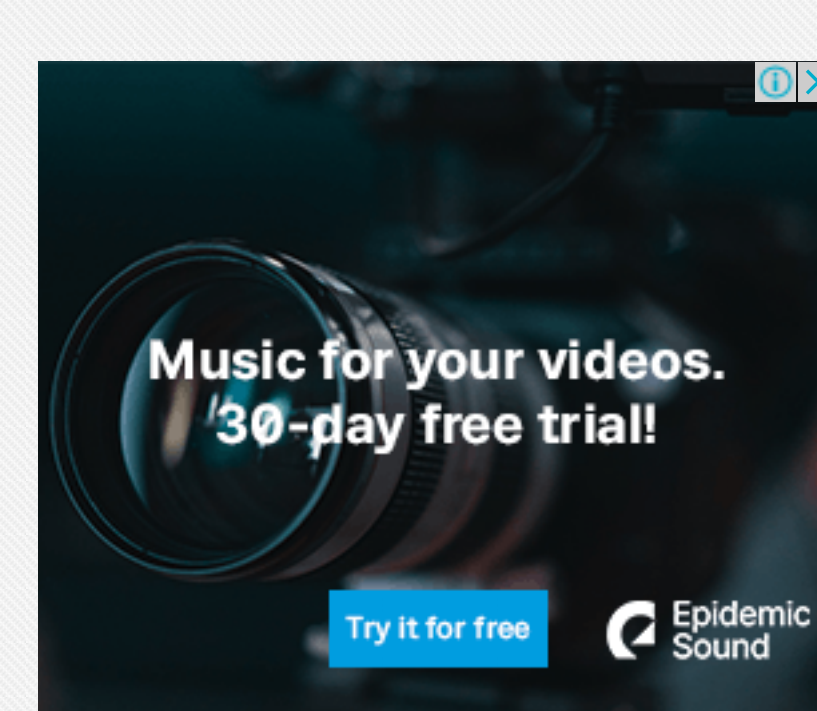
Cite this Entry

"White supremacy." *Merriam-Webster.com Dictionary*, Merriam-Webster, <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/white%20supremacy>. Accessed 6 Dec. 2020.

Style: MLA

More from Merriam-Webster on *white supremacy*

Britannica.com: [Encyclopedia article about *white supremacy*](#)



WORD OF THE DAY

mangle

[See Definitions and Examples](#)

Get Word of the Day daily email!

Your email address



TEST YOUR VOCABULARY

Musical Words Quiz

Which word describes a musical performance marked by the absence of instrumental accompaniment?

-

Can you spell these 10 commonly misspelled words?

[TAKE THE QUIZ >](#)

Test Your Knowledge - and learn some interesting things along the way.

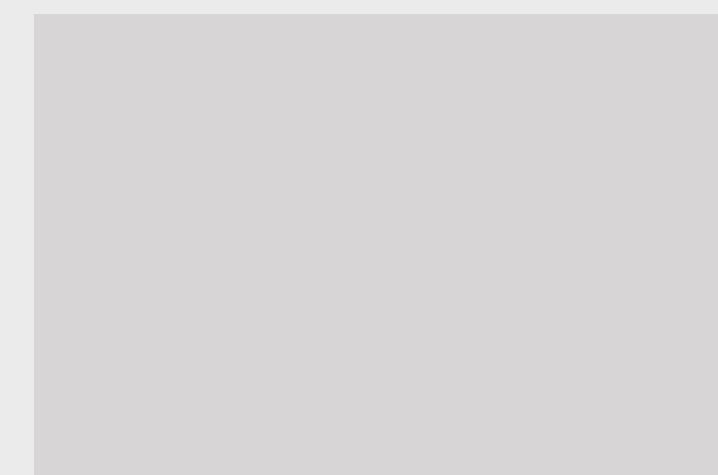
[TAKE THE QUIZ >](#)

Love words? Need even more definitions?

Subscribe to America's largest dictionary and get thousands more definitions and advanced search—ad free!

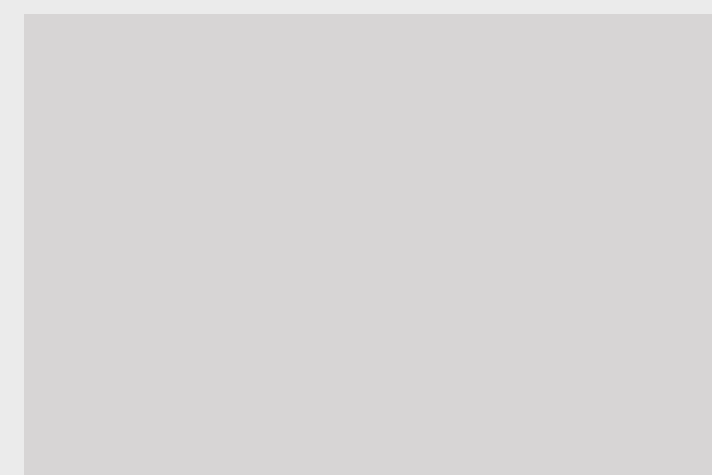
MERRIAM-WEBSTER UNABRIDGED

WORDS AT PLAY



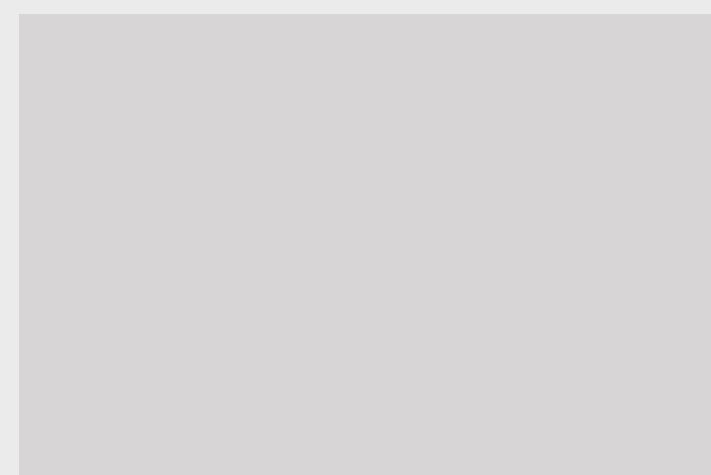
The Words of the Week - 12/4/2020

Words of the week of 12/4/2020



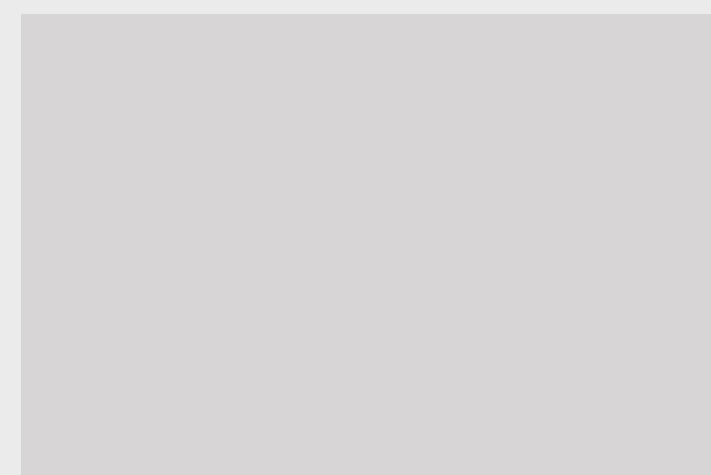
A Brief History of the 'Task Force'

Our objective is clear.



'Ignoramuses' or 'Ignorami'?

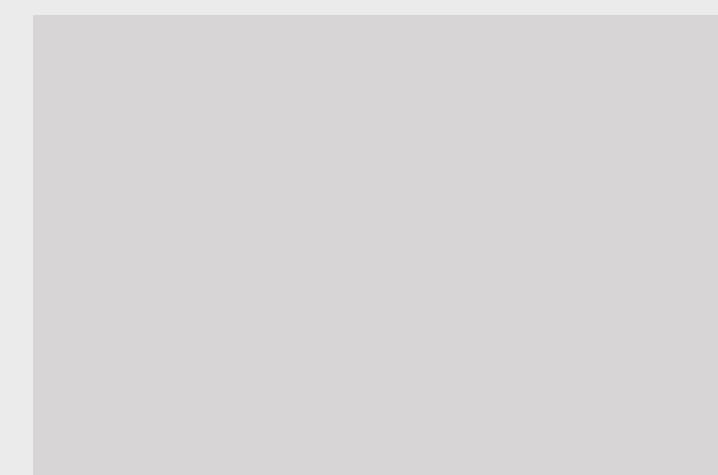
Notes on a plural



'Cease' vs. 'Seize': Explaining the Difference

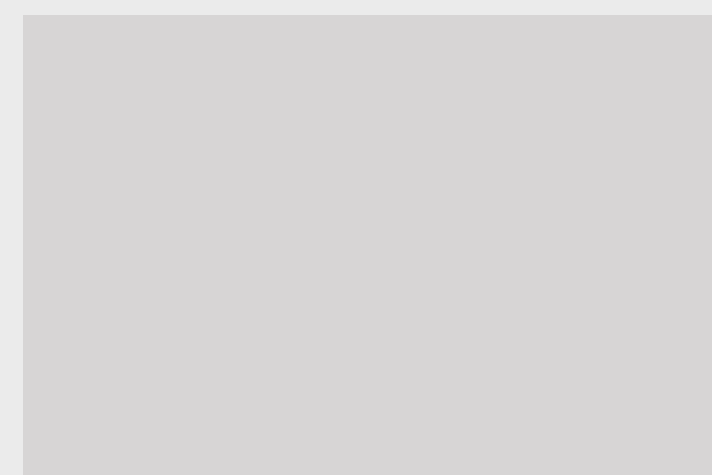
A cease and desist order has been filed.

ASK THE EDITORS



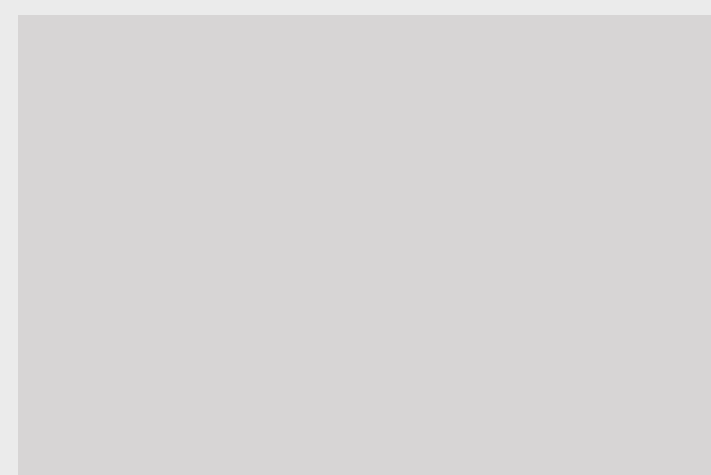
'All Intensive Purposes' or 'All Intents and Purposes'?

We're intent on clearing it up



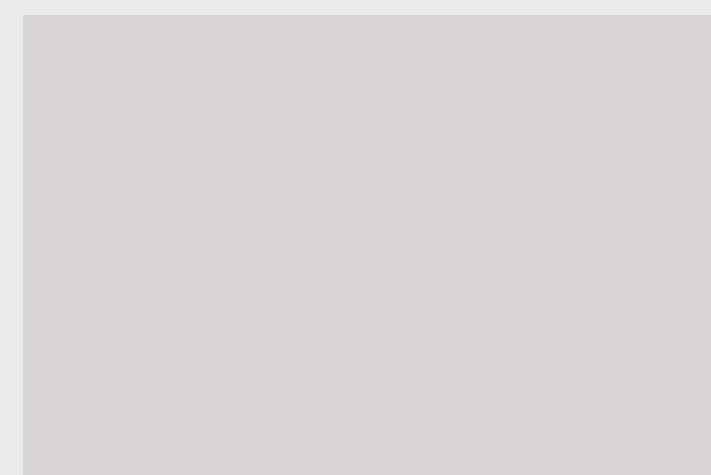
'Nip it in the butt' or 'Nip it in the bud'?

We're gonna stop you right there



Literally

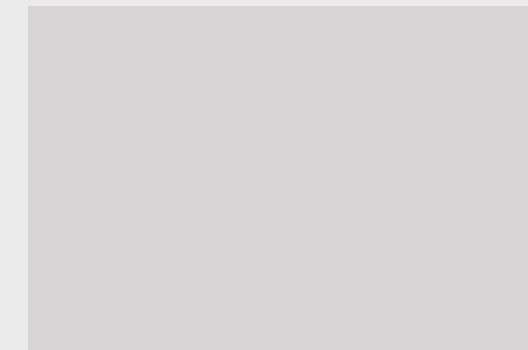
How to use a word that (literally) drives some pe...



Is Singular 'They' a Better Choice?

The awkward case of 'his or her'

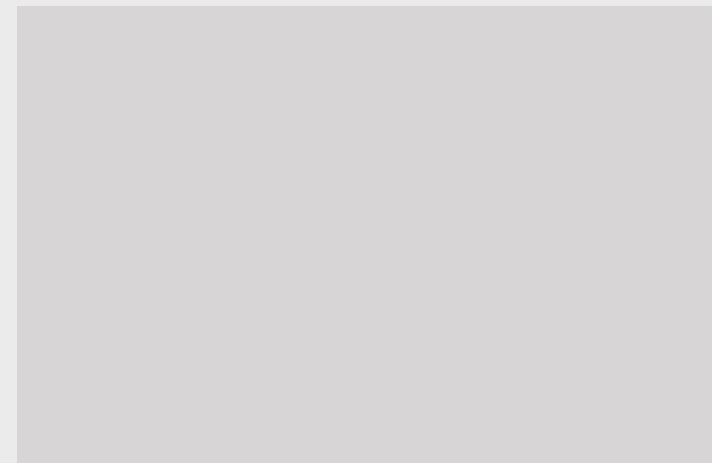
WORD GAMES



Musical Words Quiz

A quiz in common time.

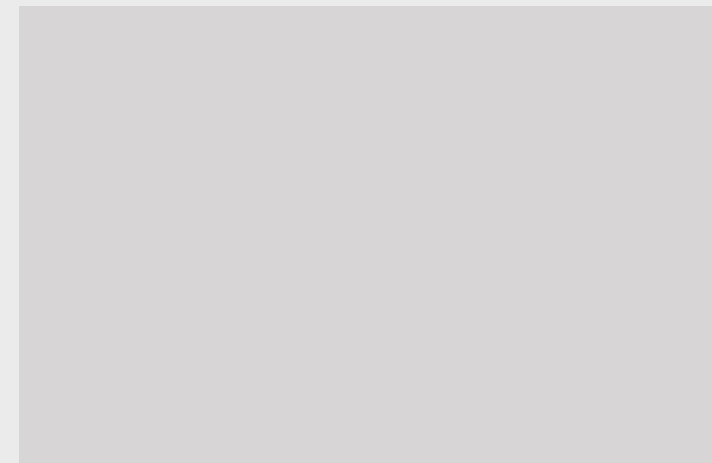
[TAKE THE QUIZ >](#)



A Thanksgiving Word Quiz

We are thankful for obscure words.

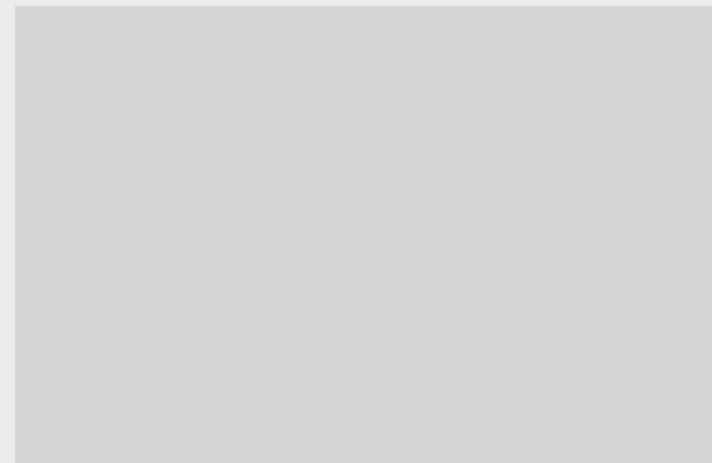
[TAKE THE QUIZ >](#)



Spell It

Can you spell these 10 commonly misspelled words?

[TAKE THE QUIZ >](#)



Bee Cubed

Listen to the words and spell through all three l...

[PLAY THE GAME >](#)

Learn a new word every day. Delivered to your inbox!

Your email address

OTHER MERRIAM-WEBSTER DICTIONARIES
 LEARNER'S ESL DICTIONARY
 VISUAL DICTIONARY
 SCRABBLE® WORD FINDER

MERRIAM-WEBSTER'S UNABRIDGED DICTIONARY
 BRITANNICA ENGLISH - ARABIC TRANSLATION
 ENGLISH - SPANISH-ENGLISH TRANSLATION