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the-at-ri-cal-ize \thē-'a-tri-kə-'līz\ v -lized; -lizing (1778) 1: to adapt to the theater; DRAMATIZE 2: to display in showy fashion — **the-at-ri-cal-i-za-tion** \-'a-tri-kə-'lā-'zā-shən\ n

the-at-rics \thē-'a-triks\ n pl (1807) 1: THEATRICAL 1 2: staged or contrived effects

the-be \thā-(b)ə\ n, pl **thebe** [Tswana, lit., shield] (1967) — see *pula* at MONEY table

the-ca \thē-'kə\ n, pl **the-cae** \thē-'sē, -kē\ [NL, fr. Gk *thēkē* case — more at TICK] (ca. 1666): an enveloping sheath or case of an animal or animal part — **the-cal** \thē-'kəl\ adj

the-cium n comb form, pl **the-cia** [NL, fr. Gk *thēkion*, dim. of *thēkē* case]: small containing structure (endothecium)

the-co-dont \thē-'kə-'dɔnt\ adj [ISV *thec-* (fr. NL *theca*) + *-odont*] (1840): having the teeth inserted in sockets

the-codont n (1840): any of an order (Thecodontia) of Triassic diapsid thecodont reptiles that were presumably on the common ancestral line of the dinosaurs, birds, and crocodiles

the dan-sant \tā-'dān-'sānt\ n, pl **thés dansants** \same\ [F] (ca. 1845): TEA DANCE

thee \thē\ pron, archaic objective case of THOU 1 a — used esp. in ecclesiastical or literary language and by Friends esp. among themselves in contexts where the objective case form would be expected b — used by Friends esp. among themselves in contexts where the subjective case form would be expected 2: THYSELF

thee-fin \thē-(ə)-lən\ n [irreg. fr. Gk *thēlys* female; akin to Gk *thēlē* nipple — more at FEMININE] (1930): ESTRONE

theft \theft\ n [ME *thiefthe*, fr. OE *thiefth*; akin to OE *thēof* thief] (bef. 12c) 1 a: the act of stealing; *specif*: the felonious taking and removing of personal property with intent to deprive the rightful owner of it b: an unlawful taking (as by embezzlement or burglary) of property 2 *obs*: something stolen 3: a stolen base in baseball

thegn \thēgn\ n [OE — more at THANE] (1848): THANE 1

thegn-ly \-lē\ adj (1876): of, relating to, or befitting a thegn

their \thər, 'thər, 'thar\ adj [ME, fr. *their*, pron., fr. ON *theirra*, gen. pl. demonstrative & personal pron.; akin to OE *that* that] (13c) 1: of or relating to them or themselves esp. as possessors, agents, or objects of an action (~ furniture) (~ verses) (~ being seen) 2: his or her: HIS, HER, ITS — used with an indefinite third person singular antecedent (anyone in ~ senses — W. H. Auden) *usage* see THEY

theirs \thərz, 'tharz\ pron, sing or pl in constr (14c) 1: that which belongs to them — used without a following noun as a pronoun equivalent in meaning to the adjective *their* 2: his or hers: HIS, HERS — used with an indefinite third person singular antecedent (I will do my part if everybody else will do ~)

their-selves \thər-'selvz, (j)thər-, (j)thar-, Southern also -'sevz\ pron pl (14c) chiefly dial: THEMSELVES

the-ism \thē-'i-zəm\ n (1678): belief in the existence of a god or gods; *specif*: belief in the existence of one God viewed as the creative source of man and the world who transcends yet is immanent in the world — **the-ist** \-ist\ n or adj — **the-ist-ic** \thē-'is-tik\ also **the-is-ti-cal** \-tikəl\ adj — **the-is-ti-cal-ly** \-ti-k(ə)-lē\ adv

T-helper cell \tē-'hel-pər-\ n (1980): HELPER T CELL

them \thəm\ n, *them*, after p, b, v, f, also 'm\ pron, objective case of THEY

them \thəm\ adj (1594) *nonstand*: THOSE — used chiefly in the speech of less educated people and in the familiar speech of educated people esp. when they are being humorous

the-mat-ic \thi-'ma-tik\ adj [Gk *thematikos*, fr. *themat*, *thema* theme] (1861) 1 a: of or relating to the stem of a word b of a vowel: being the last part of a word stem before an inflectional ending 2: of, relating to, or constituting a theme — **the-mat-i-cal-ly** \-ti-k(ə)-lē\ adv

thematic apperception test n (1941): a projective technique that is widely used in clinical psychology to make personality, psychodynamic, and diagnostic assessments based on the subject's verbal responses to a series of black and white pictures

theme \thēm\ n [ME *teme*, *theme*, fr. MF & L; MF *teme*, fr. L *thema*, fr. Gk, lit., something laid down, fr. *thēnāi* to place — more at DO] (14c) 1 a: a subject or topic of discourse or of artistic representation b: a specific and distinctive quality, characteristic, or concern (the campaign has lacked a ~) 2: STEM 4 3: a written exercise: COMPOSITION (a research ~) 4: a melodic subject of a musical composition or movement — **themed** \thēmd\ adj

theme park n (1960): an amusement park in which the structures and settings are based on a central theme

theme song n (1929) 1: a melody recurring so often in a musical play that it characterizes the production or one of its characters 2: a song used as a signature

them-selves \thəm-'selvz, them-\ pron pl (14c) 1 a: those identical ones that are they — compare THEY 1a; used reflexively, for emphasis, or in absolute constructions (nations that govern ~) (they ~ were present) (~ busy, they disliked idleness in others) b: himself or herself: HIMSELF, HERSELF — used with an indefinite third person singular antecedent (nobody can call ~ oppressed — Leonard Wibberley) 2: their normal, healthy, or sane condition (were ~ again after a night's rest) *usage* see THEY

then \then\ adv [ME *than*, *then* then, than, fr. OE *thonne*, *thænne*; akin to OHG *denne* then, than, OE *that* that] (bef. 12c) 1: at that time 2 a: soon after that; next in order of time (walked to the door, ~ turned) b: following next after in order of position, narration, or enumeration: being next in a series (first came the clowns, ~ came the elephants) c: in addition: BESIDES (~ there is the interest to be paid) 3 a (1): in that case (take it, ~, if you want it so much) (2) — used after *but* to qualify or offset a preceding statement (she lost the race, but ~ she never really expected to win) b: according to that; as may be inferred (your mind is made up, ~) c: as it appears; by way of summing up (the cause of the accident, ~, is established) d: as a necessary consequence (if the angles are equal, ~ the complements are equal) — **and then some** ~ with much more in addition (would require all his strength and then some)

then n (14c): that time (since ~, he's been more cautious)

then adj (1584): existing or acting at or belonging to the time mentioned (the ~ secretary of state)

then and there adv (15c): on the spot; IMMEDIATELY (wanted the money right then and there)

the-nar \thē-'nār, -nər\ adj [NL, palm of the hand, fr. Gk; ak OHG *tenar* palm of the hand] (ca. 1857): of, relating to, involving constituting the ball of the thumb or the intrinsic musculature of thumb (~ muscles)

thence \then(t)s also then(t)s\ adv [ME *thannes*, fr. *thanne* from place, fr. OE *thanon*; akin to OHG *thanan* from that place, OE *th* then — more at THEN] (14c) 1: from that place 2 archaic: from time; THENCEFORTH 3: from that fact or circumstance; THEREIN — from *thence*: from that place

thence-forth \-fōrth, -fōrth\ adv (14c): from that time forward

thence-for-ward \then(t)s-fōr-ward also then(t)s- also **thence-wards** \-wərdz\ adv (15c): onward from that place or time

theo- — see THE

theo-bro-mine \thē-'brō-'nēn, -mən\ n [NL *Theobroma*, genus includes the cacao, fr. *the-* + Gk *brōma* food, fr. *bibrōskēin* to de — more at VORACIOUS] (1842): a bitter alkaloid C₇H₅N₂O₂ cl related to caffeine that occurs esp. in cacao beans and has stimulant and diuretic properties

theo-cent-ric \-sen-'trik\ adj (1886): having God as the central and ultimate concern (a ~ culture) — **theo-cent-ric-ity** \-tri-sə-tē\ n — **theo-cent-rism** \-sen-'tri-zəm\ n

the-o-cra-cy \thē-'krə-'sə\ n, pl **-cies** [Gk *theokratia*, fr. *the-* + *-kratia* -cracy] (1622) 1: government of a state by immediate guidance or by officials who are regarded as divinely guided 2: state governed by a theocracy

theo-crat \thē-'krət\ n (1827) 1: one who rules in or lives untheocratic form of government 2: one who favors a theocratic form of government

theo-crat-ic \thē-'krə-'tik\ also **theo-crat-i-cal** \-ti-kəl\ adj (1) : of, relating to, or being a theocracy — **theo-crat-i-cal-ly** \-ti-k(ə)-lē\ adv

the-od-i-cy \thē-'i-də-'sē\ n, pl **-cies** [modif. of F *théodicée*, fr. the- (fr. L *theo-*) + Gk *dikē* judgment, right — more at DICTION] (1) : defense of God's goodness and omnipotence in view of the existence of evil

the-od-o-lite \thē-'dɔ-'līt\ n [NL *theodelitus*] (1571): a surveying instrument for measuring horizontal and usu. also vertical angles

the-og-o-my \thē-'gə-'nē\ n, pl **-nies** [Gk *theogonia*, fr. *the-* + *-gony*] (1612): an account of the origin and descent of the gods

theo-gon-ic \thē-'gə-'nik\ adj

theo-lo-gian \thē-'lɔ-'jān\ n (15c): a specialist in theology

theo-log-i-cal \-lɔ-'jī-kəl\ also **theo-log-ic** \-jīk\ adj (15c) 1: relating to theology 2: preparing for a religious vocation (a ~ student) — **theo-log-i-cal-ly** \-jī-k(ə)-lē\ adv

theological virtue n (1526): one of the three spiritual graces of hope, and charity drawing the soul to God according to scholastic theology

the-ol-o-gize Brit var of THEOLOGIZE

the-ol-o-gize \thē-'lɔ-'jīz\ vb -gized; -gizing v (1649): to theorize: give a religious significance to ~ vi: to theorize theoretically — **the-ol-o-giz-er** n

theo-logue also **theo-log** \thē-'lɔ-'lɔg, -lɔg\ n [L *theologus* theolog, fr. Gk *theologos*, fr. *the-* + *lōgos* to speak — more at LEGEND] (1) : a theological student or specialist

the-ol-o-gy \thē-'lɔ-'jē\ n, pl **-gies** [ME *theologie*, fr. L *theologia*, Gk, fr. *the-* + *-logia* -logy] (14c) 1: the study of religious faith, doctrine, and experience; esp: the study of God and of God's relation to world 2 a: a theological theory or system (Thomist ~) (a ~ atonement) b: a distinctive body of theological opinion (Catholic ~) 3: a usu. 4-year course of specialized religious training in a Roman Catholic major seminary

the-on-o-mous \thē-'ə-nə-'məs\ adj [*the-* + *-nomous* (as in *anonymus*)] (1947): psychology by God: subject to God's authority

the-on-o-my \-mē\ n [G *theonomie*, fr. *theo-* (fr. L) + *-nomie* -nomy] (1890): the state of being theonomous; govern by God

the-oph-a-ny \thē-'ə-fə-'nē\ n, pl **-nies** [ML *theophania*, fr. LGk *phanēa*, fr. Gk *the-* + *-phanēa* (as in *epiphaneia* appearance) — more at EPIPHANY] (ca. 1633): a visible manifestation of a deity — **the-oph-an-ic** \thē-'ə-'fə-'nik\ adj

the-oph-y-l-ine \thē-'ə-'fə-'lēn\ n [ISV *theo-* (fr. NL *thea* tea) + *-lyne*] (ca. 1894): a feebly basic bitter crystalline compound C₇H₅N₂O₂ from tea leaves that is isomeric with theobromine and used in medicine esp. as a bronchodilator

the-or-bo \thē-'br-(j)ə\ n, pl **-bos** [modif. of It *torba*, *teorba*] (1605): a stringed instrument of the 17th century resembling a large lute but having an extra set of long bass strings

the-o-rem \thē-'ə-'rəm, 'thi-(ə)-rəm\ n [LL *theoremā*, fr. Gk *theōrēma*, fr. *theōrein* to look at, fr. *theōros* spectator, fr. *thea* act of seeing — more at THEATER] (1551) 1: a formula, proposition, or statement in mathematics or logic deduced or to be deduced from other formulas or propositions 2: an idea accepted or proposed as a demonstrable truth often as a part of a general theory 3: PROPOSITION (the ~ that the best defense is offense) 4: STENCIL 4: a painting produced esp. on velvet by the use of stencils for each color — **the-o-rem-at-ic** \thē-'ə-'rə-'ma-tik, 'thi-(ə)-rə-\ adj

the-o-ret-ic-al \thē-'ə-'rē-'ti-kəl, 'thi-(ə)-rē-'le\ also **the-o-ret-ic** \-tik\ adj [LL *theoreticus*, fr. Gk *theōrētikos*, fr. *theōrein* to look at] (1601) 1 a: relating to or having the character of theory; ABSTRACT b: confined to theory or speculation often in contrast to practical applications; SPECULATIVE (~ physics) 2: given to or skilled in theorizing (a brilliant ~ physicist) 3: existing only in theory; HYPOTHETICAL (gave as an example a ~ situation)

the-o-ret-i-cal-ly \-ti-k(ə)-lē\ adv (1701) 1: in a theoretical way; according to an ideal or assumed set of facts or principles; in the

the-o-re-ti-cian \thē-'ə-'rē-'tī-shən, -rē-, 'thi-(ə)-rē-\ n (1886): THEO-

the-o-rise Brit var of THEORIZE

the-o-rist \thē-'ə-'rīst, 'thi-(ə)-rīst\ n (1646): a person who theorizes

the-o-ri-zed \thē-'ə-'rīz\ vb -rized; -rizing v (1638): to form a theory; SPECULATE ~ vi 1: to form a theory about 2: to propose