Grammatical information (in square brackets) Verb inflections edit • verb:(edits, editing, edited):[with obj.] 1 prepare (written material) for publication by correcting, condensing, or otherwise modifying it: Volume l was edited by J. Johnson. choose material for (a film or radio or television programme) and arrange it to form a coherent whole: (as adj.edited):edited high Typical form (in bold) lights of the match. ■ change (text) on a computer. Typical pattern (in bold) ■:(edit something out):remove unnecessary or inappropriate material from a text, film, or radio or television programme. 2 be editor of (a newspaper or magazine). ▶ noun a change or correction made as a result of editing. ORIGIN late 18th cent. (as a verb): partly a backformation from **EDITOR**, reinforced by French *éditer* 'to edit' (from *édition* 'edition').

Plural form

elf ➤ noun (pl. elves) a supernatural creature of folk tales, typically represented as a small, delicate, elusive figure in human form with pointed ears, magical powers, and a capricious nature.

DERIVATIVES elfish adjective, elven adjective (literary),

elvish adjective.

ORIGIN Old English, of Germanic origin; related to German Alp 'nightmare'.

Cross-reference entry eon ▶ noun US spelling of AEON.

Derivatives (in alphabetical order)

Variant spelling

epicentre (US **epicenter**) ▶ **noun** the point on the earth's surface vertically above the focus of an earthquake. ■ the central point of something, typically a difficult or unpleasant situation: the epicentre of labour militancy was the capital itself.

DERIVATIVES epicentral adjective.

- ORIGIN late 19th cent.: from Greek epikentros 'situated on a centre', from epi 'upon' + kentron 'centre'.