Gulliver's Travels
by Jonathan Swift

Gulliver's Firsts

We will now describe terms and concepts Swift invented for the ***Travels*** which have since entered into common use.

Big-Endian / Little-Endian	In Lilliput (Part I), Gulliver learns of a schism over the question of whether to break soft-boiled eggs at the small or big end. Today, the terms refer generally to any conflict over trivial differences, adhered to with religious zeal. Adherents in a modern computing conflict over byte order in messages have actually self-identified themselves as "Big-Endians" and "Little-Endians.
Brobdingnagian	Brobdingnag is a nation of giants, discovered by Gulliver in Part II. The people are sixty feet tall and everything else sized proportionately, on a scale of one foot to one inch. Thus someone will occasionally call a really huge object "Brobdingnagian."
Gulliver	Gulliver is a real family name, though the character is fictional. However, it is not a common name and most references to it originate with Swift's book.
Japan	The *Travels* may be notable as the first Western work of fiction to feature Japan as a setting. Japan is mentioned in passing in earlier fictional works, but t remains that Swift is the first westerner to set a work of fiction in Japan.
Laputa	Swift invented this name -- probably meaning "whore" -- for the flying island of Part III. Though the place comes off badly in Swift's story, the idea of an island floating in the sky has a romantic appeal. Subsequently, there is "Laputa: Castle in the Sky" an animated adventure story from Japan.
Lilliputian	Swift invented the term Lilliput, the name of one of the two diminutive kingdoms in Part I. The people were about 15cm. tall. Thus something tiny or in miniature is said to be "Lilliputian".
the moons of Mars	One of the mysteries of the *Travels* is its description of the Laputan discovery of the two moons of Mars, which would not be observed in reality for another 150 years after Swift's book was published.
"the thing which was not"	In Part IV, Gulliver encounters the Houyhnhnms, a race of intelligent horses so rational "... they have no Word in their Language to express Lying or Falsehood."
Yahoo	the term, now used to refer to a brute or a bestial human, was invented by Swift as the name of the race of sub-humans or de-evolved humans Gulliver encounters in the Land of the Houyhnhnms (Part IV).