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em-bel-ish (ēm-bēl'ish) *v.* 1. To make beautiful, as by ornamentation; decorate. 2. To add fictitious details to. [*< Ofr. embellir < bel, beautiful.*] — **em-bel-ish-ment** *n.*

em-ber (ēm'bor) *n.* 1. A piece of live coal or wood from a fire. 2. **embers** The smoldering remains of a fire. [*< OE ember.*]

em-bez-zle (ēm-bēz'al) *v.* **-zled, -zling.** To take (e.g., money) for one's own use in violation of a trust. [*< AN embellier.*] — **em-bez-zle-ment** *n.* — **em-bez-zler** *n.*

em-bit-ter (ēm-bit'or) *v.* 1. To make bitter. 2. To arouse bitter feelings in. — **em-bit-ter-ment** *n.*

em-bla-zon (ēm-blā'zon) *v.* 1. To ornament richly, esp. with heraldic devices. 2. To make resplendent with brilliant colors. 3. To mark or inscribe boldly. — **em-bla-zon-er** *n.* — **em-bla-zon-ment** *n.*

em-blem (ēm-blām) *n.* 1. An object or representation that functions as a symbol. 2. A distinctive badge, design, or device. [*< Gk. emblemā, embossed design.*] — **em-blem-at'ic**, **em-blem-at'i-cal** *adj.* — **em-blem-at'i-cally** *adv.*

em-bod-y (ēm-bōd'ē) *v.* **-bod-ied, -bod-ying** 1. To give a bodily form to. 2. To personify. 3. To make part of a system or whole; incorporate. — **em-bod-i-ment** *n.*

em-bold-en (ēm-bōl'den) *v.* 1. To foster boldness or courage in. See **Syns at encourage.**

em-bo-lism (ēm-bō-liz'm) *n.* 1. Obstruction or occlusion of a blood vessel by an embolus. 2. An embolus. [*< Gk. embolismos, insertion.*]

em-bo-lus (ēm-bō-lūs) *n., pl. -li (-lī)* 1. A mass in the bloodstream that lodges so as to block a blood vessel. [*< Gk. embolos, stopper.*]

em-boss (ēm-bōs', -bōs') *v.* 1. To mold or carve in relief. 2. To decorate with a raised design. [*< Ofr. embosser < boce, knob.*]

em-bou-chure (ēm-bō-shōr') *n.* 1. The mouthpiece of a wind instrument. 2. The manner in which the lips and tongue are applied to such a mouthpiece. [*< Ofr. emboucher, put in the mouth < bouche, mouth.*]

em-bow-er (ēm-bō-er) *v.* To enclose in or as if in a bower.

em-brace (ēm-brās') *v.* **-braced, -brac-ing** 1. To clasp or hold close with the arms. 2. To surround; enclose. *The warm water embraced us.* 3. To include as part of something broader. 4. To take up willingly or eagerly: *embrace a cause.* *n.* An act of embracing. [*< Ofr. embracer < brace, the two arms.*] — **em-brace-a-ble** *adj.* — **em-brace-ment** *n.*

em-bra-sure (ēm-brā-zhūr) *n.* 1. An opening in a thick wall for a door or window. 2. A flared opening for a gun in a wall or parapet. [*< Fr.*]

em-bro-ca-te (ēm-brō-kāt') *v.* **-cat-ed, -cat-ing.** To moisten and rub (a part of the body) with a liniment or lotion. [*< Gk. embrekhein.*] — **em-bro-ca-tion** *n.*

em-broid-er (ēm-brōid'er) *v.* 1. To ornament with needlework. 2. To add embellishments or fanciful details to: *embroider the truth.* [*< ME embrouderen.*] — **em-broid-er-er** *n.*

em-broid-er-y (ēm-brōid'er-ē) *n., pl. -ies* 1. The act or art of embroidering. 2. Something that has been embroidered.

em-broil (ēm-brōil') *v.* 1. To involve in argu-

ment, contention, or hostile actions. 2. To throw into confusion or disorder; entangle. [*< Fr. embrouiller.*] — **em-broil-ment** *n.*

em-bryo (ēm'brē-ō) *n., pl. -os* 1. An organism in its early stages of development, esp. before it has reached a distinctively recognizable form. 2. A rudimentary or beginning stage. [*< Gk. embruon.*] — **em-bryo-nal** *adj.* — **em-bryo-nal-ly** *adv.*

em-bryo-log-y (ēm'brē-ō-lō-jē) *n.* The branch of biology that deals with the formation, early growth, and development of living organisms. — **em-bryo-log'ic** (-ō-lōj'ik), **em-bryo-log'i-cal** *adj.* — **em-bryo-l-o-gist** *n.*

em-cee (ēm'sē') *n.* A master of ceremonies. *v.* **-ceed, -cee-ing.** To act as master of ceremonies (of). [*Pronunciation of M.C., abbr. of master of ceremonies.*]

em-end (i-mēnd') *v.* To improve (a text) by critical editing. [*< Lat. emendare.*] — **em-en-da-tion** *n.* — **em-end-er** *n.*

em-er-al-d (ēm'ar-ald, ēm'rāld) *n.* 1. A brilliant transparent green beryl, used as a gemstone. 2. A strong yellowish green. [*< Gk. smaragdus.*] — **em-er-ald** *adj.*

em-er-gence (i-mūrj') *v.* **-merged, em-er-ging** 1. To rise up or come forth; issue. 2. To become evident. 3. To come into existence. [*< Lat. emergere.*] — **em-er-gence** *n.* — **em-er-gent** *adj.*

em-er-gen-cy (i-mūrj'ən-sē) *n., pl. -cies.* A serious, unexpected situation or occurrence that demands immediate action.

em-er-i-tus (i-mēr'i-tas) *adj.* Retired but retaining an honorary title: a professor emeritus. [*< Lat. emeritus, p.p. of emerere, earn by service.*]

Em-er-son (ēm'or-sən), Ralph Waldo. 1803-82. Amer. writer and philosopher. — **Em-er-son-i-an** (-sō'nē-on) *adj.*

em-er-y (ēm'ō-rē, ēm'rē) *n.* A fine-grained impure corundum used for grinding and polishing. [*< LLat. smericulum < Gk. smiris.*]

em-et-ic (i-mēt'ik) *adj.* Causing vomiting. [*< Gk. emein, to vomit.*] — **em-et'ic** *n.*

EMF *abbr.* electromotive force

-emia or **-hemia** or also **-aemia** or **-haemia** *suff.* Blood: leukemia. [*< Gk. haima, blood.*]

em-i-grate (ēm'i-grāt') *v.* **-grat-ed, -grat-ing.** To leave one country or region to settle in another. See **Usage Note at migrate.** [*< Lat. emigrare.*] — **em-i-grant** (-grānt) *n.* — **em'i-gra-tion** *n.*

é-mi-gré (ēm'i-grā') *n.* One who has left a native country, esp. for political reasons. [*< Fr.*]

em-i-nence (ēm'ō-nāns) *n.* 1. A position of great distinction or superiority. 2. A rise of ground; hill. 3. A person of high station or great achievements.

em-i-nent (ēm'ō-nānt) *adj.* 1. Rising above others; prominent. 2. Of high rank or station. 3. Outstanding; distinguished. See **Syns at noted.** [*< Lat. eminere, stand out.*] — **em'i-nent-ly** *adv.*

eminent domain *n.* The right of a government to appropriate private property for public use.

em-ir (i-mīr', ā-mīr') *n.* A prince, chieftain, or governor, especially in the Middle East. [*< Ar. amīr, commander, prince.*]

é-mir-ate (i-mīr'it, -āt') *n.* 1. The office of an emir. 2. The nation or territory ruled by an emir.

em-is-sar-y (ēm'i-sēr-ē) *n., pl. -ies.* An agent sent on a mission to represent another. [*< Lat. emissarius.*]

em-it (i-mīt') *v.* **-emit-ted, -emit-ting** 1. To release or send out matter or energy. 2. To utter; express. 3. To put (currency) into circulation. [*< Lat. emittere.*] — **em-is'sion** (i-mish'ōn) *n.* — **em-it-ter** *n.*

em-mol-li-ent (i-mōl'yōn) *adj.* Softening and soothing, esp. to the skin. [*< Lat. emollire, soften.*] — **em-mol-li-ent** *n.*

em-mol-u-ment (i-mōl'yō-mānt) *n.* Payment for an office or employment; compensation. [*< Lat. emolumentum.*]

em-mote (i-mōt') *v.* **-em-mot-ed, -em-mot-ing.** To express emotion, esp. in an excessive or theatrical manner. [*< EMOTION.*]

em-mo-ti-con (i-mō'ti-kōn) *n.* A series of keyed characters used, as in e-mail, to indicate an emotion or attitude, as [:-)] to indicate intended humor. [*< EMOT(ION) + ICON.*]

em-mo-tion (i-mō'shōn) *n.* 1. A strong feeling, as of joy, sorrow, or hate. 2. A state of mental agitation or disturbance. [*< VLat. exmovēre, exmōr-, excite.*]

em-mo-tion-al (i-mō'shā-nāl) *adj.* 1. Of or exhibiting emotion. 2. Readily affected with emotion. 3. Arousing the emotions: *an emotional appeal.* — **em-mo-tion-al-ism** *n.* — **em-mo-tion-a-lize** *v.* — **em-mo-tion-al-ly** *adv.*

em-mo-tive (i-mō'tiv) *n.* 1. Of or relating to emotion. 2. Expressing or exciting emotion; *an emotive trial lawyer.* — **em-mo-tive-ly** *adv.* — **em-mo-tive-ness** *n.*

em-pa-na-da (ēm'pā-nā'dā) *n.* A turnover with a flaky crust and a spicy or sweet filling. [*< Sp. pan, bread.*]

em-pan-el (ēm-pā-nəl) *v.* Var. of **impanel**.

em-pa-thy (ēm'pā-the) *n.* Identification with and understanding of another's situation, feelings, and motives. [*< Gk. -PATHY.*] — **em-pa-thet'ic**, **em-path'ic** (-pāth'ik) *adj.* — **em-pa-thize** *v.*

em-per-or (ēm'pōr-ōr) *n.* The male ruler of an empire. [*< Lat. imperator.*]

em-phas-is (ēm'fā-sis) *n., pl. -ses (-sēz')* 1. Special forcefulness of expression that gives importance to something singled out. 2. Stress given to a syllable, word, or words. [*< Gk. -emphainō, -to exhibit.*] — **em-phas-ize** *v.* — **em-phat'ic** (-fāt'ik) *adj.* — **em-phat'i-cally** *adv.*

Syns: emphasis, accent, stress *n.*

em-phy-se-ma (ēm'fī-sē'mā, -zē') *n.* A disease of the lungs marked by an abnormal increase in the size of the air spaces, resulting in labored breathing and an increased susceptibility to infection. [*< Gk. emphysēma, inflation.*] — **em-phy-se-mic** *adj.* *& n.*

em-pire (ēm'pīr') *n.* 1. A political unit having an extensive territory or comprising a number of territories or nations and ruled by a single supreme authority. 2. An extensive enterprise under a central authority: *a publishing empire.* 3. Imperial sovereignty, domination, or control. [*< Lat. imperium.*]

em-pir-i-cal (ēm-pīr'i-kāl) *adj.* 1. Based on observation or experiment. 2. Guided by practical experience and not theory. [*< Gk. empei-*

rikos, experienced.] — **em-pir'i-**

em-pir-i-cism (ēm-pīr'i-siz'm) *n.* A view that experience, esp. of the only source of knowledge. 2. Empirical methods, as in science. *cist* *n.*

em-place-ment (ēm-plās'mēnt) *n.* A prearranged position for a military weapon; location. [*< Fr.*]

em-ploy (ēm-ploi') *v.* 1. To employ; put to work. 2. To put to use. *n.* Employment. [*< Lat. implere, to fill.*] — **em-ploy-a-bil'i-ty** *n.* — **em-ploy-er** *n.*

em-ploy-ee also **em-ploy-ē** (ēm'plōi-ē') *n.* A person who works for another in return for compensation.

em-ploy-ment (ēm-ploi'mēnt) *n.* The act of employing. 2. The state of being employed. 3. The work in which one is occupied.

em-po-ri-um (ēm-pōr'i-ūm, -pō-ri-ūms or -pō-ri-ā (-pōr'i-ā)) *n.* A marketplace. 2. A large retail variety of goods. [*< Gk. emporion.*]

em-pow-er (ēm-pō-er) *v.* To give legal power. See **Syns at empower.**

em-pow-er-ment *n.*

em-press (ēm'prīs) *n.* 1. The wife of an emperor. 2. The wife or widow of a king. [*< Ofr. emperesse.*]

emp-ty (ēmp'tē) *adj.* **-ti-er, -ti-est** 1. Having nothing. 2. Having no occupants; vacant. 3. Lacking purpose; meaningless. See **Syns at empty.** — **-ti-ty** *n.* To make or be empty. 2. To pour or discharge: *The river emptied.* *n.* Informal. A tainer. [*< OE æmtta, leisure.*] *adv.* — **emp-ti-ness** *n.*

emp-ty-hand-ed (ēmp'tē-hān'ded) *adj.* Bearing nothing. 2. Having received nothing.

em-py-re-an (ēm'pī-rē-an, ēm-pī-rē-an) *n.* 1. The highest reaches of heaven. [*< Gk. empyros, fiery < pur, fire.*] *re'an* *adj.*

EMT *abbr.* emergency medical technician

e-mu (ē'myū) *n.* A large flightless bird related to and resembling a duck. [*< Port. ema, flightless bird of South Africa.*] — **em-u-late** (ēm'yā-lāt') *v.* **-lat-ed, -lat-ing** 1. To strive to equal or excel, esp. in emulation. [*< Lat. aemulārī.*] — **em-u-lat'ion** *n.* — **em-u-lat'ive** *adj.* — **em-u-lat'or** *n.*

em-ul-si-fy (i-mūl'sō-fī') *v.* **-fi-ed, -fi-ing** To make into an emulsion. — **em-ul-si-fy-er** *n.*

em-ul-sion (i-mūl'shōn) *n.* 1. A mixture of small globules of one liquid in another liquid with which the first will not mix (as oil in water). 2. A sensitive coating, used in photography, of a thin gelatin layer, on photo paper, or glass, [*< Lat. emulsiō, emulsion.*] — **em-ul-sive** *adj.*

en (ēn) *n.* **Print.** A space equal in width to an em.

en- or **in-** *pref.* 1a. To go into: *encapsulate.* b. To go into: *entrain.* 2. To cover or provide with: *encase.* 3. To cause to be: *encase.* 4. Thence: *entail.* 5. To cause to be: *entail.* 6. Thence: *entail.* 7. To cause to be: *entail.* 8. Thence: *entail.* 9. To cause to be: *entail.* 10. Thence: *entail.* 11. To cause to be: *entail.* 12. Thence: *entail.* 13. To cause to be: *entail.* 14. Thence: *entail.* 15. To cause to be: *entail.* 16. Thence: *entail.* 17. To cause to be: *entail.* 18. Thence: *entail.* 19. To cause to be: *entail.* 20. Thence: *entail.* 21. To cause to be: *entail.* 22. Thence: *entail.* 23. To cause to be: *entail.* 24. Thence: *entail.* 25. To cause to be: *entail.* 26. Thence: *entail.* 27. To cause to be: *entail.* 28. Thence: *entail.* 29. To cause to be: *entail.* 30. Thence: *entail.* 31. To cause to be: *entail.* 32. Thence: *entail.* 33. To cause to be: *entail.* 34. Thence: *entail.* 35. To cause to be: *entail.* 36. Thence: *entail.* 37. To cause to be: *entail.* 38. Thence: *entail.* 39. To cause to be: *entail.* 40. Thence: *entail.* 41. To cause to be: *entail.* 42. Thence: *entail.* 43. To cause to be: *entail.* 44. Thence: *entail.* 45. To cause to be: *entail.* 46. Thence: *entail.* 47. To cause to be: *entail.* 48. Thence: *entail.* 49. To cause to be: *entail.* 50. Thence: *entail.* 51. To cause to be: *entail.* 52. Thence: *entail.* 53. To cause to be: *entail.* 54. Thence: *entail.* 55. To cause to be: *entail.* 56. Thence: *entail.* 57. To cause to be: *entail.* 58. Thence: *entail.* 59. To cause to be: *entail.* 60. Thence: *entail.* 61. To cause to be: *entail.* 62. Thence: *entail.* 63. To cause to be: *entail.* 64. Thence: *entail.* 65. To cause to be: *entail.* 66. Thence: *entail.* 67. To cause to be: *entail.* 68. Thence: *entail.* 69. To cause to be: *entail.* 70. Thence: *entail.* 71. To cause to be: *entail.* 72. Thence: *entail.* 73. To cause to be: *entail.* 74. Thence: *entail.* 75. To cause to be: *entail.* 76. Thence: *entail.* 77. To cause to be: *entail.* 78. Thence: *entail.* 79. To cause to be: *entail.* 80. Thence: *entail.* 81. To cause to be: *entail.* 82. Thence: *entail.* 83. To cause to be: *entail.* 84. Thence: *entail.* 85. To cause to be: *entail.* 86. Thence: *entail.* 87. To cause to be: *entail.* 88. Thence: *entail.* 89. To cause to be: *entail.* 90. Thence: *entail.* 91. To cause to be: *entail.* 92. Thence: *entail.* 93. To cause to be: *entail.* 94. Thence: *entail.* 95. To cause to be: *entail.* 96. Thence: *entail.* 97. To cause to be: *entail.* 98. Thence: *entail.* 99. To cause to be: *entail.* 100. Thence: *entail.*