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**abate-ment** \ə-ˈbāt-mənt\ *n* (14c) 1: the act or process of abating : the state of being abated 2: an amount abated; esp: a deduction from the full amount of a tax

**ab-a-tis** \ə-ˈbā-tē, ˈā-bā-tēs\ *n*, *pl* **ab-a-tis** \ə-ˈbā-tēz\ or **ab-a-tis-es** \ə-ˈbā-tə-sēz\ [F, fr. *abattre*] (1766): a defensive obstacle formed by felled trees with sharpened branches facing the enemy

**ab-at-toir** \ə-ˈbā-twā, -twōr, -tōr\ *n* [F, fr. *abattre*] (1820): SLAUGHTERHOUSE

**ab-ax-i-al** \ə-ˈbāk-sē-əl\ *adj* (1857): situated out of or directed away from the axis (the ~ or lower surface of a leaf)

**ab-ba-cy** \ə-ˈbā-sē\ *n*, *pl* **-cies** [ME *abbacie*, fr. LL *abbatia*] (15c): the office, dignity, jurisdiction, or tenure of an abbot

**Ab-bas-id** \ə-ˈbā-səd, ˈā-bā-səd\ *n* (1788): a member of a dynasty of Caliphs (750–1258) ruling the Islamic empire esp. from their capital Baghdad and claiming descent from Abbas the uncle of Muhammad

**ab-ba-tial** \ə-ˈbā-shəl, -əl\ *adj* (ca. 1642): of or relating to an abbot, abbeys, or abbey

**ab-bé** \ə-ˈbā, ˈā-bā\ *n* [F, fr. LL *abbat*, *abbas*] (1530): a member of the French secular clergy in major or minor orders — used as a title

**ab-bess** \ə-ˈbēs\ *n* [ME *abbesse*, fr. OF, fr. LL *abbatissa*, fem. of *abbat*, *abbas*] (13c): a woman who is the superior of a convent of nuns

**Abbe-vil-li-an** \əb-ˈvī-lē-ən, ˈā-bā-ˈvī\ *adj* [Abbeville, France] (ca. 1934): of or relating to an early Lower Paleolithic culture of Europe characterized by bifacial stone hand axes

**ab-be-y** \ə-ˈbē\ *n*, *pl* **abbeys** [ME, fr. OF *abaye*, fr. LL *abbatia* *abbey*, fr. *abbat*, *abbas*] (13c) 1: a monastery ruled by an abbot 2: an abbey church

**ab-bot** \ə-ˈbət\ *n* [ME *abbod*, fr. OE, fr. LL *abbat*, *abbas*, fr. LGk *ab-bas*, fr. Aram *abbā* father] (bef. 12c): the superior of a monastery for men

**ab-bre-vi-ate** \ə-ˈbrē-vē-āt\ *vt* **-at-ed**; **-at-ing** [ME, fr. LL *abbreviatus*, pp. of *abbreviare* — more at *abridge*] (15c): to make briefer; esp: to reduce to a shorter form intended to stand for the whole *syn* see *shorten* — **ab-bre-vi-a-tor** \-ā-tər\ *n*

**ab-bre-vi-a-tion** \ə-ˈbrē-vē-ā-shən\ *n* (15c) 1: the act or result of abbreviating: *abridgment* 2: a shortened form of a written word or phrase used in place of the whole (*amt* is an ~ for *amount*)

**ABC** \ə-ˈ(b)ē-sē\ *n*, *pl* **ABC's** or **ABCs** \-sēz\ (13c) 1: ALPHABET — usu. used in pl. 2: a: the rudiments of reading, writing, and spelling — usu. used in pl. b: the rudiments of a subject

**ABD** \ə-ˈ(b)ē-dē\ *n*, *pl* **ABDs** also **ABD's** [all but dissertation] (1965): a doctoral candidate who has completed required courses and examinations but not a dissertation

**Ab-di-as** \əb-ˈdi-əs\ *n* [LL, fr. Gk]: OBADIAH

**ab-di-cate** \əb-ˈdi-kāt\ *vb* **-cat-ed**; **-cat-ing** [L *abdicator*, pp. of *abdicare*, fr. *ab-* + *dicare* to proclaim — more at *dictation*] (1541) 1: to cast off: *DISCARD* 2: to relinquish (as sovereign power) formally ~ *vi*: to renounce a throne, high office, dignity, or function — **ab-di-ca-ble** \-kə-bəl\ *adj* — **ab-di-ca-tion** \əb-ˈdi-kā-shən\ *n* — **ab-di-ca-tor** \əb-ˈdi-kā-tər\ *n*

*syn* *abdicate*, *renounce*, *resign* mean to give up a position with no possibility of resuming it. *abdicate* implies a giving up of sovereign power or sometimes an evading of responsibility such as that of a parent (*abdicated* the throne). *renounce* may replace it but often implies additionally a sacrifice for a greater end (*renounced* her inheritance by marrying a commoner). *resign* applies to the giving up of an unexpired office or trust (*resigned* from the board).

**ab-do-men** \əb-ˈdō-mən, -dō-, əb-ˈdō-mən, əb-ˈ\ *n* [MF & L; MF, fr. L] (1615) 1: the part of the body between the thorax and the pelvis; also : the cavity of this part of the trunk containing the chief viscera 2: the posterior section of the body behind the thorax in an arthropod — see *INSECT* illustration — **ab-dom-i-nal** \əb-ˈdā-mə-nəl, əb-, -ˈdām-nəl\ *adj* — **ab-dom-i-nal-ly** \-əl\ *adv*

**ab-du-cens nerve** \əb-ˈdū-senz-, -ˈdyū-ˈ\ *n* [NL *abducens*, *abducens*, fr. L, pp. of *abducere*] (1947): either of the 6th pair of cranial nerves that are motor nerves supplying the rectus on the outer and lateral side of each eye — called also *abducens*

**ab-du-cent nerve** \əb-ˈdū-sent-, -ˈdyū-ˈ\ *n* (1875): ABDUCENS NERVE

**ab-duct** \əb-ˈdakt, əb-, 2 also əb-ˈ\ *vt* [L *abductus*, pp. of *abducere*, lit., to lead away, fr. *ab-* + *ducere* to lead — more at *TOW*] (1834) 1: to carry off (as a person) by force 2: to draw or spread away (as a limb or the fingers) from a position near or parallel to the median axis of the body or from the axis of a limb — **ab-duc-tor** \-ˈdāk-tər\ *n*

**ab-duction** \əb-ˈdāk-shən, əb-ˈ\ *n* (1666) 1: the action of abducting : the condition of being abducted 2: the unlawful carrying away of a woman for marriage or intercourse

**abeam** \ə-ˈbēm\ *adv* or *adj* (ca. 1836): off to the side of a ship or plane esp. at a right angle to the middle of the ship or plane's length

**abe-ce-dar-i-an** \ə-ˈbē-ˈdər-ē-ən\ *n* [ME *abecedary*, fr. ML *abecedarium* alphabet, fr. LL, neut. of *abecedarius* of the alphabet, fr. the letters a + b + c + d] (1603): one learning the rudiments of something (as the alphabet)

**abecedarian** *adj* (1665) 1: a: of or relating to the alphabet b: alphabetically arranged 2: *RUDIMENTARY*

**abed** \ə-ˈbed\ *adv* or *adj* (13c): in bed

**Abel** \ə-ˈbəl\ *n* [LL, fr. Gk, fr. Heb *Hebhel*]: a son of Adam and Eve killed by his brother Cain

**abe-lia** \ə-ˈbē-lē-ya\ *n* [NL, fr. Clarke *Abel* †1826 Eng. botanist] (ca. 1899): any of a genus (*Abelia*) of shrubs of Asian or Mexican origin having opposite leaves and white, red, or pink flowers

**abe-li-an** \ə-ˈbē-lē-ən\ *adj*, often *cap* [Niels *Abel* †1829 Norw. mathematician] (ca. 1909): *COMMUTATIVE* 2 (~ group) (~ ring)

**Abe-na-ki** \ə-ˈbā-nā-kē\ *n*, *pl* **Abenaki** or **Abenakis** (1721) 1: a member of a group of American Indian peoples of northern New England and adjoining parts of Quebec 2: either of the two Algonquian languages spoken by the Abenaki peoples

**Ab-er-deen An-gus** \ə-ˈbər-dēn-ˈaŋ-gəs\ *n* [Aberdeen & Angus, counties in Scotland] (1862): *ANGUS*

**ab-er-rant** \ə-ˈber-ənt, -ə-, ˈā-bər-rənt, -ber-ənt\ *adj* [L *aberrant*, *aberrans*, pp. of *aberrare* to go astray, fr. *ab-* + *errare* to wander, err] (ca. 1780) 1: straying from the right or normal way 2: deviating from the usual or natural type: *ATYPICAL* — **ab-er-rance** \-ən(t)s\ *n* — **ab-er-ran-cy** \-ən(t)-sē\ *n* — **ab-er-rant-ly** *adv*

**aberrant** *n* (1938) 1: an aberrant group, individual, or structure 2: a person whose behavior departs substantially from the standard

**ab-er-rat-ed** \ə-ˈbā-rā-təd\ *adj* [L *aberratus*, pp. of *aberrare*] (1893): *ABERRANT*

**ab-er-ra-tion** \ə-ˈbā-rā-shən\ *n* [L *aberrare*] (1594) 1: the fact or an instance of being aberrant esp. from a moral standard or normal state 2: failure of a mirror, refracting surface, or lens to produce exact point-to-point correspondence between an object and its image 3: unsoundness or disorder of the mind 4: a small periodic change of apparent position in celestial bodies due to the combined effect of the motion of light and the motion of the observer 5: an aberrant individual — **ab-er-ra-tion-al** \-shən-əl, -shən-əl\ *adj*

**abet** \ə-ˈbet\ *vt* **abet-ted**; **abet-ting** [ME *abetten*, fr. MF *abeter*, fr. OF, fr. *a-* (fr. L *ad-*) + *beter* to bait, of Gmc origin; akin to OE *bētan* to bait] (14c) 1: to actively second and encourage (as an activity or plan): *FORWARD* 2: to assist or support in the achievement of a purpose (*abetted* the thief in his getaway) *syn* see *INCITE* — **abet-ment** \-mənt\ *n* — **abet-tor** or **abet-ter** \-tər\ *n*

**abey-ance** \ə-ˈbā-ən(t)s\ *n* [MF *abeyance* expectation, fr. *abaer* to desire, fr. *a-* + *baer* to yawn, fr. ML *batare*] (1660) 1: temporary inactivity : *SUSPENSION* 2: a lapse in succession during which there is no person in whom a title is vested

**abey-ant** \-ən(t)\ *adj* [back-formation fr. *abeyance*] (ca. 1859): being in *abeyance*

**ab-hor** \əb-ˈhōr, əb-ˈ\ *vt* **ab-horred**; **ab-hor-ring** [ME *abhorren*, fr. L *abhorre*, fr. *ab-* + *horre* to shudder — more at *HORROR*] (15c): to regard with extreme repugnance: *LOATHE* *syn* see *HATE* — **ab-hor-er** \-hōr-ər\ *n*

**ab-hor-rence** \əb-ˈhōr-ən(t)s, -här-ən\ *n* (1660) 1: the act or state of abhorring 2: the feeling of one who abhors 2: one that is abhorred

**ab-hor-rent** \-ən(t)\ *adj* [L *abhorrent*, *abhorrens*, pp. of *abhorre*] (1599) 1: *archaic*: strongly opposed 2: feeling or showing abhorrence 2: not agreeable: *CONTRARY* (a notion ~ to their philosophy) 3: being so repugnant as to stir up positive antagonism (acts ~ to every right-minded person) — **ab-hor-rent-ly** *adv*

**Abib** \ə-ˈvēv\ *n* [Heb *Abibh*, lit., ear of grain] (1535): the 1st month of the ancient Hebrew calendar corresponding to Nisan — see *MONTH* table

**ab-id-ance** \ə-ˈbi-dən(t)s\ *n* (1647) 1: an act or state of abiding: *CONTINUANCE* 2: *COMPLIANCE* (~ by the rules)

**abide** \ə-ˈbīd\ *vb* **abode** \-bōd\ or **abid-ed**; **abid-ing** [ME, fr. OE *abidan*, fr. *ā-* perfective prefix + *bidan* to bide; akin to OHG *ir-* perfective prefix] (bef. 12c) 1: to wait for: *AWAIT* 2: a: to endure without yielding: *WITHSTAND* b: to bear patiently: *TOLERATE* (cannot ~ such bigots) 3: to accept without objection (will ~ your decision) ~ *vi* 1: to remain stable or fixed in a state 2: to continue in a place: *SOJOURN* *syn* see *BEAR*, *CONTINUE* — **abid-er** *n* — **abide by** 1: to conform to 2: to acquiesce in

**abid-ing** \ə-ˈbi-dīŋ\ *adj* (14c): *ENDURING*, *CONTINUING* (an ~ interest in nature) — **abid-ing-ly** *adv*

**ab-i-gail** \ə-ˈbā-gāl\ *n* [*Abigail*, servant in *The Scornful Lady*, a play by Francis Beaumont & John Fletcher] (1671): a lady's personal maid

**abil-ity** \ə-ˈbi-lə-tē\ *n*, *pl* **-ties** [ME *abilite*, fr. MF *habilité*, fr. L *habilitas*, *habilitas*, fr. *habilis* apt, skillful — more at *ABLE*] (14c) 1: the quality or state of being able (~ of the soil to hold water); esp: physical, mental, or legal power to perform 2: competence in doing : *SKILL* 2: natural aptitude or acquired proficiency (children whose abilities warrant higher education)

**-ability** also **-ibility** *n* suffix [ME *-abilit*, *-ibilit*, fr. MF *-abilit*, *-ibilit*, fr. L *-abilitas*, *-ibilitas*, fr. *-abilis*, *-ibilis* -able + *-tas*-ty]: capacity, fitness, or tendency to act or be acted on in a (specified) way (agglutinability)

**ab-in-i-tio** \əb-ə-ˈni-shē-ō\ *adv* [L] (1599): from the beginning

**abio-gen-e-sis** \ə-ˈbi-ō-ˈjē-nə-sēs\ *n* [NL, fr. *ab-* + *bio-* + L *genesis*] (1870): the supposed spontaneous origination of living organisms directly from lifeless matter — **abi-og-e-nist** \ə-ˈbi-ō-ˈjē-nist\ *n*

**abio-gen-ic** \ə-ˈbi-ō-ˈjē-nik\ *adj* (1891): not produced by the action of living organisms — **abio-gen-i-cal-ly** \-ni-k(ə)-lē\ *adv*

**abi-o-log-i-cal** \ə-ˈbi-ō-ˈlā-jī-kəl\ *adj* (1868): not biological; esp: not involving or produced by organisms (~ synthesis of amino acids)

**abi-ot-ic** \ə-ˈbi-ō-tik\ *adj* (ca. 1893): not biotic: *ABIOLOGICAL* (the ~ environment) — **abi-ot-i-cal-ly** \-ti-k(ə)-lē\ *adv*

**ab-ject** \əb-ˈjekt\ *adj* [ME, fr. L *abjectus*, fr. pp. of *abicere* to cast off, fr. *ab-* + *jacere* to throw — more at *JET*] (15c) 1: sunk to or existing in a low state or condition (to lowest pitch of ~ fortune thou art fallen — John Milton) 2: a: cast down in spirit: *SERVILE*, *SPIRITLESS* (a man made ~ by suffering) b: showing utter hopelessness or resignation (~ surrender) 3: expressing or offered in a humble and often ingratiating spirit (~ flattery) (an ~ apology) *syn* see *MEAN* — **ab-ject-ly** \əb-ˈjekt(t)-lē, əb-ˈ\ *adv* — **ab-ject-ness** \-jekt(t)-nəs, -ˈjekt(t)-\ *n*

**ab-jec-tion** \əb-ˈjekt-shən\ *n* (14c) 1: a low or downcast state: *DEGRADATION* 2: the act of making abject: *HUMBLING*, *REJECTION* (I protest ~ this vile ~ of youth to age — G. B. Shaw)

**ab-ju-ra-tion** \əb-ˈjə-rā-shən\ *n* (15c) 1: the act or process of abjuring 2: an oath of abjuring

**ab-jure** \əb-ˈjūr\ *vt* **ab-jured**; **ab-jur-ing** [ME, fr. MF or L; MF *ab-jurer*, fr. L *abjurare*, fr. *ab-* + *jurare* to swear — more at *JURY*] (15c) 1: a: to renounce upon oath b: to reject solemnly 2: to abstain from : *AVOID* (~ extravagance) — **ab-jur-er** *n*

*syn* *abjure*, *renounce*, *forswear*, *recant*, *retract* mean to withdraw one's word or professed belief. *abjure* implies a firm and final rejecting or abandoning often made under oath (*abjured* the errors of his former faith). *renounce* often equals *abjure* but may carry the meaning of disclaim or disown (*renounced* abstract art and turned to portrait painting). *forswear* may add to *abjure* an implication of perjury or betrayal (I cannot *forswear* my principles). *recant* stresses the withdrawing or denying of something professed or taught (if they *recant* they will be spared). *retract* applies to the withdrawing of a promise, an offer, or an accusation (the newspaper had to *retract* its allegations against the mayor).

**ab-late** \ə-ˈblāt\ *vb* **ab-lat-ed**; **ab-lat-ing** [L *ablatus* (pp. of *auferre* to remove), fr. *ab-* + *latius*, pp. of *ferre* — more at *UKASE*, *BEAR*, *TOLERATE*] (1542): to remove esp. by cutting, abrading, or evaporating ~ *vi*: to become ablated; esp: *VAPORIZE* 1



**fac-cil-i-ta-tion** \fə-'si-lə-'tā-shən\ *n* (1619) 1: the act of facilitating : the state of being facilitated 2 a: the lowering of the threshold for reflex conduction along a particular neural pathway esp. from repeated use of that pathway b: the increasing of the ease or intensity of a response by repeated stimulation

**fac-cil-i-ta-to-ry** \fə-'si-lə-'tā-tōr-ē, -tōr-\ *adj* (1944): inducing or involved in facilitation esp. of a reflex action

**fac-cil-i-ty** \fə-'si-lə-'tē\ *n*, *pl* -ties (1531) 1: the quality of being easily performed 2: ease in performance: APTITUDE 3: readiness of compliance 4 a (1): something that makes an action, operation, or course of conduct easier — usu. used in pl. (*facilities* for study) (2): LAVATORY 2 — often used in pl. b: something (as a hospital) that is built, installed, or established to serve a particular purpose

**fac-ing** \fā-'sɪŋ\ *n* (1566) 1 a: a lining at the edge esp. of a garment b *pl*: the collar, cuffs, and trimmings of a uniform coat 2: an ornamental or protective layer 3: material for facing

**fac-sim-i-le** \fak-'si-mə-lē\ *n* [L *fac simile* make similar] (1691) 1: an exact copy 2: a system of transmitting and reproducing graphic matter (as printing or still pictures) by means of signals sent over telephone lines *syn* see REPRODUCTION

**fact** \fakt\ *n* [L *factum*, fr. neut. of *facere*] (15c) 1 a: a thing done: as a *obs*: FEAT b: CRIME (accessory after the ~) c *archaic*: ACTION 2 *archaic*: PERFORMANCE, DOING 3: the quality of being actual: ACTUALITY (a question of ~ hinges on evidence) 4 a: something that has actual existence (space exploration is now a ~) b: an actual occurrence (prove the ~ of damage) 5: a piece of information presented as having objective reality — *in fact*: in truth

**fact finder** *n* (1926): one that tries to determine the realities of a case, situation, or relationship; esp.: an impartial examiner designated by a government agency to appraise the facts underlying a particular matter (as a labor dispute) — *fact-finding* *n* or *adj*

**fact-i-ci-ty** \fak-'ti-si-tē\ *n* [F or G; F *facticité*, fr. G *Faktizität*, fr. *Factum* fact, fr. L *factum*] (1945): the quality or state of being a fact

**fact-ion** \fak-'shən\ *n* [MF & L; MF, fr. L *factio*-, *factio* act of making, faction — more at FASHION] (1509) 1: a party or group (as within a government) that is often contentious or self-seeking: CLIQUE 2: party spirit esp. when marked by dissension — *faction-al* \-shənəl, -shə-nəl\ *adj* — *faction-al-ism* \-shən-ə-lī-zəm, -shə-nəl-'iz-\ *n* — *faction-al-ly* -ē\ *adv*

**-fac-tion** \fak-'shən\ *n* *comb form* [ME *-faccioun*, fr. MF & L; MF *-faction*, fr. L *-factio*-, *-factio* (as in *satisfactio*-, *satisfactio* satisfaction)]: making: -FICATION (petrifaction)

**fac-tious** \fak-'shəs\ *adj* [MF or L; MF *factieux*, fr. L *factiosus*, fr. *factio*] (1532): of or relating to faction: as a: caused by faction (~ disputes) b: inclined to faction or the formation of factions c: SEDITIOUS — *factious-ly* *adv* — *factious-ness* *n*

**fac-ti-tious** \fak-'ti-shəs\ *adj* [L *facticius*, fr. *factus*, pp. of *facere* to make, do — more at DO] (1646) 1: produced by humans rather than by natural forces 2 a: formed by or adapted to an artificial or conventional standard b: produced by special effort: SHAM (created a ~ demand by spreading rumors of shortage) — *fac-ti-tious-ly* *adv* — *fac-ti-tious-ness* *n*

**fac-ti-tive** \fak-'tə-tiv\ *adj* [prob. fr. L *factitare* to do habitually, freq. of *facere*] (1846): of, relating to, or being a transitive verb that in some constructions requires an objective complement as well as an object — *fac-ti-tive-ly* *adv*

**-fac-tive** \fak-'tiv\ *adj* *comb form* [MF *-factif*, fr. *-faction*]: making: causing (putrefactive)

**fact of life** (1854) 1: something that exists and must be taken into consideration 2 *pl*: the fundamental physiological processes and behavior involved in sex and reproduction

**fact-oid** \fak-'toid\ *n* (1973) 1: an invented fact believed to be true because of its appearance in print 2: a brief and usu. trivial news item

**fac-tor** \fak-'tər\ *n* [ME, fr. MF *facteur*, fr. L *factor* doer, fr. *facere*] (15c) 1: one who acts or transacts business for another: as a: BROKER 1b b: one that lends money to producers and dealers (as on the security of accounts receivable) 2 a (1): one that actively contributes to the production of a result: INGREDIENT (price wasn't a ~ in the decision) (2): a substance that functions in or promotes the function of a particular physiological process or bodily system b: a good or service used in the process of production 3: GENE 4 a: any of the numbers or symbols in mathematics that when multiplied together form a product; also: a number or symbol that divides another number or symbol b: a quantity by which a given quantity is multiplied or divided in order to indicate a difference in measurement (costs increased by a ~ of 10) — *fac-tor-ship* \-ship\ *n*

**factor** *vb* *fac-tored*; *fac-tor-ing* \-t(ə-)rɪŋ\ *vi* (1621): to work as a factor ~ *vt* 1: to resolve into factors 2 a: to include or admit as a factor — used with *in* or *into* (~ inflation into our calculations) b: to exclude as a factor — used with *out* — *fac-tor-able* \-t(ə-)rə-bəl\ *adj*

**fac-tor-age** \-t(ə-)rɪj\ *n* (1613) 1: the charges made by a factor for services 2: the business of a factor

**factor analysis** *n* (1931): the analytical process of transforming statistical data (as measurements) into linear combinations of usu. independent variables — *factor analytic* *adj*

**factor VIII** \-at\ *n* (1954): a glycoprotein of blood plasma that is essential for blood clotting and is absent or inactive in hemophilia — called also *antihemophilic factor*

**factor group** *n* (1897): QUOTIENT GROUP

**fac-to-ri-al** \fak-'tōr-ē-əl, -tōr-\ *adj* (1837): of, relating to, or being a factor or a factorial

**factorial** *n* (1869) 1: the product of all the positive integers from 1 to *n* — symbol *n!* 2: the quantity *Of* arbitrarily defined as equal to 1

**fac-tor-iza-tion** \fak-'tə-rə-'zā-shən\ *n* (1886): the operation of resolving a quantity into factors; also: a product obtained by factorization — *fac-tor-ize* \fak-'tə-rīz\ *vi*

**fac-to-ry** \fak-'t(ə-)rē\ *n*, *pl* -ries (1582) 1: a station where resident factors trade 2 a: a building or set of buildings with facilities for manufacturing b: the seat of some kind of production (the vice *factories* of the slums) — *fac-to-ry-like* \-līk\ *adj*

**factory ship** *n* (1927): a ship equipped to process a whale or fish catch at sea

**fac-to-tum** \fak-'tō-təm\ *n* [NL, lit., do everything, fr. L *fac* (imper. of *facere* do) + *totum* everything] (1566) 1: a person having many diverse activities or responsibilities 2: a general servant

**fac-tu-al** \fak-'chə-wəl, -chəl, 'faksh-wəl\ *adj* [fact + -ual (as in *actual*)] (ca. 1834) 1: of or relating to facts 2: restricted to or based on fact — *fac-tu-al-ly* \fak-'chə-wə-lē\ *adv* — *fac-tu-al-ness* *n*

**fac-tu-al-ism** \fak-'chə-wə-lī-zəm, -chə-lī-, 'faksh-wə-\ *n* (1936): adherence or dedication to facts — *fac-tu-al-ist* \-līst\ *n*

**fac-ture** \fak-'chər\ *n* [ME, fr. MF, fr. L *factura* action of making, fr. *factus*] (15c): the manner in which something (as an artistic work) is made: EXECUTION

**fac-u-la** \fə-'kyə-lə\ *n*, *pl* -lae \-lē, -lī\ [NL, fr. L, dim. of *fac*-, *fax* torch] (1706): any of the bright regions of the sun's photosphere seen most easily near the sun's edge

**fac-ul-ta-tive** \fə-'kəl-tā-tiv, Brit -tə-tiv\ *adj* (1820) 1 a: of or relating to the grant of permission, authority, or privilege (~ legislation) b: OPTIONAL 2: of or relating to a mental faculty 3 a: taking place under some conditions but not under others (~ diapause) b: exhibiting an indicated lifestyle under some environmental conditions but not under others (~ anaerobes) — *fac-ul-ta-tive-ly* *adv*

**fac-ul-ty** \fə-'kəl-tē\ *n*, *pl* -ties [ME *faculte*, fr. MF *faculté*, fr. ML & L; ML *facultat*-, *facultas* branch of learning or teaching, fr. L, ability, abundance, fr. *facilis* facile] (14c) 1: ABILITY, POWER: as a: innate or acquired ability to act or do b: an inherent capability, power, or function (the ~ of hearing) c: any of the powers of the mind formerly held by psychologists to form a basis for the explanation of all mental phenomena d: natural aptitude (has a ~ for saying the right things) 2 a: a branch of teaching or learning in an educational institution b *archaic*: something in which one is trained or qualified 3 a: the members of a profession b: the teaching and administrative staff and those members of the administration having academic rank in an educational institution c *faculty* *pl*: faculty members (many ~ were present) 4: power, authority, or prerogative given or conferred *syn* see GIFT

**fad** \fad\ *n* [origin unknown] (1867): a practice or interest followed for a time with exaggerated zeal: CRAZE *syn* see FASHION — *fad-dish* \fə-'dɪʃ\ *adj* — *fad-dish-ness* *n* — *fad-dism* \fə-'dɪ-zəm\ *n* — *fad-dist* \fə-'dɪst\ *n* — *fad-dy* \-dē\ *adj*

**FAD** \ef-'ā-'dē\ *n* (1944): FLAVIN ADENINE DINUCLEOTIDE

**fade** \fād\ *vb* *fad-ed*; *fad-ing* [ME, fr. MF *fader*, fr. *fade* feeble, insipid, fr. (assumed) VL *fatidus*, alter. of L *fatuus* fatuous, insipid] *vi* (14c) 1: to lose freshness, strength, or vitality: WITHER 2: to lose freshness or brilliance of color 3: to sink away: VANISH 4: to change gradually in loudness, strength, or visibility — used of a motion-picture image or of an electronics signal and usu. with *in* or *out* 5 of an automobile brake: to lose braking power gradually 6: to move back from the line of scrimmage — used of a quarterback ~ *vt*: to cause to fade — *fad-er* *n*

**fade** *n* (1918) 1 a: FADE-OUT b: a gradual changing of one picture to another in a motion-picture or television sequence 2: a fading of an automobile brake 3: a slight to moderate and usu. intentional slice in golf

**fade** \fād\ *adj* [ME, fr. MF] (15c): INSIPID, COMMONPLACE

**fade-away** \fā-'dā-wā\ *n* (1909) 1 a: SCREWBALL 1 b: a slide in which a base runner throws his body sideways to avoid the tag 2: an act or instance of fading away

**fade-in** \fā-'dɪn\ *n* (1917): a gradual increase in a motion-picture or television image's visibility at the beginning of a sequence

**fade-less** \fād-'ləs\ *adj* (1652): not susceptible to fading

**fade-out** \fā-'daʊt\ *n* (1917): an act or instance of fading out; esp.: a gradual decrease in a motion-picture or television image's visibility at the end of a sequence

**fa-do** \fə-'(ə-)dʊ, 'fə-\ *n*, *pl* fados [Pg, lit., fate, fr. L *fatum*] (1902): a plaintive Portuguese folk song

**fae-cal**, **fae-ces** *var* of FECAL, FECES

**fae-na** \fā-'fā-(n)ə\ *n* [Sp, lit., task, fr. obs. Catal, fr. L *facienda* things to be done, fr. *facere* to do — more at DO] (1927): a series of final passes leading to the kill made by the matador in a bullfight

**fa-er-ie** also **fa-ery** \fā-'(ə-)rē, 'fā-rē, 'fēr-\ *n*, *pl* fa-er-ies [MF *faerie* — more at FAIRY] (1590) 1: FAIRYLAND 2: FAIRY — *faery* *adj*

**Faero-ese** \fə-'rə-'wēz, -fər-, -wēs\ *n*, *pl* Faeroese (1855) 1: a member of the people inhabiting the Faeroes 2: the North Germanic language of the Faeroese people — *Faeroese* *adj*

**Faf-nir** \fäv-'nər, 'fäf-, -nir\ *n* [ON *Fáfnir*]: a dragon in Norse mythology that guards the Nibelungs' gold hoard until slain by Sigurd

**fag** \fag\ *vb* *fag-ged*; *fag-ging* [obs. *fag* to droop, perh. fr. *fag* (fag end)] *vi* (1772) 1: to work hard: TOIL 2: to act as a *fag* esp. in an English public school (*fagging* for older boys during his first year) ~ *vt*: to tire by strenuous activity: EXHAUST *syn* see TIRE

**fag** *n* (1780) 1 chiefly Brit: TOIL, DRUDGERY 2 a: an English public school boy who acts as servant to an older schoolmate b: DRUDGE

**fag** *n* [fag end] (ca. 1888): CIGARETTE

**fag** *n* [prob. by shortening] (ca. 1931): FAGGOT — usu. used disparagingly — *fag-gy* \fə-'gē\ *adj*

**fag end** *n* [earlier *fag*, fr. ME *fagge* flap] (1613) 1 a: a poor or worn-out end: REMNANT b: the extreme end 2 a: the last part or coarser end of a web of cloth b: the untwisted end of a rope

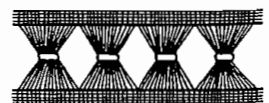
**fag-got** \fə-'gət\ *n* [origin unknown] (1914): a male homosexual — usu. used disparagingly — *fag-got-ry* \-gə-trē\ *n* — *fag-goty* \-gə-tē\ *adj*

**fag-in** \fā-'gən\ *n*, often *cap* [Fagin, character in Charles Dickens' *Oliver Twist* (1839)] (1847): an adult who instructs others (as children) in crime

**fag-ot** or **fag-got** \fə-'gət\ *n* [ME *fagot*, fr. MF] (14c): BUNDLE: as a: a bundle of sticks b: a bundle of pieces of wrought iron to be shaped by rolling or hammering at high temperature

**fagot** or **faggot** *vi* (ca. 1598): to make a fagot of: bind together into a bundle (~ed sticks)

**fag-ot-ing** or **fag-got-ing** *n* (1885) 1: an embroidery produced by pulling



fagoting 1



**tom b** : a skier who runs the course before the start of a race 2  
: PREDECESSOR, ANCESTOR

**syn** FORERUNNER, PRECURSOR, HARBINGER, HERALD mean one that goes before or announces the coming of another. FORERUNNER is applicable to anything that serves as a sign or presage (the blockade was the forerunner of war). PRECURSOR applies to a person or thing paving the way for the success or accomplishment of another (18th-century poets like Burns were precursors of the Romantics). HARBINGER and HERALD both apply, chiefly figuratively, to one that proclaims or announces the coming or arrival of a notable event (their early victory was the harbinger of a winning season) (the herald of a new age in medicine).

**fore-said** \-səd/ *adj* (bef. 12c) *archaic* : AFORESAID

**fore-sail** \-fōr-,səl, -fōr-,səl/ *n* (15c) 1 : the lowest sail set on the foremast of a square-rigged ship or schooner — see SAIL illustration 2 : the sole or principal headsail (as of a sloop, cutter, or schooner)

**fore-see** \-fōr-,sē, -fōr- *vt* -saw \-sō/, -seen \-sēn/; -see-ing (bef. 12c) : to see (as a development) beforehand — **fore-seer** \-fōr-,sē-ər, -fōr-,sē(-ə)r/ *n*

**syn** FORESEE, FOREKNOW, DIVINE, ANTICIPATE mean to know beforehand. FORESEE implies nothing about how the knowledge is derived and may apply to ordinary reasoning and experience (economists should have foreseen the recession). FOREKNOW usu. implies supernatural assistance, as through revelation (if only we could foreknow our own destinies). DIVINE adds to FORESEE the suggestion of exceptional wisdom or discernment (was able to divine Europe's rapid recovery from the war). ANTICIPATE implies taking action about or responding emotionally to something before it happens (the waiter anticipated our every need).

**fore-see-able** \-sē-ə-bəl/ *adj* (1804) 1 : being such as may be reasonably anticipated (~ problems) 2 : lying within the range for which forecasts are possible (in the ~ future) — **fore-see-abil-ity** \-sē-ə-'bi-lə-tē/ *n*

**fore-shad-ow** \-ʃha-(l)dō, -dō(-w)/ *vt* (1577) : to represent, indicate, or typify beforehand : PREFIGURE — **fore-shad-ow-er** \-dō-wər/ *n*

**fore-shank** \-fōr-,ʃaŋk, -fōr-/ *n* (1924) : the upper part of the foreleg of cattle; also : meat cut from this part

**fore-sheet** \-ʃēt/ *n* (1667) 1 : one of the sheets of a foresail 2 *pl* : the forward part of an open boat

**fore-shock** \-ʃhək/ *n* (1902) : any of the usu. minor tremors commonly preceding the principal shock of an earthquake

**fore-shore** \-ʃhōr, -ʃhōr/ *n* (1764) 1 : a strip of land margining a body of water 2 : the part of a seashore between high-water and low-water marks

**fore-short-en** \-fōr-'shōr-tēn, -fōr-/ *vt* (1606) 1 : to shorten by proportionately contracting in the direction of depth so that an illusion of projection or extension in space is obtained 2 : to make more compact : ABRIDGE, SHORTEN

**fore-side** \-fōr-,sīd, -fōr-/ *n* (14c) : the front side or part : FRONT

**fore-sight** \-fōr-,sīt, -fōr-/ *n* (14c) 1 : an act or the power of foreseeing : PRESCIENCE 2 : provident care : PRUDENCE (had the ~ to invest his money wisely) 3 : an act of looking forward; also : a view forward — **fore-sight-ed** \-sīt-təd/ *adj* — **fore-sight-ed-ly** *adv* — **fore-sight-ed-ness** *n* — **fore-sight-ful** \-sīt-fəl/ *adj*

**fore-skin** \-skīn/ *n* (1535) : a fold of skin that covers the glans of the penis — called also *prepuce*

**fore-speak** \-fōr-,spēk, -fōr- *vt* -spoke \-spōk/; -spo-ken \-spō-kən/; -speak-ing (14c) 1 : FORETELL, PREDICT 2 : to arrange for in advance

**for-est** \-fōr-,əst, -fār-/ *n*, often *attrib* [ME, fr. OF, fr. LL *forestis* (*silva*) unenclosed (woodland), fr. L *foris* outside — more at FORUM] (13c) 1 : a dense growth of trees and underbrush covering a large tract 2 : a tract of wooded land in England formerly owned by the sovereign and used for game 3 : something resembling a forest esp. in profusion (a ~ of microphones) — **for-est-al** \-əs-təl/ or **for-est-tial** \-fə-res-tē-əl, -fō-, -res(h)-chəl/ *adj* — **for-est-ed** \-fōr-ə-stəd, -fār-/ *adj*

**forest** *vt* (ca. 1828) : to cover with trees or forest — **for-es-tation** \-fōr-ə-'stā-shən, -fār-/ *n*

**fore-stage** \-fōr-,stāj, -fōr-/ *n* (1923) : APRON 2c

**fore-stall** \-fōr-,stōl, -fōr-/ *vt* [ME, fr. *forstall* act of waylaying, fr. OE *foresteall*, fr. *fore* + *steall* position, stall] (bef. 12c) 1 : to prevent the normal trading in by buying or diverting goods or by persuading persons to raise prices 2 *archaic* : INTERCEPT 3 *obs* : OBSTRUCT, BESET 4 : to exclude, hinder, or prevent by prior occupation or measures 5 : to get ahead of : ANTICIPATE **syn** see PREVENT — **fore-stall-er** *n* — **fore-stall-ment** \-stōl-mənt/ *n*

**fore-stay** \-fōr-,stā, -fōr-/ *n* (13c) : a stay from the foremast to the fore-deck or bow of a ship

**fore-stay-sail** \-sāl, -səl/ *n* (1742) : the triangular aftermost headsail of a schooner, ketch, or yawl set on the forestay — see SAIL illustration

**for-est-er** \-fōr-ə-stər, -fār-/ *n* [ME *forster*, *forester*, fr. OF *forestier*, fr. *forest*] (14c) 1 : a person trained in forestry 2 : an inhabitant of a forest 3 : any of various woodland moths (family Agariidae) 4 *cap* : a member of a major benevolent and fraternal order

**forest floor** *n* (1849) : the richly organic layer of soil and debris characteristic of forested land

**forest green** *n* (1810) : a dark yellowish or moderate olive green

**for-est-land** \-fōr-əst-,lænd, -fār-/ *n* (1649) : land covered with forest or reserved for the growth of forests

**forest ranger** *n* (1830) : an officer charged with the patrolling and guarding of a forest; esp : one in charge of the management and protection of a portion of a public forest

**for-est-ry** \-fōr-ə-strē, -fār-/ *n* (1823) 1 : FORESTLAND 2 *a* : the science of developing, caring for, or cultivating forests *b* : the management of growing timber

**forest tent caterpillar** *n* (1854) : a moth (*Malacosoma disstria*) of the family Lasiocampidae whose orange-marked larva is a tent caterpillar and a serious defoliator of deciduous trees

**foreswear, foresworn** *var* of FORSWEAR, FORSWORN

**fore-taste** \-fōr-,tāst, -fār-/ *n* (15c) 1 : a small anticipatory sample 2 : an advance indication or warning **syn** see PROSPECT

**fore-taste** \-fōr-,tāst, -fār-, -fōr-/ *vt* (15c) : to taste beforehand : ANTICIPATE

**fore-tell** \-fōr-,tel, -fōr-/ *vt* -told \-tōld/; -tell-ing (14c) : to tell beforehand : PREDICT — **fore-tell-er** *n*

**syn** FORETELL, PREDICT, FORECAST, PROPHECY, PROGNOSTICATE mean to

tell beforehand. FORETELL applies to the telling of the coming of a future event by any procedure or any source of information (seers foretold the calamity). PREDICT commonly implies inference from facts or accepted laws of nature (astronomers predicted an eclipse). FORECAST adds the implication of anticipating eventualities and differs from PREDICT in being usually concerned with probabilities rather than certainties (forecast snow). PROPHECY connotes inspired or mystic knowledge of the future esp. as the fulfilling of divine threats or promises (prophecy of a new messiah). PROGNOSTICATE is used less often than the other words; it may suggest learned or skilled interpretation, but more often it is simply a colorful substitute for PREDICT or PROPHECY (prognosticating the future).

**fore-thought** \-fōr-,thōt, -fōr-/ *n* (14c) 1 : a thinking or planning out in advance : PREMEDITATION 2 : consideration for the future

**forethought** *adj* (15c) *archaic* : AFORETHOUGHT

**fore-thought-ful** \-fəl/ *adj* (1809) : full of or having forethought — **fore-thought-ful-ly** \-fəl-lē/ *adv* — **fore-thought-ful-ness** *n*

**fore-time** \-fōr-,tīm, -fōr-/ *n* (ca. 1540) : former or past time : the time before the present

**fore-to-ken** \-fōr-,tō-kən, -fōr-/ *n* (bef. 12c) : a premonitory sign

**fore-to-ken** \-fōr-,tō-kən, -fōr-/ *vt* **fore-to-kened**; **fore-to-ken-ing** \-tōk-nīŋ, -tōk-ə-/ (15c) : to indicate or warn of in advance

**fore-top** \-fōr-,tāp, -fōr-/ *n* (1509) : the platform at the head of a ship's foremast

**fore-top-man** \-fōr-,tāp-mən, -fōr-/ *n* (1816) : a sailor on duty on the foremast and above

**fore-top-mast** \-fōr-,tāp-məst, -fōr-/ *n* (1626) : a mast next above the foremast

**fore-ver** \-fə-'rev-ər, fō-/; *Southern often* fə-'e-və/ *adv* (1629) 1 : for a limitless time (wants to live ~) 2 : at all times : CONTINUALLY (is ~ making bad puns)

**forever** *n* (1858) : a seemingly interminable time : excessively long (it took her ~ to find the answer)

**for-ever-more** \-re-və(r)-'mōr, -'mōr/ *adv* (1837) : FOREVER 1

**for-ever-ness** \-re-vər-nəs/ *n* (1945) : ETERNITY

**fore-warn** \-fōr-,wɔrn, -fōr-/ *vt* (14c) : to warn in advance

**fore-wing** \-fōr-,wīŋ, -fōr-/ *n* (ca. 1889) : either of the anterior wings of a 4-winged insect

**fore-wom-an** \-fōr-,wū-mən, -fōr-/ *n* (1709) : a woman who is a foreman

**fore-word** \-fōr-,wɔrd, -fōr-/ *n* (1842) : prefatory comments (as for a book) esp. when written by someone other than the author

**fore-worn** *archaic* *var* of FORWORN

**for-feit** \-fɔr-'fat/ *n* [ME *forfait*, fr. MF, fr. pp. of *forfaire* to commit a crime, forfeit, fr. *foris* outside (fr. L *foris*) + *faire* to do, fr. L *facere* — more at FORUM, DO] (14c) 1 : something forfeited or subject to being forfeited (as for a crime, offense, or neglect of duty) : PENALTY 2 : forfeiture esp. of civil rights 3 *a* : something deposited (as for making a mistake in a game) and then redeemed on payment of a fine *b pl* : a game in which forfeits are exacted

**forfeit** *vt* (14c) 1 : to lose or lose the right to by some error, offense, or crime 2 : to subject to confiscation as a forfeit — **for-feit-able** \-fə-'tə-bəl/ *adj* — **for-feit-er** *n*

**forfeit** *adj* (14c) : forfeited or subject to forfeiture

**for-fei-ture** \-fɔr-'fə-,chūr, -chər, -t(y)ūr/ *n* (14c) 1 : the act of forfeiting : the loss of property or money because of a breach of a legal obligation 2 : something (as money or property) that is forfeited : PENALTY

**for-fend** \-fɔr-'fend, -fōr-/ *vt* (14c) 1 *a* *archaic* : FORBID *b* : to ward off : PREVENT 2 : PROTECT, PRESERVE

**for-gath-er** \-fɔr-'ga-thər, -fōr-/ *vt* (1513) 1 : to come together : ASSEMBLE 2 : to meet someone usu. by chance

**forge** \-fɔrj, -fɔrj/ *n* [ME, fr. OF, fr. L *fabrica*, fr. *fabr-*, *faber* smith] (13c) 1 : a furnace or a shop with its furnace where metal is heated and wrought : SMITHY 2 : a workshop where wrought iron is produced or where iron is made malleable

**forge** *vb* **forged**; **forg-ing** *vt* (14c)

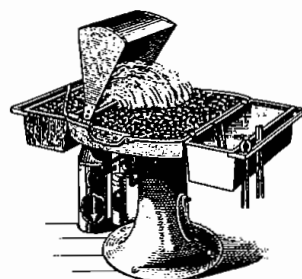
1 *a* : to form (as metal) by heating and hammering *b* : to form (metal) by a mechanical or hydraulic press with or without heat 2 : to make or imitate falsely esp. with intent to defraud : COUNTERFEIT 3 : to form or bring into being esp. by an expenditure of effort (working to ~ party unity) ~ *vi* 1 : to work at a forge 2 : to commit forgery — **forge-abil-ity** \-fɔr-jə-'bi-lə-tē, -fōr-/ *n* — **forge-able** \-fɔr-jə-bəl, -fōr-/ *adj*

**forge** *vi* **forged**; **forg-ing** [origin unknown] (1611) 1 : to move forward slowly and steadily (the ship forged ahead through heavy seas) 2 : to move with a sudden increase of speed and power (forged into the lead) (forged ahead in marketing the product)

**for-ger** \-fɔr-jər, -fōr-/ *n* [*3* *forger*] (14c) 1 : one that forges metals 2 *a* : one that falsifies; esp : a creator of false tales *b* : a person guilty of forgery

**for-gery** \-fɔrj-rē, -fɔrj-/; -fɔr-jə-, -fōr-/ *n*, *pl* -er-ies (1583) 1 *archaic* : INVENTION 2 : something forged 3 : an act of forging; esp : the crime of falsely and fraudulently making or altering a document (as a check)

**for-get** \-fɔr-'get, -fōr-/ *vb* -got \-'gät/; -got-ten \-'gät-tən/ or -got; -get-ting [ME, fr. OE *forgietan*, fr. *for-* + *-gietan* (akin to ON *geta* to get)] *vt* (bef. 12c) 1 *a* : to lose the remembrance of : be unable to think of



forge 1

\ə/ about \ə/ kitten, F table \ər/ further \ə/ ash \ā/ ace \ä/ mop, mar  
\aʊ/ out- \ch/ chin \e/ bet \ē/ easy \g/ go \i/ hit \ī/ ice \j/ job  
\ŋ/ sing \ō/ go \ō/ law \oi/ boy \th/ thin \th/ the \ü/ loot \u/ foot  
\y/ yet \zh/ vision \ä, k, ʰ, œ, œ, u, ū, see Guide to Pronunciation



**re-ca-mier** \rē-kām-yā\ *n* [fr. its appearance in a portrait of Mme. Récamier by Jacques-Louis David] (1924) : a sometimes backless couch with a high curved headrest and low footrest



recamier

**re-can-a-li-za-tion** \(\rē-ka-nī-ā-zā-shən\ *n* (1953) : the process of restoring flow to or reuniting an interrupted channel of a bodily tube (as a blood vessel or vas deferens) — **re-can-a-lize** \-kə-nā-līz-, -kə-nī-līz\ *vt*

**re-cant** \ri-'kant\ *vb* [L *recantare*, fr. *re-* + *cantare* to sing — more at **CHANT**] *vt* (1535) 1 : to withdraw or repudiate (a statement or belief) formally and publicly : **RENOUCE** 2 : **REVOKE** ~ *vi* : to make an open confession of error **syn** see **ABJURE** — **re-can-ta-tion** \rē-kan-tā-shən\ *n*

**re-cap** \rē-'kap\ *n* [by shortening] (ca. 1926) : **RECAPITULATION** — **re-cap** \rē-'kap-, ri-'\ *vb* **re-capped**; **re-cap-ping** (1945) : **RECAPITULATING**

**re-cap** \rē-'kap\ *n* [*recap*] (1940) : **RETREAD** 1 **re-cap** \(\rē-'kap\ *vt* **re-capped**; **re-cap-ping** [re- + 'cap] (1941) : **RETREAD** — **re-cap-pa-ble** \-kə-pə-bəl\ *adj*

**re-cap-i-tal-i-za-tion** \(\rē-ka-pā-tī-ā-zā-shən-, -kə-pī-tī-\ *n* (1920) : a revision of the capital structure of a corporation

**re-cap-i-tal-ize** \(\rē-ka-pā-tī-līz-, -kə-pī-tī-\ *vt* (1904) : to change the capital structure of

**re-ca-pit-u-late** \rē-kə-'pī-chə-lāt\ *vb* **-lat-ed**; **-lat-ing** [LL *recapitulatus*, pp. of *recapitulare* to restate by heads, sum up, fr. *re-* + *capitulum* division of a book — more at **CHAPTER**] *vt* (1570) : to repeat the principal points or stages of : **SUMMARIZE** ~ *vi* : **SUM UP**

**re-ca-pit-u-la-tion** \-pī-chə-lā-shən\ *n* (14c) 1 : a concise summary 2 : the hypothetical occurrence in an individual organism's development of successive stages resembling the series of ancestral types from which it has descended so that the ontogeny of the individual is a recapitulation of the phylogeny of its group 3 : the third section of a sonata form

**re-cap-ture** \(\rē-'kap-chər\ *n* (1752) 1 *a* : the act of retaking *b* : an instance of being retaken 2 : the retaking of a prize or goods under international law 3 : a government seizure under law of earnings or profits beyond a fixed amount

**recapture** *vt* (1799) 1 *a* : to capture again *b* : to experience again (by no effort of the imagination could she ~ the ecstasy — Ellen Glasgow) 2 : to take (as a portion of earnings or profits above a fixed amount) by law or through negotiations under law

**re-cast** \(\rē-'kast\ *vt* **-cast**; **-cast-ing** (1603) : to cast again (~ a gun) (~ a play); also : **REMODEL**, **REFASHION** (~s his political image to fit the times) — **re-cast** \rē-'kast-, (\rē-'\ *n*

**re-cede** \rē-'kē\ *n*, often attrib [by shortening & alter.] (1941) : **RECON-NAISSANCE**

**re-cede** \ri-'sēd\ *vi* **re-ced-ed**; **re-ced-ing** [ME, fr. L *recedere* to go back, fr. *re-* + *cedere* to go] (15c) 1 *a* : to move back or away : **WITHDRAW** *b* : to slant backward 2 : to grow less or smaller : **DEMINISH**, **DECREASE**

**syn** **RECEDE**, **RETREAT**, **RETRACT**, **BACK** mean to move backward. **RECEDE** implies a gradual withdrawing from a forward or high fixed point in time or space (the flood waters gradually *receded*). **RETREAT** implies withdrawal from a point or position reached (*retreating* soldiers). **RETRACT** implies drawing back from an extended position (a cat *retracting* its claws). **BACK** is used with *up*, *down*, *out*, or *off* to refer to any retrograde motion (*backed off* on the throttle).

**re-cede** \(\rē-'sēd\ *vt* [re- + *cede*] (1771) : to cede back to a former possessor

**re-cept** \ri-'sēt\ *n* [ME *recepte*, fr. ONF, fr. ML *recepta*, prob. fr. L, neut. pl. of *receptus*, pp. of *recipere* to receive] (14c) 1 : **RECIPE** 2 : *obs* : **RECEPTACLE** *b* *archaic* : a revenue office 3 : the act or process of receiving 4 : something received — usu. used in pl. 5 : a writing acknowledging the receiving of goods or money

**receipt** *vt* (1787) 1 : to give a receipt for or acknowledge the receipt of 2 : to mark as paid

**re-ceive-able** \ri-'sē-və-bəl\ *adj* (14c) 1 : capable of being received 2 : subject to call for payment (notes ~)

**re-ceive-ables** \-bə-l\ *n* pl (1863) : amounts of money receivable

**re-ceive** \ri-'sēv\ *vb* **re-ceived**; **re-ceive-ing** [ME, fr. ONF *receivre*, fr. L *recipere*, fr. *re-* + *capere* to take — more at **HEAVE**] *vt* (14c) 1 : to come into possession of : **ACQUIRE** (~ a gift) 2 *a* : to act as a receptacle or container for (the cistern ~s water from the roof) *b* : to assimilate through the mind or senses (~ new ideas) 3 *a* : to permit to enter : **ADMIT** *b* : **WELCOME**, **GREET** *c* : to react to in a specified manner 4 : to accept as authoritative, true, or accurate : **BELIEVE** 5 *a* : to support the weight or pressure of : **BEAR** *b* : to take (a mark or impression) from the weight of something (some clay ~s clear impressions) *c* : **ACQUIRE**, **EXPERIENCE** (received his early schooling at home) *d* : to suffer the hurt or injury of (received a broken nose) ~ *vi* 1 : to be a recipient 2 : to be at home to visitors (~s on Tuesdays) 3 : to convert incoming radio waves into perceptible signals 4 : to prepare to take possession of the ball from a kick in football

**received** *adj* (15c) : generally accepted : **COMMON** (a healthy skepticism about ~ explanations — B. K. Lewalski)

**Received Pronunciation** *n* (1869) : the pronunciation of Received Standard

**Received Standard** *n* (1913) : a traditionally prestigious form of English spoken at the English public schools, at the universities of Oxford and Cambridge, and by many educated British people elsewhere

**re-ceive-r** \ri-'sē-vər\ *n* (14c) : one that receives : as *a* : **TREASURER** *b* (1) : a person appointed to hold in trust and administer property under litigation (2) : a person appointed to settle the affairs of a business involving a public interest or to manage a corporation during reorganization *c* : one that receives stolen goods : **FENCE** *d* : a device for converting signals (as electromagnetic waves) into audio or visual form : as (1) : a device in a telephone for converting electric impulses or varying current into sound (2) : a radio receiver with a tuner and am-

plifier on one chassis *e* (1) : **CATCHER** (2) : a member of the offensive team in football eligible to catch a forward pass

**receiver general** *n*, *pl* **receivers general** (15c) : a public officer in charge of the treasury (as of Massachusetts)

**re-ceive-ship** \ri-'sē-vər-ship\ *n* (15c) 1 : the office or function of a receiver 2 : the state of being in the hands of a receiver

**receiving blanket** *n* (1926) : a small lightweight blanket used to wrap an infant (as after bathing)

**receiving end** *n* (1937) : the position of being a recipient or esp. a victim — usu. used in the phrase *on the receiving end*

**receiving line** *n* (1933) : a group of people who stand in a line and individually welcome guests (as at a wedding reception)

**re-cen-cy** \rē-'sən(t)-sē\ *n* (1612) : the quality or state of being recent

**re-cen-sion** \ri-'sen(t)-shən\ *n* [L *recensio*-, *recensio* enumeration, fr. *recensere* to review, fr. *re-* + *censere* to assess, tax — more at **CENSOR**] (ca. 1828) 1 : a critical revision of a text 2 : a text established by critical revision

**re-cent** \rē-'snt\ *adj* [ME, fr. MF or L; MF, fr. L *recent*-, *recens*; perh. akin to Gk *kainos* new] (15c) 1 *a* : having lately come into existence : **NEW**, **FRESH** *b* : of or relating to a time not long past 2 *cap* : **HOLOCENE** — **re-cent-ness** *n*

**re-cent-ly** *adv* (1533) : during a recent period of time : **LATELY**

**re-cep-tacle** \ri-'sep-tī-kəl\ *n* [ME, fr. L *receptaculum*, fr. *receptare* to receive, freq. of *recipere* to receive] (15c) 1 : one that receives and contains something : **CONTAINER** 2 [NL *receptaculum*, fr. L] *a* : the end of the flower stalk upon which the floral organs are borne *b* : a modified branch bearing sporangia in a cryptogamous plant 3 : a mounted female electrical fitting that contains the live parts of the circuit

**re-cep-tion** \ri-'sep-shən\ *n* [ME *reception*, fr. MF or L; MF *reception*, fr. L *reception*-, *receptio*, fr. *recipere*] (15c) 1 : the act or action or an instance of receiving : as *a* : **RECEIPT** (the ~ and distribution of funds) *b* : **ADMISSION** (~ into the church) *c* : **RESPONSE**, **REACTION** (the play met with a mixed ~) *d* : the receiving of a radio or television broadcast *e* : the catching of a forward pass by a receiver 2 : a social gathering often for the purpose of extending a formal welcome

**re-cep-tion-ist** \-sh(ə)-nist\ *n* (1901) : a person employed to greet telephone callers, visitors, patients, or clients

**re-cep-tive** \ri-'sep-tiv\ *adj* (15c) 1 : able or inclined to receive; esp : open and responsive to ideas, impressions, or suggestions 2 *a* of a sensory end organ : fit to receive and transmit stimuli *b* : **SENSORY** — **re-cep-tive-ly** *adv* — **re-cep-tive-ness** *n* — **re-cep-tiv-i-ty** \rē-'sep-ti-və-tē-, ri-'\ *n*

**re-cep-tor** \ri-'sep-tər\ *n* (1898) : **RECEIVER** : as *a* : a cell or group of cells that receives stimuli : **SENSE ORGAN** *b* : a chemical group or molecule (as a protein) on the cell surface or in the cell interior that has an affinity for a specific chemical group, molecule, or virus

**re-cess** \rē-'ses-, ri-'\ *n* [L *recessus*, fr. *recedere* to recede] (1531) 1 : the action of receding : **RECESSION** 2 : a hidden, secret, or secluded place or part 3 *a* : **INDENTATION**, **CLEFT** (a deep ~ in the hill) *b* : **ALCOVE** (a ~ lined with books) 4 : a suspension of business or procedure often for rest or relaxation (children playing at ~)

**recess** *vt* (1809) 1 : to put into a recess (~ed lighting) 2 : to make a recess in 3 : to interrupt for a recess ~ *vi* : to take a recess

**re-ces-sion** \ri-'se-shən\ *n* (ca. 1652) 1 : the act or action of receding : **WITHDRAWAL** 2 : a departing procession (as of clergy and choir at the end of a church service) 3 : a period of reduced economic activity — **re-ces-sion-ary** \-shə-ner-ē\ *adj*

**re-ces-sion** \(\rē-'se-shən\ *n* [re- + *cession*] (1828) : the act of ceding back to a former possessor

**re-ces-sion-al** \ri-'sesh-nəl-, -se-shə-nəl\ *adj* (1867) : of or relating to a withdrawal

**re-cessional** *n* (1867) 1 : a hymn or musical piece at the conclusion of a service or program 2 : **RECESSION** 2

**re-ces-sive** \ri-'se-siv\ *adj* (ca. 1673) 1 *a* : tending to recede *b* : **WITHDRAWN** 2 *a* : producing little or no phenotypic effect when occurring in heterozygous condition with a contrasting allele (~ genes) *b* : expressed only when the determining gene is in the homozygous condition (~ traits) — **re-ces-sive-ly** *adv* — **re-ces-sive-ness** *n*

**recessive** *n* (1900) 1 : an organism possessing one or more recessive characters 2 : a recessive character or gene

**re-charge** \(\rē-'chärj\ *vi* (1598) 1 : to make a new attack 2 : to regain energy or spirit ~ *vt* 1 : to charge again; esp : to restore anew the active materials in (a storage battery) 2 : to inspire or invigorate afresh : **RENEW** — **re-charge** \(\rē-'chärj-, rē-\ *n* — **re-charge-able** \(\rē-'chär-jə-bəl\ *adj* — **re-charge-r** \-jər\ *n*

**re-chauf-fé** \rē-'shō-'fā-, -shō-\ *n* [F, fr. *réchauffé* warmed-over, fr. pp. of *réchauffer* to warm over, fr. *ré-* + *chauffer* to warm, fr. MF *chauffer* — more at **CHAFE**] (1805) 1 : **REHASH** 2 : a warmed-over dish of food

**re-cheat** \ri-'chēt\ *n* [ME *rechate*, fr. *rechaten* to blow the recheat, fr. MF *rachater* to assemble, rally, fr. *re-* + *achater* to acquire, fr. (assumed) VL *accipere* — more at **CATE**] (15c) : a hunting call sounded on a horn to assemble the hounds

**re-cher-ché** \rə-'sher-'shā-, -sher-\ *adj* [F, fr. pp. of *rechercher* to seek out, fr. MF *recherchier* — more at **RESEARCH**] (1722) 1 *a* : **EXQUISITE**, **CHOICE** *b* : **EXOTIC**, **RARE** 2 : excessively refined : **AFFECTED** 3 : **PRETENTIOUS**, **OVERBLOWN**

**re-cid-i-vism** \ri-'si-də-,vi-zəm\ *n* (1886) : a tendency to relapse into a previous condition or mode of behavior; esp : relapse into criminal behavior

**re-cid-i-vist** \-vist\ *n* [F *récidiviste*, fr. *récidiver* to relapse, fr. ML *recidivare*, fr. L *recidivus* recurring, fr. *recidere* to fall back, fr. *re-* + *cadere* to fall — more at **CHANCE**] (1880) : one who relapses; *specific* : an habitual criminal — **recidivist** *adj* — **re-cid-i-vis-tic** \-si-də-'vis-tik\ *adj*

**rec-i-pe** \rē-'sə-(j)pē\ *n* [L, take, imper. of *recipere* to take, receive — more at **RECEIVE**] (1584) 1 : **PRESCRIPTION** 4a 2 : a set of instructions

\ə\ about \ə\ kitten, F table \ər\ further \ə\ ash \ā\ ace \ā\ mop, mar  
\au\ out \ch\ chin \e\ bet \ē\ easy \g\ go \i\ hit \i\ ice \j\ job  
\ŋ\ sing \ŋ\ go \ŋ\ law \ŋ\ boy \th\ thin \th\ the \u\ loot \u\ foot  
\y\ yet \zh\ vision \ā, k, ŋ, œ, œ, iē, ū, see Guide to Pronunciation