

to the form *hack*, as in a *hacking cough*, and the syllable *et* being merely a diminutive suffix.
The spelling *hiccough* arose apparently because the word was thought to have something to do with the word *cough*.

RULES FOR THE SYLLABIC DIVISION OF WORDS IN WRITING
OR PRINT

Rule I. The members of a compound word, which are themselves words with meanings unchanged in the compound, are separated in syllabication; as *foot-stool*, *mill-stone*, *way-faring*.
Rule II. Two or more letters, when they represent a diphthong or form a digraph or trigraph, whether vowel or consonant, are not separated, but are treated as if single vowels or consonants; and this is to be understood when **vowel** or **consonant** is used in the following Rules.

Exceptions: In *pas-stion*, *Hes-stian*, *expres-stion*, *mis-stion*, *pres-sure*, *fis-sure*, *is-sue*, etc. the double *s* is divided. (See Rule IV, A, 2, 3, and Rule VIII).
Rule III. Two vowels coming together and sounded separately belong to separate syllables; as *a-orta*, *a-ert-al*, *sci-ence*, *curt-o-sity*, *o-olite*, *ortho-epy*, *aye-aye*, *mot-ety*, *cow-ard*, *abey-ance*, *joy-ous*, *buoy-ant*.
Rule IV. A. Certain consonants are not to end a syllable:

1. C and **g** "soft," as in: *wa-ger*, *ext-gen-ey*, *eulo-gize*, *in-vin-cible*, except as coming before a recognized English suffix (as *-ing*, *-ed*, *-er*, etc.), as in: *rang-er*, *rag-ing*, *delug-ing*, etc. (see Rule V); or as coming without another consonant next after a short accented vowel, or in the digraph **dg**, as *capac-ity*, *mag-ic*, *reg-i-ment*, *pre-cipice*, *rustic-ity*, *dig-it*, *log-ic*, *judg-ment*, *acknowledg-ing*.

2. Any of the consonants **t**, **s**, **z**, **c**, **sc**, **g** or **d**, when wholly or partially absorbing a following **i** or **e** and thus having the sound [j] or [z] or [ʒ] or [zj] or [dʒ]; as *condi-tion*, *na-tional*, *spe-cial*, *vi-cious*, *con-science*, *gla-zier*, *vi-sion*, *eva-sion*, *ques-tion*, *admon-ition*, *reli-gion*, *pi-geon*, *conta-gious*, *sol-dier*.

Exceptions: For *omnis-cient*, *cf. effi-cient*, etc., and see Rule VIII, B, I — For *pas-stion*, etc., see Rule II, **Exceptions**.

3. Any of the consonants **s**, **z**, **t**, **d**, when modified by a following **u** towards or into the sound [ʃ], [ʒ], [tʃ], [dʒ]: as *cer-ture*, *sen-sual*, *in-sure*, *pres-sure*, *set-zure*, *na-ture*, *fea-ture*, *ves-ture*, *depar-ture*, *intellect-ual*, *tumult-uons*, *proce-dure*. But a consonant so modified is joined to the preceding short vowel or vowel digraph, when this is accented and no consonant intervenes; as *az-ure*, *pleas-ure*, *cas-ual*, *nat-ural*, *habit-ual*, *congrat-ulate*, *ed-ucate*, *nod-ule*, *sched-ule*. In general this Rule does not give way to rule V in respect to etymology. **Exceptions:** *Fraud-ulence*, *sprit-ual*, etc., see Rule V, 1, 2. **B.** Certain consonants are not to begin a syllable:

alone — all + one
avast — hold + fast
dandelion — dent + de lion (Fr.)
doff — do + off
don — do + on
good-bye — God + be + with you
gospel — good + story
husband — house + dweller
lady — loaf + kneader
lord — loaf + ward
marshal — horse + servant
neighbour — high + dweller
steward — sty + ward
walnut — foreign + nut
wanton — without + training
woman — wife + man
world — man + age

Some of the best examples of amalgamation are to be met with in English place names, such as *Essex* (from *East Saxons*), *Leicester* (from *Legionis Castra*), *Lincoln* (from *Linnum Colonia*), *Norfolk* (from the *Northern Folk*), and *Shorover* (from *Chateau Vert*).
In connection with these amalgamated compounds, numerous adjectives and adverbs with the prefix *a-* might well be listed, since they were originally prepositional phrases. Some of the best known are: *abed*, *aboard*, *abroad*, *adrift*, *afire*, *afloat*, *aglow*, *ajar*, *akimbo*, *alive*, *aloft*, *apace*, *ashore*, *astern* and *awry*.
Sometimes the original phrase is also used to-day, as for example, *on board*, *on fire*, *on foot*, *on shore*.
Attention should be called to the fact that one element of a compound word tends to become obscured in pronunciation, and thus to lose its significance. As result of this tendency we now have a great many words in English which were formerly compounds of full-words and which were felt as such, but which now no longer show the elements of which they are composed. Examples are *window*, from Old English *wind + eage* (wind-eye); *hussy*, from Old English *huswif* (house-wife); *brinestone*, from *brin* (by metathesis from *burn*, cf. Germ. *brennen*) + *stone* (burn-stone); *barn*, from Old English *ber + oern* (*ber* — barley, *oern* — building in which barley was kept); *orchard*, from Old English *ort + geard* (literally *garden yard*, the first element being probably the same as Latin *hortus*).

In a word like *cupboard* the compound has become obscured in pronunciation, although the spelling still keeps clear the elements of which it is composed.
In many instances popular etymology has endeavoured to make full compounds out of words which were of quite different etymological origin. Thus the word *hiccough*, pronounced *hickup*, seems really to be derived from a form *hicket*, the first syllable — *hick* being allied

