

## endeavor verb

#### Save Word

en·deav·or | \ in-'de-vər 🕢 \ endeavored; endeavoring \ in-'de-v(ə-)riŋ 🕥 \

## Definition of endeavor (Entry 1 of 2)

<u>transitive verb</u>

- to attempt (something, such as the fulfillment of an <u>obligation</u>) by <u>exertion</u> of effort
   *II endeavors* to finish the race
- 2 *archaic* : to <u>strive</u> to achieve or reach

#### intransitive verb

: to work with set purpose

## endeavor noun

## Definition of endeavor (Entry 2 of 2)

- 1 : serious determined effort
- 2 : activity directed toward a goal : ENTERPRISE
  // fields of endeavor

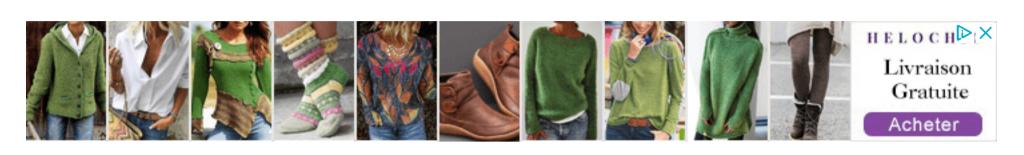
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↓ Choose the Right Synonym

↓ More Example Sentences

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## Synonyms for endeavor

#### Synonyms: Verb

<u>bang away, beaver (away), dig (away), drudge, fag, grub, hump, hustle, labor,</u> <u>moil, peg (away), plod, plow, plug, slave, slog, strain, strive, struggle, sweat, toil,</u> <u>travail, tug, work</u>

#### Synonyms: Noun

<u>assay</u> [*archaic*], <u>attempt</u>, <u>bash</u> [*chiefly British*], <u>bid</u>, <u>crack</u>, <u>essay</u>, <u>fling</u>, <u>go</u>, <u>offer</u>, pass, <u>shot</u>, <u>stab</u>, <u>trial</u>, <u>try</u>, <u>whack</u>, <u>whirl</u>

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#### **Choose the Right Synonym for** *endeavor*

## Verb

ATTEMPT, TRY, ENDEAVOR, ESSAY, STRIVE mean to make an effort to accomplish an end. ATTEMPT stresses the initiation or beginning of an effort. // will attempt to photograph the rare bird // TRY is often close to ATTEMPT but may stress effort or experiment made in the hope of testing or proving something. // tried to determine which was the better procedure // ENDEAVOR heightens the implications of exertion and difficulty. // endeavored to find crash survivors in the mountains // ESSAY implies difficulty but also suggests tentative trying or experimenting. // will essay a dramatic role for the first time // STRIVE implies great exertion against great difficulty and specifically suggests persistent effort. // continues to strive for peace //

#### Examples of endeavor in a Sentence

#### Verb

// As urbanization advanced, it swept away the distinctive physical and social characteristics of the culture of the past, substituting undifferentiated built environments and standardized patterns of dress and behavior. Hand-camera users *endeavored* to reaffirm individuality and arrest time in the face of the encroaching depersonalization of existence.

— Naomi Rosenblum, A World History of Photography, 1989

*II* At some time in their careers, most good historians itch to write a history of the world, *endeavor* to discover what makes humanity the most destructive and creative of species.

— Paul Johnson, New York Times Book Review, 7 Apr. 1985

#### **Recent Examples on the Web: Verb**

*II* The luckiest experimenters could *endeavor* to be selected among the few projects sent to orbit, first on the space shuttle and now to the International Space Station.

— <u>Kenneth Chang, *New York Times*, "Jeff Bezos' Company Is Carrying Scientific Cargo to</u> <u>Space. It's Not Amazon.," 13 Oct. 2020</u>

*II* The third and final phase of the consultation process will begin later this month and run until Nov. 6, after which the WTO will *endeavor* to name a consensus winner of the race.

— <u>Bryce Baschuk, *Bloomberg.com*, "Race to WTO Leadership Is Down to the Final Two</u> <u>Candidates," 7 Oct. 2020</u>

These example sentences are selected automatically from various online news sources to reflect current usage of the word 'endeavor.' Views expressed in the examples do not represent the opinion of Merriam-Webster or its editors. <u>Send us feedback</u>.

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#### First Known Use of endeavor

#### Verb

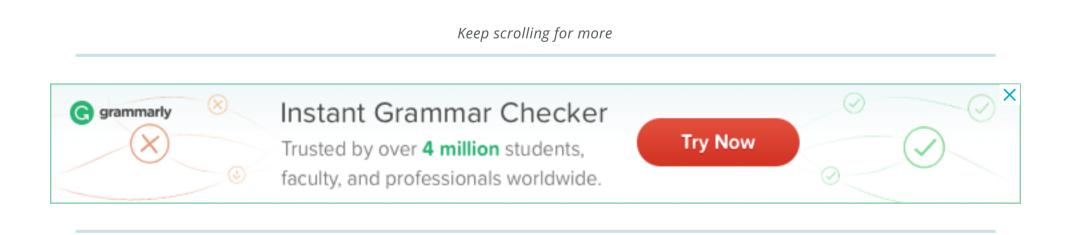
15th century, in the meaning defined at transitive sense 2

#### Noun

15th century, in the meaning defined at sense 1

#### History and Etymology for *endeavor* Verb and Noun

Middle English *endeveren* to exert oneself, from *en-* + *dever* duty — more at <u>DEVOIR</u>





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## Time Traveler for *endeavor*

*endeavor* was in the 15th century

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## More Definitions for *endeavor*

endeavor verb
 English Language Learners Definition of *endeavor* (Entry 1 of 2)

## endeavor noun

# English Language Learners Definition of *endeavor* (Entry 2 of 2)

*formal* : a serious effort or attempt

See the full definition for endeavor in the English Language Learners Dictionary

## endeavor verb

en·deav·or | \ in-'de-vər 🕥 \ endeavored; endeavoring

#### Kids Definition of *endeavor* (Entry 1 of 2)

: to make an effort : try hard

## endeavor noun

#### Kids Definition of *endeavor* (Entry 2 of 2)

*:* a serious effort or attempt // He is involved in several business *endeavors*.

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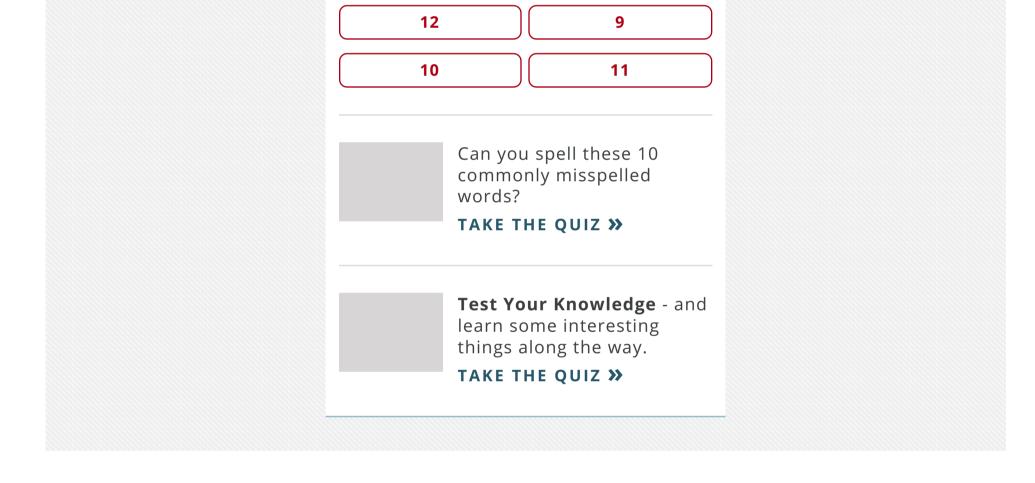
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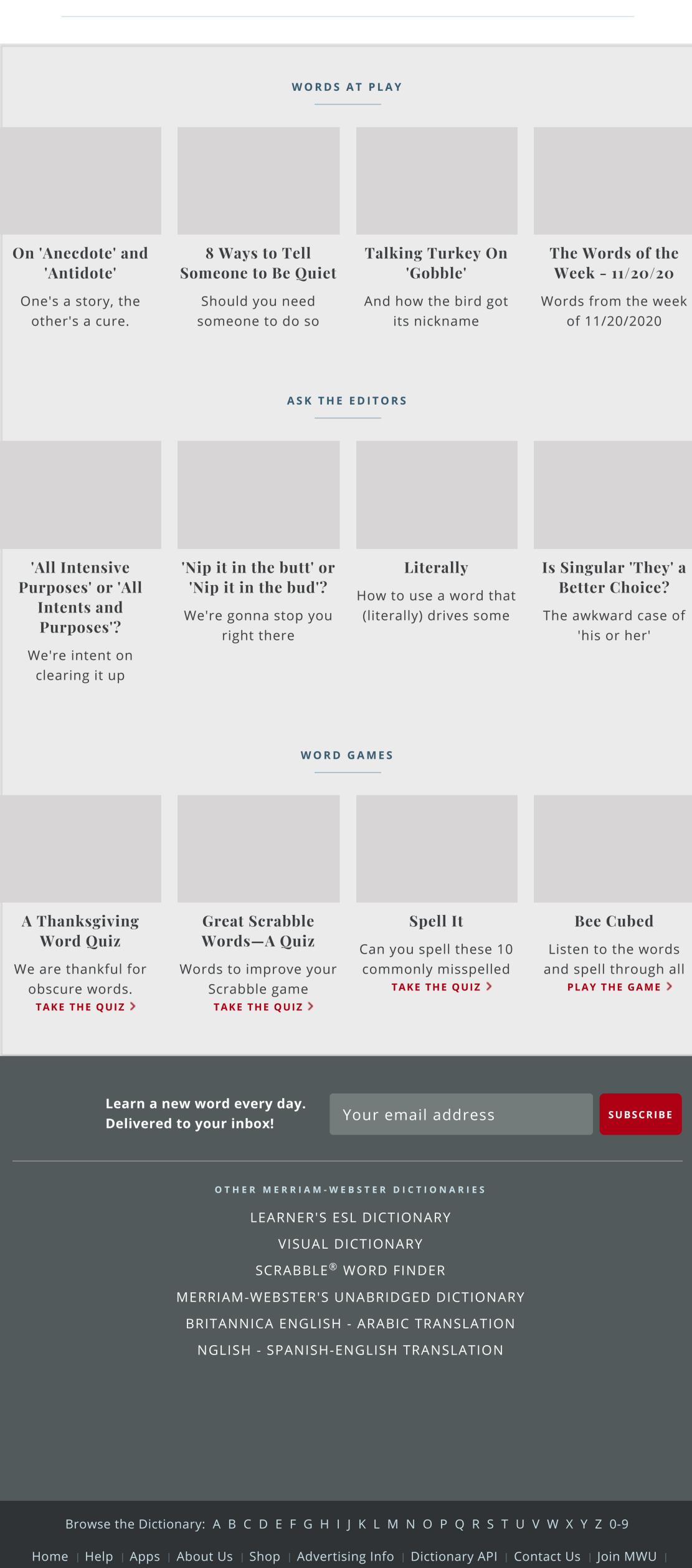
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