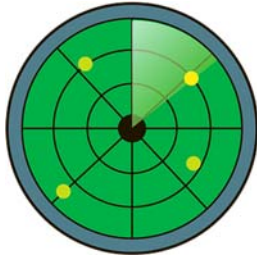


Name _____



Acronym Origins

Directions: Read the passage below about the history of some everyday acronyms. Then, **identify each acronym**, write what it stands for, and explain **how it became a regular word** in English.

When Acronyms Become Words

Language is full of hidden stories, and some of our most common words began as acronyms. Take **laser**, for example—it started as “Light Amplification by Stimulated Emission of Radiation.” Scientists used it so often in their research that it became a regular noun, losing its capital letters and gaining a life of its own. The same thing happened to **scuba**, which stands for “Self-Contained Underwater Breathing Apparatus.” What once described special diving equipment is now simply what we call the sport itself.

Even **radar**, short for “Radio Detection and Ranging,” followed the same path. Soldiers during World War II relied on radar to detect enemy planes, and soon everyone used the word so naturally that few remembered its technical roots. These examples show how acronyms can evolve into everyday vocabulary, blending history, technology, and communication into single, powerful words.

ACRONYM 1: _____

What it stands for: _____

How did it become a regular word?

ACRONYM 2: _____

What it stands for: _____

How did it become a regular word?

ACRONYM 3: _____ / What it stands for: _____

How did it become a regular word?