sambok n, D/Afk, x
    see: sjambok

sassaby n, Tsw, x
    see: tsessebe

schaapsteker n, D/Afk, x
    see: skaapsteker

silvie n, E, + coll
    see: blinkvis

simba n, Swahili, + coll
    equiv of ‘lion’; also used as proper n for a lion

similarly pronunc
    [ˈsɪməli] + [sɪməli] x

single
    used to give emphasis to a statement may be ambiguous, eg ‘Every single man will be given a gift’ could mean that married men will be excepted

sink pronunc & sp
    [ˈsɪŋk]
    a kitchen or scullery basin with a drain; zinc [zɪŋk] is a metal

sis! int, D/Afk, x
    exclamation of disgust, fr Afk ‘sies’ the equiv of ‘phew! , ugh! ’

sjambok n, D/Afk, +
    alt: sambok
    short plaited leather whip or thick strip of leather, usu made of hippopotamus or rhinoceros hide
skaamhaai n, D/Afk, x
see: skaamoog (ii)

skaamoog (i) n, D/Afk, x (*Haploblepharus fuscus*)
alt: dogfish
marine fish found in shallow water along the coast fr Durban to Port Nolloth

skaamoog (ii) n, D/Afk, x (*Holohalaelurus regani*)
alt: Izak, lazyshark, leopardshark, skaamhaai, tigershark
common marine fish found fr Port Nolloth to the Natal coast

skaamoog (iii) n, D/Afk, x (*Haploblepharus edwardsi*)
alt: dogfish, pofadderhaai,
marine fish found in shallow water fr Port Nolloth to Durban

skaap n, D/Afk, x
lit Afk 'sheep'; applied to a person who speaks or acts foolishly

skaapbossie n, D/Afk, ?
see: ankerkaroo

skaapsteker n, D/Afk, +
alt: schaapsteker
any of several non-aggressive & generally harmless backfanged Afr snakes; the spotted skaapsteker (*Psammophylax rhombofera*) is irregularly marked in shades of brown; the striped skaapsteker (*Psammophylax tritaeniatus tritaeniatus*) has two or three longitudinal bands on a greyish brown back; the name 'skaapsteker' is misleading as the snake is quite incapable of killing a sheep, but probably arises fr the fact that these snakes are often found in grazing pens & kraals wh they frequent in search of mice

skelm n/adj, D/Afk, + coll
as a n, 'crook, rascal, rogue, scoundrel'; as an adj, 'cunning, sly'
skipjack (i) n, E, +
  see: elf(t)

skipjack (ii) n, E, +
  see: Cape salmon (ii)

skipjack (iii) n, E, + (Euthynnus pelamis)
  alt: bonita, watermelon
  fish found in all but the coldest seas, in S Afr fr Knysna to Delagoa Bay; important canning fish of the Ea & of Amer

skoff n, D/Afk, x
  see: scoff

skokiaan n, Ngu, +
  potent drink brewed by the Ba esp on the Reef; the basis is usu fermented yeast to wh other ingredients, even carbide, are added to give it a ‘kick’
  see also: Cape smoke, mampoer, peach brandy, vaaljapie, witblits

skollie n, prob Afk, + coll
  alt: skolly
  Cape coloured hooligan or member of a quarrelsome gang of street loafers
  see also: tsotsi

skolly n, prob Afk, +
  see: skollie

skop v, D/Afk, x
  Afk equiv of ‘kick’

skoppie n, D/Afk, x
  dustpan
skottelploeg braai n, D/Afk, ?
concave disc-shaped plough-share used in S Afrika to fry meat at a braai or barbecue
see also: braai

skrik v, D/Afk, x
Afk equiv of 'to get a fright, be frightened or startled'

slangbos n, D/Afk, +
see: bankrotbos

slangetjie n, D/Afk, +
see: kapitein

slanghoutjie n, D/Afk, +
see: bankrotbos

slangkos n, D/Afk, + (*Amanita phalloides*)
poisonous mushroom, bearing a close resemblance to the common field mushroom, which has proved fatal to humans who have eaten it; the vernacular name is derived fr an old belief that the plant forms the food (Afk kos) of snakes (Afk slang(e)) and supplies them with venom

slap, smack, hit
often used with superfluous or incorrect prep, eg 'I'll slap (smack) you through the face' x, 'I'll hit you over the head' x; 'I'll slap (smack) your face' +, 'I'll hit you on the head' +; idiomatically used, the following are +: 'He slapped me on the back & congratulated me', 'He hit me on the head & in the face' as distinct fr 'The stone hit his left eye'

slaploot n, D/Afk, x
see: mountain syringa
sleeping sickness n, E, +
endemic, often fatal disease caused by two trypanosomes, characterised by fever, lethargy and tremors; transmitted by the tsetse fly; prevalent in tropical Afr
see also: nagana, tsetse fly

slinger n, E, + (*Chrysoblephus puniceus*)
found on the ea coast of Afr, in deep water; most common off the Moçambique coast; smaller species plentiful off Durban; very young fishes sometimes found at Knysna

sloot n, D/Afk, +
narrow channel, natural or artificial, through wh water flows

smaak v, D/Afk, x
Afk equiv of ‘taste’; ‘I *smaak* (like, approve of) that kind of thing’ x

small bont-legged tick n, E, +
see: bont-legged tick

small brown afrikaner n, E/D/Afk, +
see: afrikaner (ii)

smallmouth bass n, E, + (*Micropterus dolomieu*)
game fish, imported fr Nth Amer, wh prefers cool water that does not flow too strongly; the smallmouth is a predator wh will eat other fishes only slightly smaller than itself

smallmouth yellowfish n, E, + (*Barbus holubi*)
popular sporting fish, endemic to the Orange-Vaal system, but now artificially cultured & introduced elsewhere as well; it is a bottom feeder taking small aquatic organisms & aquatic plants; it is a slow grower, but long-lived; fish. 15 years old, have been found frequently
small-scaled yellowfish n, E, + (Barbus polylepis)

occurs in the ea-flowing streams of the Transvaal & is apparently restricted to the cooler stretches over an altitude of 500 m above sea level; it feeds on algae fr the mud; like most of the yellowfishes, it is slow-growing & relatively longlived

small spotted genet n, E, + (Genetta genetta)

alt: musk cat
small, musk-producing cat with blackish spots & weighing up to just over 2 kg

smoor v, D/Afk, x

Afk equiv of 'braise, stew (fish, meat, etc)'
see also: smoorvis

smoorvis n, D/Afk, +

old Cape Malay dish consisting of braised fish & onions
see also: smoor

smous n, G/D/Afk, + coll
derogatory term for a hawker or pedlar; in earlier days an itinerant, usu Jewish, merchant trader, whence the name 'schmaus' fr 'Mauschel' = Jewish merchant; as v = to dispose of goods in an undignified manner

snakebird n, E, +

see: darter

snake flower n, E, + (Ornithogalum flavissimum)
similar to the chincherinchee, but the flowers are lemon yellow; the vernacular name is prob derived fr the flowering peduncle

snake muishond n, D/Afk/E, + (Poecilogale albinucha)

slender, small Afr burrowing weasel; the top of its head is white
snoek (i) n, D/Afk, +(Scomberomorus leopardus)

fish very common in the central tropical Indo-Pacific; found as far s as Algoa Bay

snoek (ii) n, D/Afk, +(Sphyraena japonica) (Sphyraena jello)

alt: barracouda (general), seapike (Natal)
an Indo-Malayan marine fish, not common off our coastline

snoek (iii) n, D/Afk, +(Sphyraena obtusata)

alt: barracouda (general), seapike (Natal),
marine fish widespread in the Indo-Pacific, found along the Natal coastline

snoek (iv) n, D/Afk, +(Thyrsites atun)

alt: barrac(o)uda, barrac(o)uta (Australia)
fish found in the colder waters of most oceans of the sth hemisphere; flesh eaten fresh, but frequently smoked

snotsiekte n, D/Afk, ?

cattle disease characterised by a discharge fr mouth & nostrils; also occurs in certain wild game, including wildebees(t)

snow

see: fall

snysels n, D/Afk, ?

alt: melksnysels
strips of pastry resembling Italian ‘pasta’, cooked in milk; a traditional S Afr dish
see also: melkkos

so...as

see: as...as
soetkoekie n, D/Afk, +

alt: soetkoekies
small, hard, home-made biscuit, plain but sweet; ‘soetkoek’, used in the Afk expression ‘alles vir soetkoek opeet’ = to be gullible

soldaat n, D/Afk, x
see: bottlebrush

soldier (i) n, E, + (Cheimerius nufar)

alt: red stumpnose (Knysna), rubalo, sunfish, wittevis (Cape)
widespread in the Indo-Pacific, found as far s as the Cape; common food-fish in Portuguese Ea Afr

soldier (ii) n, E, +
see: red hot poker

so long

so long, in the sense of ‘in the meantime’ is prob an Afrikanerism derived fr ‘so lank’, ‘will you type this letter for me so long ?’ x ‘... in the meantime?’ +

sombre bulbul n, E/prob Ar, +
see: willie
see also: bulbul

somebody/someone
see: anybody

someday x
should be ‘some day’

sommer adv, D/Afk, x

Afk equiv of ‘just, merely, for no particular reason, without any difficulty, without further ado, straight off, immediately’, eg ‘Ek
wou sommer geweet het of hy nog daar is’ (I merely wanted to know whether he was still there), ‘Waarom het jy dit gedoen?’ – ‘Sommer!’ (Why did you do it? – For no particular reason), ‘Hy het dit sommer reggekry’ (He did it without any difficulty), ‘Hy is sommer ’n twak’ (He is just a rotter), ‘Hy is sommer ’n lekker kërel’ (He is a really good sort), ‘Jy moet sommer weer terugkom’ (You must come back immediately); ‘If she heard the news, she would just sommer pass out’
see also: darem, maar, mos

sonbesie n, D/Afk, x
alt: boomsingertjie
Afk equiv of ‘cicada’

songalolo n, Ngu, + coll (Julus terrestris)
alt: songhalolo
a centipede; fr (uku-) songa wh = to roll up (like a worm)

songhalolo n, Ngu, x
see: songalolo

sonvis n, D/Afk, x
see: soldier (i)

soolskoen n, D/Afk, x
see: kaparang

sooty albatross n, E, +
see: albatross

sophisticated adj, E, +
complex & complicated; refined; eg ‘a sophisticated machine’

sopie n, D/Afk, + coll
Afk equiv of ‘drink, spot, tot’
sort of x
‘to a certain extent’ is the correct E expression as in ‘Do you understand?’ ‘Sort of’ x

sosaties n, M or Tamil/D/Afk, +
small cubes of curried, marinated meat arranged on skewers & grilled over the embers of an open fire

Sotho n, So, +
member of the Sotho tribe; group of closely related languages comprising N So, S So & Tsw
see also: North Sotho, South Sotho

sour grass n, E, +
species of grass that is hard & has little nutritional value, eg Enneapogon scaber
see also: sweet grass

sourveld n, E, +
veld consisting mainly of grasses that prefer acid soil conditions & afford inferior grazing; Sourveld = grass-land areas in the est parts of S Afr
see also: sweetveld

sourveld tick n, E, +
see: bush tick

sousboontjies n, D/Afk, + coll
[ 'sousbuənkɪs]
soaked & cooked dried beans served with a sour-sweet vinegar sauce

South Africa
is not hyphenated as is the Afk ‘Suid-Afrika’
South Africanism n, E, +
acceptable word or phrase peculiar to the Republic of S Afr

South African nightjar n, E, + (Caprimulgus pectoralis)
prob most common S Afr nightjar, esp in the Cape where its characteristic call sounds on moonlight nights; by day it stays in the shade of bushes; hunts at night fr a fixed perch & does not hawk over a wide area as other species do; inhabits wooded areas

South African spitting cobra n, E, +
see: rinkals

South African wistaria n, E, +
see: Vanwykshout

southappie n, D/Afk, + coll
Afk equiv of ‘savoury, snack’; lit means ‘salty titbit’
see also: happies

South-Eastern n, E, +
see: Cape Doctor

southern brown mamba n, E/Ngu, +
see: black mamba

southern file snake n, E, +
see: Cape file snake

South Sotho n, So, +
language spoken by the Basuto of Lesotho

South West Africa
alt: South-West Africa
as abbr South West
whether or not the hyphen is inserted, consistency should be the rule
cf Northwest Territories (Canada), North Eastern Transvaal

soutribbetjie nn, D/Afk, + coll
rib of lamb, salted & spiced & left to marinate for a few days before being boiled & grilled over coals

so what?
crude equiv of 'What does it matter?' 'What about it?'

spadona n, ?, +
type of ostrich feather; spadonas = the first year's feathers plucked fr a young ostrich

span n, E, +
pair or team of horses or other animals matched in colour, size & strength, & used to draw a cart, plough, etc

spanspek n, D/Afk, + (Cucumis melo)
alt: cantaloup melon, musk melon, sweet melon of the fam Cucurbitaceae, with a rough skin and sweet, juicy orange flesh

speck n, D/Afk, +
alt: spek
bacon, very fat pork, fat of seals, whales, etc; the word is used in S Afr & Amer

spek n, D/Afk, x
see: speck

spekboom n, D/Afk, + (Portulacaria afra)
alt: olifantskos
shrub or small tree up to 2,5 m high; stems & branches succulent; drought resistant & a very valuable fodder plant
spierhaai n, D/Afk, x
   see: spear-eye shark

spiny lobster n, E, +
   see: rock lobster

spitting cobra n, E, +
   see: black-necked cobra

sponssiekte n, D/Afk, ?
   cattle disease wh derives its name fr the spongy swellings it causes on
   the body of the animal; spons = sponge

spook n, D/Afk, + coll
   Afk equiv of ‘ghost, apparition, spectre’

spookvoël n, D/Afk, +
   see: grey-headed bush shrike

spoonful
   pl spoonfuls
   see also: plural of compound nouns

spoor n, D/Afk, +
   Afk equiv of ‘track, trace, footprint, footprint, trail or sent of
   animal’; eg ‘We followed the spoor of the wounded lion’ +

sporrie n, D/Afk, + (Spergula arvensis)
   weed found in wheat fields in the Cape; introduced in Van
   Riebeeck’s time as a fodder plant, but soon recognised as a weed

spot-tail n, E, + (Alestes imberi)
   small fish seldom exceeding a length of 20 cm; the deeper body &
the black spot on the caudal peduncle distinguishes this species fr
the dwarf tigerfish

**spotted grunter** n, E, + (*Pomadasys operculare*)

alt: knorhaan (Cape), purple grunter (Delagoa), roncador (Port),
tiger (Est Cape)
fish found in tidal estuaries of the sth Cape coast during summer
only; fr Algoa Bay ea & nthwards present in estuaries & in the sea
throughout the year

**spotted gully shark** n, E, +

see: spear-eye shark

**spotted hyena** n, E, + (*Crocuta crocuta*)

approx the size of a large, powerfully built dog, but with a sloping
back; reddish through buffy-ochre to dull grey; body covered with
large, more or less oval, irregularly distributed dark brown spots

**spotted skaapsteker** n, E/D/Afk, +

see: skaapsteker

**springbok** (i) n, E, ?

see: springbuck

**Springbok** (ii) n, D/Afk, +

pl: Springboks
amateur sportsman or woman chosen to represent S Afr in
international matches or competitions, & entitled to wear the
registered Springbok colours; used in this sense 'bok' is never
anglicised
see also: springbuck

**springbuck** n, E, + (*Antidorcas marsupialis marsupialis*)

alt: springbok
graceful, brightly-marked antelope; reddish-brown on back separated
by a dark line fr the pure white of the underparts; stands approx 75 cm at the shoulder; both sexes have small straight horns; the name derives fr the habit of leaping & jumping; once very common but now highly protected; ‘springbuck’ is preferable to ‘springbok’ as the E pronunc is valid & acceptable cf gemsbok

**springer** (i) n, E, + (*Heteromugil tricuspidens*)

alt: haarder, streep-haarder
general name for large marine fish capable of clearing more than 2 m & covering 12 m in one leap, a feat wh can be repeated several times in succession; found mainly in estuaries fr Mossel Bay to Durban

**springer** (ii) n, E, +

see: Cape salmon (ii)

**springer** (iii) n, E, + (*Mugil cephalus*)

alt: flathead mullet, haarder, mullet, tainha (Port)
species of fish found in all tropical & temperate waters of the Indian, s Atlantic & s Pacific oceans; has great leaping powers

**springer** (iv) n, E, + (*Trachystoma euronotus*)

alt: haarder, mullet
fish found in fresh water along the est Cape coast, in the sea along the Natal coast; the fresh-water fish may be almost black above, shading to dusky silver below in turbid water

**springhaas** n, E/D/Afk x

see: springhare

**springhare** n, E, + (*Pedetes cafer*)

alt: Cape jumping hare, Cape kangaroo; jumping hare, springhaas nocturnal rodent of sth & est Afr resembling a hare & to a certain extent, a small kangaroo; has pointed ears, very short forelegs & long, powerful hindlegs; long bushy tail wh becomes more bushy at the tip; usu progresses in a series of kangaroo-like hops
sprinkaanvoël n, D/Afk, ?
see: wattled starling

spruit n. D/Afk, +
small tributary stream of a river, containing little or no water, except in the rainy season

spuug slang n, D/Afk, x
see: rinkals

square-lipped rhinoceros n, E, +
see: white rhinoceros

square-tailed drongo n, E, +
see: drongo

squash n, Amer Ind +
asakutasasquash = green thing eaten green
in S Afr & Amer any of various fruits of the plants of the genus Cucurbita, widely cultivated as a vegetable, eg gem squash (green, approx the size and shape of an orange), hubbard squash (larger, shaped like a lemon)

squatter n, E, +
in S Afr, Ba who settles on land without right or title

squeaker n, E, + (Synodontis zambezensis)
fish with distinguishing branched mandibular barbels; the vernacular name derives fr the squeaking noise made by the bones of the fish moving in their sockets; colour variable, olive-brown or grey without spots, or spots varying in number over the whole body, sometimes even on the fins

squeeter n, E, + coll
nipple-like gadget used for extracting juice fr an uncut, unpeeled orange by inserting one end into the orange & sucking fr the other
staggers n, E, +

disease of horses, usu the result of eating senecio or ragwort

stamp v, E, +

the process by wh the outer husk is removed fr ripe mealie seeds

stamper n, E, +

wooden pestle employed in stamping mealies
see also: samp, stamp

stampers n, E, +

crushing machines used in the gold-mining industry

stampmielies n, D/Afk, ?
see: samp

stamvrug n, D/Afk, x (Bequaertiodendron magalismontanum)

alt: wild fig
lit: stem fruit
shrub or small densely leaved tree, with dark green glossy thick leaves & strongly scented flowers, edible bright red oblong fruit with a leathery skin, pink flesh & a Milky juice; in some areas the fruit forms the major part of the summer diet of baboons

stand n, E, +

plot of land, site; originally standplaas (standing place)
see also: erf, plot

stand forward v, E, x

lit transl of Afk 'staan vorentoe'; should be 'move forward'

stay/live

stay = reside temporarily; live = reside permanently;
eg 'I shall stay with a friend in Pretoria until I have completed my studies, after which I shall return to Nylstroom where I live'
steekgras n, D/Afk, +

Afk steek = prick, gras = grass
any one of the grass species *Aristida* wh have spined, not bearded, seeds; the latter are known as Bushman grasses
see also: toagras

steenbok n, D/Afk, +

any small antelope of the genus *Raphicerus*, of the plains of sth & est Afr, so called because it frequents rocky koppies; *R. campestris* is small, graceful, large-eared, light rufous-fawn; the male has short upright horns

steenbokboegoe n, D/Afk, + (*Agathosma ciliata*)
bushy shrub up to 70 cm high; the leaves smell of aniseed & when distilled yield a lemon-yellow oil; the vernacular name is derived fr the fact that steenbok very commonly browse the young tops
see also: steenbok

steenbras (i) n, D/Afk, + (*Sparodon durbanensis*)
alt: musselcracker, mussel crusher, sand blouer, sand stompkop (Cape), brusher, silver steenbras, steenbras (Est Cape to Natal)
one of the best known angling fishes found in S Afr waters fr the Cape to Natal; greyish in colour, with faint stripes along the body
see also: bank steenbras, black steenbras, red steenbras, river steenbras, sand steenbras, white steenbras, yellow steenbras

steenbras (ii) n, D/Afk, +
see: biskop

steenbuck n, D/Afk/E, +
see: steenbok

steenklipvis n, D/Afk, x
see: butterfish (iii)
steentjie n, D/Afk, + (*Spondyliosoma emarginatum*)
fish found in S Afr fr Saldanha Bay to Madagascar

steenvis n, D/Afk, x (*Chilodactylus fasciatus*)
alt: niggerfish
found fr Port Nolloth to Durban mostly in shallow water among rocks

stellenbosched n, adj, ? + coll
coined during the S Afr war & applied to British officers who proved to be insufficiently competent & were sent to Stellenbosch away fr the battlefields

Sterkte! n, D/Afk, x
lit: strength
as an exclamation ‘Courage! ’ ‘Keep your chin up! ’

sterretjie n, D/Afk, x
see: autumn star

stick away v, E, +
S Africanism for ‘hide oneself’; prob Afk infl ‘wegsteek’

still
this adv should be correctly placed in a sentence ‘The hail is lying still in the garden’ x, prob Afk infl ‘Die hael lê nog in die tuin’; ‘The hail is still lying...’ +

stinkblaar (i) n, D/Afk, +
plant of the species *Datura ferox, D. metel, D. stramonium*, herblike annual wh is regarded as poisonous, though goats, donkeys & cattle eat the plants down to the ground at the beginning of winter, when other herbage is scarce
stinkblaar (ii)

see: black stinkwood

stinker (i) n, E, +

see: butterfish (vi)

stinker (ii) n, E, + *(Macronectes giganteus)*

alt: giant petrel

common name given to a marine bird of the sth oceans, wh follows boats to feed on offal; differs fr the albatross in that it has small wings, a large body & a heavy bill; in flight it is ungainly

stinkpeul n, D/Afk, x

see: redheart

stinkwood n, D/Afk/E, +

name applied mainly to *Ocotea bullata*, the true stinkwood tree (see black stinkwood), but also to *Pygeum africanum* (see red stinkwood) & *Celtis africana* (see white stinkwood); the newly cut or planed wood has an unpleasant odour; hard to work, but durable

stockfish n, E, + *(Merluccius capensis)*

alt: hake

found in great numbers on the w coast of S Afr, but progressively scarcer eastwards to just beyond East London; commercially the most important in S Afr

stoep n, D/Afk, +

open, paved or concrete portico, sometimes terraced, extending along a side of a dwelling; one or several doors may open onto the area

stoke v, E, + coll

distil spirit in an unprofessional way, the implication being that it is done illegally
stomp (i) adj, D/Afk, x
   Afk equiv of ‘blunt’ eg ‘This knife is stomp’

stomp (ii) v, Amer, + coll
   tread or trample heavily or in an indignant manner

stompie n, D/Afk, + coll
   Afk equiv of ‘end, stub, small stump’ esp of a cigarette or cigar

stompkop n, D/Afk, +
   see: biskop

stompstertjie n, D/Afk, ?
   see: crombec, krombek

stone (i) n, E, +
   in GB the weight of a person is calculated in stones; in S Afr it was calculated in lbs before the introduction of the metric system

stone (ii) n, E, +
   the hard kernel in a fruit such as an apricot, peach, etc
   see also: pip

stone bream n, E, +
   see: butterfish (i)

stone chat n, E, + (*Saxicola torquata*)
   alt: bontrokkie
   common bird found in areas where there are few trees, but low scrub, esp along streams; usu perches low on the tip of a dry twig or grass stem

stone faces n, E, +
   general name for the better known species of *Lithops* wh are
commonly found in rock gardens; in their natural surroundings the plants grow flush with the ground & their colour usu matches that of their immediate surroundings.

**stone fish** n, E, +

see: butterfish (i)

**stone plant** n, E, +

small succulent plant resembling a pebble, of the *Mesembryeae* fam & the genus *Lithops*

see also: stone faces

**stop street** n, E, +

S Afr name for a side street with a stop sign at a main street intersection

see also: side street

**story/stories**

either storey (pl storeys) or story (pl stories) is correct for ‘the parts into wh a house is divided horizontally’, but the former & its plural are preferable for ‘the parts of a house...’, as a distinction can then be made between storey(s) & story/ies wh = ‘account given of an incident(s)’

**stove** n, E, +

alt: coal stove, electric stove

S Afr equiv of ‘cooker’ in GB

see also: slow combustion stove

**strandloper** n, D/Afk, +

alt: beach ranger

member of a tribe of Hott or Bu who lived on seafood found along the Cape beaches; now extinct

**Strandveld** n, D/Afk, +

coastal region in the sth Cape Province between Cape Agulhas & Mossel Bay, including the districts of Bredasdorp & Riversdale
**strandwolf** n, D/Afk, x

see: brown hyena

**streepdassie** n, D/Afk, + (*Diplodus trifasciatus*)

alt: bontrok (Knysna), wildeperd (Cape), zebra (general) local name in the Cape for fish found off the coast

**streephaarder** n, D/Afk, x

see: springer (i)

**street** n, E, +

equiv of ‘road’ in GB, where ‘street’ is used only in built-up areas with shops, offices, etc on either side of a street, & never of suburban residential ‘roads’

**strelitzia** prop n, - + (*Strelitzia alba*)

alt: wild banana
genus of Afr herbaceous plants, with rigid distichous leaves & richly coloured flowers wh have three sepals & three very irregular petals; named after the Countess von Mecklenburg-Strelitz; the leaves resemble those of the banana plant, hence the alt name

**strength** pronunc

\[ [\text{str}] \epsilon \cap \theta ] + [\text{str}] \epsilon \cap \theta ] x

**strepie** n, D/Afk, +

see: bamboo fish

**striped dogfish** n, E, +

see: lazyshack (ii)

**striped karanteen** n, E/? , +

see: bamboo-fish
striped muishond n, E/D/Afk, + (Ictonyx striata)

S Afr variety of nocturnal polecat resembling a ferret in size & form; can be tamed
see also: muishond

striped skaapsteker n, E/D/Afk, +

see: skaapsteker

strokie n, D/Afk, x

small slip of paper, usu a cash slip, an invoice or a counterfoil

strokies n, D/Afk, x

comics; strokiesverhaal = comic strip

stroois n, D/Afk, x

alt: struis
Ba hut; the word is a contraction of ‘strooi-huis’ (straw house) in ref to the thatched roof

stroom n, D/Afk, x

Afk equiv of ‘stream’
+ when used in compounds to form place names, eg Nylstroom, Wakkerstroom

stroppy adj, E, x

abbr of ‘obstreperous’

stryddag n, D/Afk, x

Afk equiv of ‘party rally’

stump n, E, +

see: red stumpnose
stumpnose n, E, + (*Rhabdosargus tricuspidens*)
alt: bream, silver bream (Transkei – Natal), flatty (Est Cape), silvie (East London), stumpnose (Knysna)
beautiful marine fish found in shallow water fr the Cape to Zululand

stywe pap n, D/Afk, + coll
see: putu (-pap)

substitute for/replace by
see: replace by

sugarbird n, E, + (fam *Promeropidae*)
bird peculiar to S Afr; has rather plainly coloured plumage, a long, curved bill & elongate tail feathers; it builds a cup-shaped nest & its diet consists mainly of insects & the nectar of proteas

sugar bush n, E, +
see: Protea

suikerbos n, D/Afk, +
alt: protea, sugarbush, suikerbossie
common name for all species of *Protea*, but applied mainly to the larger bushy varieties; first recorded by Thunberg in 1772 for *Protea mellifera*, so called because of the high sugar content of the nectar secreted by the flowers
see also: Protea

suikerbos n, D/Afk, x
see: afrikaner (v)

suing pres p, E, +
sueing x

suka! int, Fan, + coll
go away!
see also: sa!
sukkel v, D/Afk, x

Afk equiv of 'have trouble with, worry at, plug away at, trudge on, plod on, struggle' as in 'I sukkel along'; also 'annoy, interfere with', eg 'Don’t sukkel with me'

sulphur-bark tree n, E, +

see: fever tree

sunfish n, E, +

alt: sorvis
see: soldier (i)

suni n, Ngu?, + (Nesotragus livingstonianus zuluensis)

alt: Livingstone’s antelope
small antelope about the size of a blue duiker, with a shoulder height of 35-40 cm; rich red-brown in colour; frequents thick bush & scrubby undergrowth
see also: blue duiker

suricate meerkat n, F/D/Afk, +

see: meerkat

suurklapper n, D/Afk, + (Strychnos coccoloides)

small tree with dense, rounded crown, straight trunk, thick corky fissured bark & an edible fruit about the size of an orange, wh liquefies when fully ripe & is used by the Ba, Bu & Ovambo of nth SW Afr to make a sour sweet slightly fermented drink
see also: klapper

suurpap n, D/Afk, ?

fermented liquid mealie-meal porridge
see also: maheus

suurpruim n, D/Afk, x

see: kaffir plum
suurveld n, D/Afk, ?
   see: sourveld

swaer n, D/Afk, x
   Afk equiv of 'brother-in-law'; 'ou swaer' is used coll in the sense of
   'old chap', eg 'Good morning, ou swaer, how are you today?'

Swahili n, Ba, +
   lingua franca of Ea Afr, widely spoken in Kenya & neighbouring
   territories; basically a Ba language with adaptations fr Ar, & other
   modifications; similar in some respects to Fanagolo

swart boekenhout n, D/Afk, ?
   see: boekenhout

swartbos n, D/Afk, ?
   see: bloubos

swart kameeldoring n, D/Afk, x
   see: camel-thorn

swart olien n, D/Afk, x
   see: wild olive

swartstinkhout n, D/Afk, x
   see: black stinkwood

swartstormbos n. D/Afk, +
   name applied to several plants used medicinally; the vernacular name
   alludes to the black colour of the root bark & the 'stormy' action of
   the bark in decoctions when taken as a purgative

swart wildebeest n, D/Afk, x
   see: black wildebeest
swartwitpen n, D/Afk, x
see: sable antelope

Swazi n, Ngu, +
Ba people of Swaziland, sth Afr; a member of these people; language of 'the Swazi', closely related to Zu & Xh wh also belong to the Ngu group of languages

sweating sickness n, E, +
see: bont-legged tick

sweet grass n, E, +
any of several species of tender, digestible grass, eg Brachiaria negropedata, Chloris vergata, Hierochloë odorata
see also: sour grass

sweethearts n, E, +
see: black-jacks

sweet melon n, E, +
see: spanspek

sweet thorn n, E, + (Acacia karoo)
one of the best known & most widespread species of Acacia in sth Afr; occurs in all four provinces as well as in Rhodesia, Botswana & Malawi; varies in shape fr a dense spiny shrub, a narrow straggly shrub or small tree, to a tall graceful tree with a rounded crown; thorns up to 17 cm long; bark used in tanning, also has a good quality gum, at one time exported as 'Cape gum'; the vernacular name refers to the fact that the young foliage is eaten by stock

sweetveld n, E, +
veld covered with sweet-tasting grass
see also: sourveld
sweet William n, E, +
see: spear-eye shark

swim v, E, +

in S Afr no distinction is made between the vs to bathe (to moisten all over) & to swim (float on or progress through water by working the arms & legs); the def of the latter is applied to both vs; also used in the sense of ‘to immerse oneself in water without the purpose of exercising the limbs’

swimming costume n, E, +

alt: bathing costume, cossie (coll)
equiv of ‘bathing suit’ in GB

sycamore fig n, E, + (Ficus sycamorus)

alt: Pharaoh’s fig, wild fig
large spreading tree up to 25 m in height, dark green dense crown, sometimes a fluted trunk, woolly young branches & twigs & hairy figs on the old wood & trunk in dense branched clusters; fruit eaten by a variety of game

syllabication

there is no hard & fast rule, but the principles wh most frequently apply are:
(a) divide the word according to its formation: cart-age, Mil-ton, pre-scrip-tion;
(b) divide on the vowel: spe-cial, conta-gious, ra-mi-fi-ca-tion (as many divisions as this are of course unnecessary);
(c) divide between double letters unless they occur at the end of the simple form of the word: bet-ter, run-ning, but smell-ing;
(d) do not divide before the final -ed if the e is not pronounced: relat-ed, but not loan-ed, fam-ed;
(e) the division of consonants in combination is best shown by providing examples: dis-trust, man-ge, sub-ject, dis-tinc-tion
taaibos n, D/Afk, x
see: karee

taaipit n, D/Afk, x
see: clingstone

taal n, D/Afk, x
Afk equiv of ‘language, tongue, speech’; ‘The Taal’ used in ref to the Afk language

Taalbond, Suid-Afrikaanse
Society formed in 1890 to encourage the use of D & later Afk; also offers examinations, the Higher & Lower Taalbond, wh are recognised as standards of proficiency in Afk

Tablecloth, the n, E, +
a special meaning is attached to this word in S Afr as it refers to the cloud wh covers Table Mountain during the summer months & is caused by the moisture-laden South Easter
see also: Cape doctor

Table Mountain place name, E, +
the flat-topped mountain on the Cape peninsula at the foot of wh lies Cape Town; a sheer precipice on the sth-est side; it rises to a height of more than 1250m; the table top is over 3 km long; flanked by Devil’s Peak (± 1100m) to the ea & Lion’s Head (± 725m) to the w; to the w of Lion’s Head is a long line of buttresses, the Twelve Apostles
see also: Tablecloth

tackies n, E, +
S Afr equiv of ‘tennis shoes, plimsoles, sandshoes’ in GB
tailer n, E, +
see: elf(t)

tainha n, Port, x
see: springer (iii)

take/bring
see: bring/take

take me up to here
transl of a Ba expression used to indicate how tall a person is, the hand held close to the body; the hand is usu cupped, palm upwards, as superstition holds that a child will cease to grow if the palm is turned down

take up v, E, +
as in ‘she takes up the baby, and holds it with care’
see: pick up

takhaar n, D/Afk, +
lit: tak = branch, bough; haar = hair, derogatory term originating in Cape D & applied to an unkempt, untrained, uncouth person; eg Marico takhaar

Tamboekie n, Ba, +
tribe living in the est Cape Province, wh takes its origin fr intermarriage between the Bu and the Amatembu
see also: Tembu

tamboekiegrass n, Ba/D/Afk/E, +
alt: tambukiegrass
general name for several species of Cymbopogon, Hyparrhenia & Miscanthidium
tambotie n, Ba, + (*Spirostachys africana*)

alt: Adlerholz, angelhout, headache tree, jumping-bean tree
tree of the euphorbia family found only in Afr; has a round crown,
rough blackish bark & small three-lobed fruit of wh the seed is often
infested with larvae wh straighten & contract spasmodically, causing
the seed to jump fr the ground; the bark exudes a highly toxic milky
juice wh Ba used as fish & arrow poison, & is a favourite ingredient
in the medicine of Ba witchdoctors; the name 'headache tree' refers
to the pain caused by sawdust wh may enter the eye

tambukiegrass n, Ba/D/Afk, x

see: tamboekiegrass

tameletjie n, D/Afk, +

flat slab of dried fruit or a kind of toffee made of butter & sugar

tampan n, Tsw, + (*Ornithorus sauigryi*)

alt: chicken tick
any of various argasid ticks frequently found in fowl-runs; its bite
can be particularly painful & irritating

tasselfish n, E, +

see: baardman

tawny eagle n, E, + (*Aquila rapax*)

common in the bushveld of the dry N-wst Transvaal; rapacious &
powerful, it kills its own prey (game birds, small antelopes & other
mammals) but will feed on carrion as well

teach/learn

see: learn

tea-room n, E, +

alt: café
Amer & S Afr equiv of 'café = a certain class of restaurant; tearoom
in GB is a *room* where tea is served, whereas in S Afr it can be the section set aside for serving light refreshments in a café or Greek shop wh also sells groceries, confectionery, etc

**tea-room bioscope** n, E, ?

see: bio café

**Tembu** n, Ba +

tribe living in the est Cape Province; member of this tribe

**temporary/temporarily** pronunc

[ˈtɛməprəri] + [tɛmpərəri] x;

[ˈtɛməprəril] + [tɛmpərəril] x

**tent-sail** n, E, +

canvas hood of a wagon eg ‘... Hans Engelbrecht’s wife and his eighteen-year-old daughter, Maria, were seated on the wagon, under the tent-sail...’

**terrestrial bulbul** n, E/prob Ar, +

see: bulbul

**than/as**

as in ‘This stone is heavier *than* that one’ *not* ‘... heavier *as*...’ wh is prob the infl of Afk ‘Hierdie klip is swaarder *as* daardie een’; if equality is expressed, then *as*... *as*, eg ‘Your apple is *as* big *as* mine’ see also: as ...as

**than I/me**

depending on whether *than* is used as a conj or a prep the nom or acc follows, eg *conj*: ‘He is taller than *I* (nom) (am)’, the sentence is elliptical; *prep*: ‘Good fortune favoured me more than (it(nom) favoured) *her* (acc); again the sentence is elliptical; in case of doubt mentally supply the words understood
thank you,

written as two separate words, *not* ‘thankyou’

than what x

‘She is older *than what* I thought’ x; ‘she is older *than I* thought’ +

that

Misused for ‘thus, to that degree, so very’, eg ‘Oh, it’s not *that* urgent’ x; ‘It’s not *so* urgent *as all that*’ +

the (i)

is *not* used before a place name followed by a noun, eg ‘Kano airport’ + ‘the Kano airport’ x; ‘Middelburg Station’ + ‘the Middelburg Station’ x

the (ii) pronunciation

[ə ɔ] before consonants (other than silent h) & before initial vowels sounded [ju] eg *the* beautiful view, *the* haughty woman, *the* European manner, *the* United Nations; [ʌɪ] before vowels & silent h, eg *the* Artful Dodger, *the* honest merchant

the (iii) omission of

see: definite article, omission of

themselves

see: myself

the Reef n, E, +

see: Reef (i) & (ii)

therefrom/therein/thereof

see: therein
there’s it

incorrect word order, prob infl of Afk ‘daar’s dit’, eg ‘there’s it, over there’ x ‘There it is, over there’ +
see also: where’s it

these ones

‘these’ is adequate, ‘ones’ is superfluous

thick-tailed galago n, E, +
see: bush baby

thirty pron unc

should not be carelessly pronounced ‘thutty’
[ θ Ψ t i ] + [ θ Λ t i ] X

thornveld n, E, +

veld in wh thorn-trees & bushes abound

those ones

see: these ones

throw (i)

someone with something x
transliteration of Afk ‘iemand met iets goo i’, eg ‘I’ll throw you with a stone’ x ‘I’ll throw a stone at you’ +

throw (ii)

the garden wet x
transliteration of Afk ‘Gooi die tuin nat’; Water the garden’ +

throw (iii)

as in ‘throw up the sponge’; ‘throw in the sponge’ appears to be a S Africanism; ‘throw up the sponge’ is more commonly used; cf ‘throw in the towel’, ‘throw down the gauntlet’
tick bird n, E, + (Bubulcus ibis)

alt: cattle egret
bird wh keeps close to cattle, feeding on the insects & grasshoppers wh are disturbed by them while grazing; roosts in large heronries in trees; often seen with buffalo herds in the Kruger National Park; legs & bill yellow
see also: oxpecker

tickey n, ?, +
S Afr threepenny piece before decimalisation; poss introduced by the Cape Malays fr ‘tiga’ meaning ‘three’ or the Ngu ‘ciki/tiki’ = small; poss modification of Port ‘pataca’ & F ‘patac’ fr Port ‘pataca’
tickey drive n, E, +
see: beetle drive
tiekiedraai v, D/Afk, + coll
movement in wh a dancing couple spins around in circles in ‘volkspele’; an organised dance party
see also: volkspele
tierboskat n, D/Afk, x
see: serval
tiger n, E, +
see: spotted grunter
tigerfish n, E, + (Hydrocynus vittatus)
popular angling fish found in the lower stretches of the ea-flowing rivers of the Transvaal; survives only in warm waters; the horizontal black lines & the cartilaginous structures partly surrounding the eyes are characteristic of the species
tiger’s eye n, E, +
semi-precious S Afr stone
tigershark n, E, +
    see: skaamoog (ii)

tikoloshe n, Ba, x
    see: tokoloshe

title repetition
    see: repetition of noun, proper noun or title

tjaila v, Ba/Afk, + coll
    [tʃaila]
    to stop working, either for the lunch break or at the end of the working day; derived fr Zu ‘shayisa’, Xh’shiyela’ & Tsw ‘chaile’

tjangalappie n, Zu/Afk, + coll
    alt: beshu
    traditional loin-cloth or apron worn by Zu men

tjor n, D/Afk, + coll
    alt: tjorrie
    [tʃɔr(i)]
    Afk equiv of ‘jalopy’

toad/frog
    see: frog

toast
    a toast is proposed to someone, not on someone; incorrect prep prob used because of Afk infl ‘n heildrank instel op’

toby n, E, + coll
    see: blaasop
toering n, M, +
conical straw hat worn by Malays esp on festive occasions

tog boy n, E, + coll
Ba in Natal who works in urban areas & is licensed as a labourer & messenger; a badge & number indicate his status

tokoloshe n, Ba, +
alt: tikoloshe, tikolossie
in Ba folklore a goblin or river sprite, with a hairy tail; reputed to resemble a man but of smaller stature; feared for the powers he has to punish those who disrespect him; he is, nevertheless, supposed to like children

toktokkie (i) n, D/Afk, +
beetle of the genus *Psammodes*, wh makes a tapping noise apparently with its abdomen, hence the vernacular name wh is derived from D ‘tokken’ = to knock softly

toktokkie (ii) n, D/Afk, + coll
schoolboys’ game of knocking at doors and running way; word derived fr D ‘tokken’ = to knock softly

tollie n, Ba/D/Afk, +
alt: toly
S Afr term for a castrated calf

tolly n, Ba/D/Afk, x
see: tollie

tom n, ? , x
prob abbr of ‘tomfoolery’, as in ‘He gave me a lot of *tom* before I sacked him’ x
tommie n, E, x
see: tommy

ton
the measure of weight, when used in the sing as a partitive, requires
the sing form of the v, eg ‘At least a ton of coal is required’; when
used in the pl, the v must be in the pl form, eg ‘Tons of earth are
being removed’, ‘Thousands of tons of steel were produced

tongblaar n, D/Afk, +
name applied to several species of Rumex; refers to the tongue (Afk
tong}-like shape of the lower leaves (Afk blaar = leaf) of this plant
too
coll acceptable in such phrases as ‘only too true’, ‘only too pleased’,
but should be avoided as a substitute for ‘very’, eg ‘It is too good of
you’; but used in an understatement, eg ‘He wasn’t too pleased’ +
too/also
see: also
toppie n, D/Afk, x (Pycnonotus capensis)
alt: Cape bulbul
conspicuous, noisy, lively bird found in the Cape Province; usu seen
in pairs; utters a call of ‘pietmajol’ or ‘piet-piet-patata’; a pest in
orchards
see also: bulbul
torch lily n, E, +
see: red hot poker
tortoise plant n, E, + (Testudinaria elephantipes)
alt: elephant’s foot, Hottentot’s bread
S Afr plant allied to the yam; has a large fleshy rootstock wh grows
above the ground; the root surface becomes deeply fissured so
suggesting the carapace of a tortoise
see also: elephant’s foot, Hottentot’s bread

touleier n, D/Afk, + coll
alt: voorloper
someone, usu a Ba child, leading a span of draught-animals by a ‘riem’ attached to the yoke of the two animals

toutjies n, D/Afk, + coll
dried, salted strips of fish, usu geelbek, a S Afr marine fish
see also: bokkems

traffic circle n, E, +
S Afr equiv of ‘roundabout’ in GB, a more expressive term than the latter; used in Amer as well

trailer n, Amer E, +
short motion picture film consisting of snatches fr a feature picture, shown in advance for advertising purposes; term now commonly used by speakers of E

Trans-Karoo proper n, L/Hott, +
express train travelling fr Cape Town to Johannesburg & back, five times a week

Trans-Natal proper n, L, +
daily train service between Durban & Johannesburg in both directions.

transpire
figuratively equiv of ‘to become known’, ‘to come to light’, eg ‘It transpired that he was not guilty of the crime’; sometimes loosely used to mean ‘to happen, to occur’

transport pronunc
the n has the stress on the first syllable & the v on the second, eg
This matter concerns the Minister of Transport; 'He will help me to transport my furniture to Durban'

transport driver n, E, +
alt: transport rider
person who undertakes to transport goods, in former days by ox-wagon, now by motor truck

transport rider n, E, +
see: transport driver

Transvaal bietou n, D/Afk, +
see: bietou

Transvaal boekenhout n, D/Afk, +
see: boekenhout

Transvaal boerboon n, D/Afk, +
see: dwarf boerboon

Transvaal daisy n, E, +
see: Barberton daisy

Transvaal ebony n, D/Afk/E, +
see: jakkalsbessie

Transvaal gardenia n, D/Afk/E, + (Gardenia spatifolia)
alt: wild gardenia, wilde katjiepiering
round-crowned shrub or tree, intricately branched; has a short trunk, smooth bark, spine-like branches almost at right angles to the stem, glossy leaves, waxy, white, sweet-scented flowers & round woody fruit wh is believed to be poisonous; the hard white wood is used by Ba for carving ornaments, & the roots for medicinal purposes
Transvaal melkhout n, D/Afk, x  
see: moepel

Transvaal silverleaf n, E, + (Terminalia sericea)  
alt: sandvaalboom, sandvaalbos, sandgeelhout, silver terminalia, vaalboom, wild quince  
medium to large semi-deciduous tree; dark branches spreading horizontally with silver-grey silky leaves, ill-smelling flowers & pink shield-shaped fruit in pendulous clusters; grows only in sandy soil; wood used for mine props  
see also: silverleaf

Transvaal suikerbos n, D/Afk, + (Protea caffra)  
alt: suikerbos, Transvaal protea  
small gnarled tree peculiar to S Afr; rough black bark, leathery, dull grey-green leaves; flowers have large round heads surrounded with pink to red tipped bracts  
see also: suikerbos

Transvaal teak n, D/Afk/E +  
see: kiaat

Transvaal wattle n, E, +  
see: African wattle

tree cony n, E, +  
see: tree dassie

tree dassie n, E/D/Afk, + (Dendrohyrax arboreus)  
alt: tree cony, tree hyrax  
one of several mainly arboreal Afr hyraxes, similar in size & appearance to the rock hyrax  
see also: dassie (i)
tree fuchsia n, E, +
see: weeping boerboon
see also: fuchsia

tree hyrax n, E, +
see: tree dassie

tree wistaria n, E, +
see: Vanwykshout

trek (i) n, D/Afk, +
organised migration, a journey by ox wagon, eg ‘The Great Trek’ = the migration of the Voortrekkers fr the Cape nthowards in 1836

trek (ii) v, D/Afk +
to migrate, to go on an overland journey usu under difficult conditions; to move one’s property; coll to go on holiday

trek (iii)
equiv of draught, migratory, etc prefixed to a noun +, eg trek-animal, trekboer, trek-fever, trek-ox, trek-robe

trekker n, D/Afk, +
person who migrates or goes on a journey, in particular the ‘Trekkers’ or ‘Voortrekkers’ who migrated fr the Cape nthwards in 1836
see also: Voortrekker

trekking adj, D/Afk/E, +
moving about, travelling, eg ‘... the trekking spirit of South Africans ...’
see also: trek

trots van Franschhoek n, D/Akf, +
see: blushing bride
true facts

‘true’ is superfluous as ‘facts’ are presumed to be ‘true’

truffle n, F, + (Terfezia pfeilii)
saprophytic fungus of the Kalahari, allied to the Eu species & regarded as a delicacy; primitive people of the Kalahari believe that it originates from the sand itself, into which it again becomes transformed

trumpeter hornbill n, E, + (Bycanistes buccinator)
bird found in Knysna, the coastal areas of Natal & the Est Transvaal; the largest of the arboreal hornbills; conspicuous large bill & casque, black & white plumage; the female casque is shorter & square in front; feeds chiefly on fruit
see also: hornbill

trunk n, Amer E, x

alt: boot
the luggage compartment of an automobile; the British equiv ‘boot’ is used in S Afr, & is preferable to ‘trunk’

try and/try to

*try and* is more informal than *try to*; coll *try and* is common in such expressions as ‘try and make me’ (defiance), ‘try and get some sleep’ (exhortation); in most contexts, however, *try to* should not be replaced by *try and*, eg ‘We should *try to* establish contact with the Minister’

tsama n, Hott, + (Citrullus vulgaris)
see: kaffir watermelon

tsar/czar/Tzar pron unc
see: czar

tsessebe n, Tsw, + (Damaliscus lunatus lunatus)
alt: bastard hartebees(t), sassaby, tsesseby
large S Afr hartebees(t); dark purplish-red, the back & face almost black; regularly curved horns

tsetse fly n, Ba/E, +

dipterous insect (Glossina morsitans & all species of this genus) of the fam Tabanidae, common in parts of tropical & sth Afr; transmits the usu fatal disease ‘nagana’ to domestic stock & causes the dreaded ‘sleeping sickness’ in man

Tukkie n, abbr, + coll

student of the University of Pretoria, wh was formerly the Transvaal University College (Afk Kollege)

Tuks n, abbr, + coll

alt: Tukkies
the University of Pretoria wh was previously the Transvaal University College (Afk Kollege)

tulp n, D/Afk, +

name applied to a variety of irids known to be poisonous to cattle, eg bloutulp, geeltulp, kaapsebloutulp, rooitulp, Transvaal-bloutulp, etc

turf n, E, +

in S Afr a type of soil wh is fertile, black & greasy & cracks when dry but is clayey when wet; in Eu a sod of grass, with the roots & earth adhering, used since earliest times as fuel; also, a covering of grass & other plants, with its matted roots, forming the surface of grassland or, eg a race course
see also: lawn

Turfloop n, D/Afk, +

the University of the North, an institution wh caters only for the Ba

turfsoil n, E, +

this may appear to be tautologous in S Afr E, but ‘turf’ is a
particular type of soil
see also: turf

turn

in the sense of ‘become, reach or surpass’ (a certain age, time, amount) is common usage in Amer, GB & S Afr, ‘She has just turned twelve’ +

twaagras n, D/Afk, +

see: twagrass

twagrass n, D/Afk, +

alt: twaagras

collective name for several species of Aristida wh have plumose awns to the spikelets; typical grass of the Kalahari where it is an important fodder grass; the pref ‘twa’ is a contraction of ‘um Twa’ the self-styled name of the Bu

twak n, D/Afk, +

contraction of Afk ‘tabak’ used coll for ‘tobacco’ but also fig in the sense of ‘nonsense; rubbish, good-for-nothing & to blazes with’

Twickenham pronunc

[ 'twɪknəm] + [ 'twɪknəm] x

tzar/tsar/-tsar/haus pronunc

see: czar

U

uhuru n, Ba x

equiv of ‘freedom, independence‘; came into prominence when the first Afr states gained independence in the 1960’s
uitlander n, D/Afk, x  
Afk equiv of ‘alien, foreigner, outlander, stranger’  
see: outlander

uitspan v, D/Afk, x  
see: outspan (ii)

uitspanplek n, D/Afk, x  
Afk equiv of ‘outspan’ or ‘place for outspanning’  
see: outspan (i)

umfaan n, Ngu, + coll  
equiv of ‘small boy’; in Natal, a junior male servant employed to care for small children or perform general work

Uppie n, D/Afk, + coll  
pl: Uppies  
student of the University of Port Elizabeth  
see also: Ikey, Matie, Tukkie, Witsie

Ursula pronunc  
[ ɔsjulə ], rarely [ əʃulə ]

usage/use  
usage = manner of using, esp of customary or habitual practice creating a standard, eg ‘The usage of English in South Africa has been influenced by Afrikaans and the Bantu languages’; use = the act of using, application to a purpose eg ‘The penalty for private use to avoid payment of postage is R100’

used to  
the negative form is ‘used not to’ ‘did not used to’ x eg ‘She used not to travel by train’
vaalboom n, D/Afk, x
see: Transvaal silverleaf

vaalbos n, D/Afk, +
see: bloubos

vaaljapie n, D/Afk, + coll
cheap inferior white wine
see also: Cape smoke, peach brandy, witblits

vaalpens n, D/Afk, + coll
lit: sallow belly
nickname for a Transvaler; member of a tribe of Bu in the nth Transvaal
see also: blikoor, woltoon

vaal ribbok n, D/Afk, x
see: grey rhebuck

vadoek n, D/Afk, x
Afk equiv of ‘dish cloth’ ‘glass cloth’

vagary pronunc
[ve η ri] is preferable to [ve 1 gə ri]

Van der Hum prop n, D/Afk, +
S Afr liqueur made fr naartjies & spiced with cloves

Vanwykshout n, D/Afk, + (Bolusanthus speciosus)
alt: elephant’s wood, Rhodesian wistaria, S Afr wistaria, tree wistaria
or wild wistaria
graceful, semi-deciduous pod-bearing tree with a narrow crown &
branches drooping at the ends; green shiny compound leaves, deep violet scented flowers in drooping sprays & pods in pendulous bunches; the white, hard durable wood is used for furniture & fencing posts; vernacular name derived fr the surname of the man who apparently first specialised in using the wood; there is only one species of *Bolusanthus*

**vstrap** n, D/Afk, +

lit: vas = firm, trap = tread
type of country dance originating fr the Hott

**vatterig** adj, D/Afk, x

fr Afk vat = ‘take, touch, grip’ as in ‘That man is so vatterig’ ie he is fond of pawing women

**veld** n, D/Afk, +
grassland in sth Afr wh is usu fairly level with scattered shrubs & trees

**veldskoen** n, D/Afk, x

see: velskoen

**veld sore** n, D/Afk/E +

contagious sore forming a shallow ulcer of unknown cause, usu affecting the legs & feet; occurs in the arid regions of sth Afr

**velskoen** n, D/Afk, +

alt: veldskoen
formerly a homemade shoe of untanned leather, now a factory product; the variation in the spelling changes the meaning of the word, vel = hide, veld = grassland

**Venda** n, V, +

Ba tribe of the nth Transvaal; member or language of this tribe
**verkramp** adj, D/Afk, +

Afk equiv of 'bigoted, convulsed' applied in a political sense in S Afr to the narrowminded members of the National Party, hence *the verkrampets n pl*

**verlep** v/adj, D/Afk, x

Afk equiv of 'fade(d)', 'wilt(ed)'

**verlig** adj, D/Afk, +

Afk equiv of 'enlightened', applied in a political sense in S Afr to the less narrowminded members of the National Party, hence *the verligtes n pl*

**vervet monkey** n, E, + (*Cercopithecus aethiops pygerythrus*)

common Afr monkey with a grizzled yellowish-grey coat, black face, hands & feet, whitish side-whiskers & chest, & long, dark-tipped tail

**vetsak** n, D/Afk, ? coll

Afk equiv of 'fatty, fatso'

**vlei** n, D/Afk +

shallow, marshy depression, in an arid expanse of veld, in wh water collects in the wet season; used in compounds, eg Makouvlei, vleipypie, vleiroos

**voetsek** int, D/Afk, x

S Afr expletive used to scare off or chase away a dog (prob an abbr of 'voort se ek! ' = Away say I! '); it is claimed that dogs elsewhere also react to the exclamation

**voetstoots** adj, D/Afk, + coll

as in 'a voetstoots sale', ie an auction sale at wh goods are bought without closer inspection
Volksraad n, D/Afk, +

once the legislative assembly of the Transvaal & Orange Free State Republics, elected by the enfranchised voters & forming the legislative authority sometimes with the Senate or the Second House & the Head of State, sometimes alone; Afk equiv of the House of Assembly

voorskot n, D/Afk, ?

money advanced; loan; partial remuneration, in advance of balance (known as ‘agterskot’) that has to follow
see also: agterskot

vrotpootjies n, D/Afk, ?

plant disease caused by a minute worm wh is known in the Transvaal as the ‘eel worm’ (Anguillulidea) & in the Cape Province as the ‘root gall worm’

vry v, D/Afk, x

[to caress, fondle, embrace, cuddle, woo, court, make love, flirt, whence ‘vryer’ = lover, ‘vryerig’ = amorous & ‘vryery’ = love making

W

waatlemoenkonfyt n, D/Afk, x

Afk equiv of ‘watermelon preserve’

warthog n, E, + (Phacochoerus aethiopicus)

Afr wild pig, grey in colour, with a long crest of bristly hairs down the back of the neck & shoulders; conspicuous warts protrude on either side of the face below the eyes; the long tusks curve upwards

waslap n, D/Afk, x

alt: waslappie
Afk equiv of ‘face cloth, flannel’
**Weg is jy!** int, D/Afk, x

Afk equiv of 'begone, away with you!' used in a jocular vein

**who's**

is a contraction of 'who is' & should not be confused with *whose*, the poss case of *who*, eg 'For students who's bent is decidedly literary, the recommended course is English I' x '... whose bent...' + see also: it's

**witblits** n, D/Afk, + coll

lit: Afk 'white lightning'
cheap, potent spirit distilled fr peaches or grapes
see also: Cape smoke, peach brandy, vaaljapie

**Wits** n, abbr, + coll

the University of the Witwatersrand

**Witsie** n, abbr, + coll

student of the University of the Witwatersrand
see also: Wits

**Witwatersrand** prop n, D/Afk, +

[v i t v o t z r æ nd/rant]
the gold fields, mining towns & cities situated along the gold reef in and around, Johannesburg; the pronunc [ v ] of the initial consonant should be retained as the anglicised version [w i t] changes the meaning fr 'white' (Afk 'wit') to E 'wit'

**X**

**Xhosa** n, Xh, +

abbr of Amakhosa, Ba tribe of the est Cape Province; originally known as the Abanguni after an early chief, Mnguni; a member of the tribe; the language spoken by the tribe, wh has characteristic clicks
yellow ground n, E, +

characteristic geological formation occurring in the diamondiferous layers at Kimberley, where it overlies the blue ground; at first it was believed that only yellow ground contained diamonds

yellow rice n, E, +

transl of Afk ‘geelrys’, a traditional S Afr dish of M origin consisting of rice boiled with raisins, turmeric & sugar

yes pronunc

[jɛs] + [jɛɔs] x [jɪs] x

yesterday pronunc

[jɛstɔdɪ] + [jɪstɔdɪ] x

you lie!

x; transl of Afk ‘Jy jok!’

Zoo Train n, E, + coll

nickname used for the train on wh civil servants travel fr Pretoria to Cape Town (& back) in order to attend the parliamentary session fr January to June each year

Zulu n, Zu, +

Ba tribe of nth Natal known as Zululand; once fierce & warlike with powerful leaders; member of the tribe; the language spoken by these people

Zululand n, Zu/E, +

area in nth-est Natal inhabited by the Zu