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attenuate
auction bridge

y or a person. b. The writ
 ng, -tacks. — tr. 1. To set
 ize strongly or hostilely,
 and vigor: *attack a prob-*
er: The disease attacked the
 1 attack; launch an assault,
 tracking; an assault. 2. An
 stile comment: *newspaper*
 action in a sport or game.
 ction. 4. The initial move-
 onset of a disease, esp. an
 . The experience or begin-
 .a. *Mus.* The beginning or
 ze, or tone. b. Decisiveness
 [Fr. *attaquer* < OFr. <
 -at-tack'er n.
 j. -tains. — tr. 1. To gain
 ve at, as by persistence or
 ach. — intr. To succeed in
 IE *atteignen* < OFr. *atain-*
ttangere < Lat. *attingere*:
 tag-*.] — at-tain'a-ble
 -tain'a-ble adj.
 ancient common law, the
 laced when a sentence for
 n. 2. *Obsolete.* Dishonor.
 OFr. *ataindre*, to convict,
 he act of attaining or the
 netting that is attained.
 int-ing, -tains. 1. To im-
 s a sentence of attainer
 :orrupt, as with illness or
 . 1. *Obsolete.* Attainder.
 IE *attainere* < OFr. *ataint-*
 TTAIN.
 ot-to (öt/ö) n. A fragrant
 om flowers: *attar of roses*.
 rfrume.]
 rsian poet and mystic best
 of *The Birds*.
). A river, c. 748 km (465
 ; from Attawapiskat Lake
 ad, -tempt-ing, -tempt-
 . To try to perform, make,
 l. *Archaic.* To attack with
 An effort or a try. 2. An
 < OFr. *attemper* < Lat.
 test.] — at-tempt'a-ble
 l-ing, -tends. — tr. 1. To
 circumstance or follow as
 t upon as a companion or
 yns at tend². 4. To take
Archaic. To wait for; ex-
 take care; give attention.
 o pay attention. 5. To re-
 ete. To delay or wait. [ME
 tendere, to heed: ad-, ad-
 s act of attending. 2. The
 are present. 3. The pres-
 ent.
 who attends or waits on
 an accompanying thing or
 fj. 1. Being present: *ships*
 ying or following as a re-
 -tend'ant-ly adv.
 One who is present at or
 at -ee.
 ng the principal supervi-
 sion on the regular medical
 n.
 icentration of the mental
 ug. 2. The ability or power
 ant consideration; notice.
 tentions. Acts of courtesy
 . A military posture, with
 -interj. Used as a com-
 osture. [ME *attencioun* <
 i, p.part. of *attendere*, to
 ad.]
 A childhood syndrome
 short attention span.
 e that a person can focus

at-ten-u-ate (ə-tén'yōō-āt') v. -at-ed, -at-ing, -ates. — tr.
 1. To make slender, fine, or small. 2. To reduce, as in force
 or amount; weaken. 3. To lessen the density of; rarefy.
 4. *Biol.* To make (bacteria or viruses) less virulent.
 5. *Electron.* To reduce (the amplitude of an electrical signal)
 with little or no distortion. — intr. To become thin, weak, or
 fine. — adj. (-yōō-īt). 1. Reduced or weakened, as in strength,
 value, or virulence. 2. *Bot.* Gradually tapering to a point.
 [Lat. *attenuare*, *attenuat-*: ad-, ad- + *tenūere*, to make thin
 < *tenuis*, thin; see *ten-*.*] — at-ten'u-a'tion n.
 at-ten-u-a-tor (ə-tén'yōō-ā'tōr) n. A device that attenuates
 an electrical signal.
 at-test (ə-tést') v. -test-ed, -test-ing, -tests. — tr. 1. To af-
 firm to be correct, true, or genuine. 2. To certify by signature
 or oath. 3. To supply or be evidence of. 4. To put under oath.
 — intr. To bear witness; give testimony: *attested to their good*
faith. — n. *Archaic.* Attestation. [Lat. *attestāri*: ad-, ad- +
testāri, to be witness (< *testis*, witness; see *trel-*)*.] — at-
 test'ant n. — at-tes'ta'tion (ăt'ēs-tā'shən, ăt'ō-stā'-) n.
 — at-test'er, at-tes'tor n.
 at-tic (ăt'ik) n. 1. A story directly below the roof of a building.
 2. A low wall or story above the cornice of a classical façade.
 [< *Attic story*, story of a building enclosed by one decorative
 structure placed above another, much taller decorative struc-
 ture, usu. involving the Attic order, an architectural order
 having square columns of any of the basic five orders < Fr.
attique < *attique*, Attic < Lat. *Atticus*. See *Attic*.]
 at-tic (ăt'ik) adj. 1. Of or relating to ancient Attica, Athens,
 or the Athenians. 2. Characterized by purity, simplicity, and
 elegant wit: *Attic prose.* — n. The ancient Greek dialect of
 Attica. [Lat. *Atticus* < Gk. *Attikos* < *Attikē*, Attica.]
 at-ti-ca (ăt'ī-ka). An ancient region of E-central Greece sur-
 rounding Athens.
 at-ti-cism (ăt'ī-siz'əm) n. 1. A characteristic feature of Attic
 Greek. 2. *Atticism.* A concise and elegant expression.
 at-ti-la (ăt'ī-lə, ə-tī'lə). A.D. 406?–453. King of the Huns
 (433?–453) who invaded the Roman Empire.
 at-tire (ə-tīr') tr.v. -tired, -tir-ing, -tires. To dress or clothe,
 esp. in elaborate garments. — n. 1. Clothing or array; appar-
 el. 2. The antlers of a deer. [ME *atiren* < OFr. *atirier*: a-, to
 < Lat. *ad-*; see *ad-* + *tire*, order, rank; see *tier**.]
 at-ti-tude (ăt'ī-tōōd', -tyōōd') n. 1. A position of the body or
 manner of carrying oneself: *stood in a graceful attitude.* 2. A
 state of mind or a feeling; disposition: *an attitude of hostility.*
 3. The orientation of an aircraft's axes relative to a reference
 line or plane. 4. The orientation of a spacecraft relative to its
 direction of motion. 5. A position in which a ballet dancer
 stands on one leg with the other raised and bent at the knee.
 [Fr. < Ital. *attitudine* < LLat. *aptitudō*, *aptitudin-*, faculty <
 Lat. *aptus*, fit. See *aptitude*.] — at-ti-tu'di-nal (ăt'ī-tōōd'-
 n-əl, -tyōōd'-) adj.
 at-ti-tu-di-nize (ăt'ī-tōōd'ni-z'iz', -tyōōd'-) intr.v. -nized,
 -niz-ing, -niz-es. To assume an affected attitude; posture.
 at-tle-bor-ō (ăt'ī-lə-bôr'ō, -būr'ō). A city of SE MA NE of
 Providence RI. Pop. 38,383.
 at-lee (ăt'lē), Clement Richard. 1883–1967. British politi-
 cian who served as prime minister (1945–51).
 atten. abbr. Attention.
 atten- pref. One quintillionth (10⁻¹⁸): *attotesla*. [< Dan. or
 Norw. *atten*, eighteen < ON *attján*. See *októ(u)**.]
 at-torn (ə-tōrn') intr.v. -torned, -torn-ing, -torns. *Law.* To
 agree to remain as a tenant of property after its ownership has
 been transferred. [ME *attournen* < OFr. *atorner*, to assign to
 a-, to (< Lat. *ad-*; see *ad-*) + *torner*, to turn; see *turn**.]
 — at-torn'ment n.
 at-tor-ney (ə-tūr'nē) n., pl. -neys. *Law.* A person legally ap-
 pointed by another to act as an agent in the transaction of
 business, esp. one licensed to act in legal proceedings. [ME
attourney < OFr. *atorne* < p.part. of *atorner*, to appoint. See
*attorn**.] — at-tor'ney-ship' n.
 attorney at law or at-tor-ney-at-law (ə-tūr'nē-ət-lō') n., pl.
 attorneys at law or at-tor-neys-at-law (-nēz-). *Law.* An at-
 torney.
 attorney general n., pl. attorneys general or attorney gener-
 als. *Law.* 1. The chief law officer and legal counsel of a
 government. 2. *Attorney General.* The head of the U.S. De-
 partment of Justice and a member of the President's cabinet.
 at-tract (ə-trăkt') v. -tract-ed, -tract-ing, -tracts. — tr. 1. To
 cause to draw near or adhere; direct to or toward itself or
 oneself. 2. To arouse or compel the admiration or attention
 of. — intr. To possess or use the power of attraction. [ME
attract < Lat. *attrahere*, *attract-*: ad-, ad- + *trahere*, pull.]
 — at-tract'a-ble adj. — at-trac'ter, at-trac'tor n.
 at-trac-tion (ə-trăk'tshən) n. 1. The act or capability of at-
 tracting. 2. The quality of attracting; charm. 3. Something
 that attracts or is intended to attract.
 at-trac-tive (ə-trăk'tiv) adj. 1. Having the power to attract.

of a specified agent or creator. — n. (ăt'ra-byōōt'). 1. A
 quality or characteristic inherent in or ascribed to someone or
 something. 2. An object associated with and serving to iden-
 tify a character, a personage, or an office. 3. *Gram.* A word
 or phrase syntactically subordinate to another word or phrase
 that it modifies; for example, *my sister's* and *brown* in *my*
sister's brown dog. [Lat. *attribuere*, *attribut-*: ad-, ad- +
tribuere, to allot; see *tribute**.] — at-trib'ut-a-ble adj. — at-
 trib'ut-er, at-trib'ut-or n.
 at-trib'u-tion (ăt'ra-byōō'shən) n. 1. The act of attributing,
 esp. of establishing a person, place, or time as the creator,
 provenance, or era of a work of art. 2. Something related to
 a particular possessor; an attribute. — at-trib'u-tion-al adj.
 at-trib'u-tive (ə-trib'yə-tiv) n. *Gram.* A word or word group
 that is placed adjacent to the noun it modifies without a link-
 ing verb; for example, *pale* in *the pale girl*. — adj. 1. *Gram.*
 Of, relating to, or being an attributive. 2. Of or having the
 nature of an attribution or attribute. — at-trib'u-tive-ly
 adv. — at-trib'u-tive-ness n.
 at-trib'it (ə-trib'it') also at-tribute (ə-trib'it') tr.v. -trib-ited, -trib-iting,
 -tributes also -trib-ed, -trib-ing, -tributes. 1. To lose (personnel,
 for example) by attrition. 2. To destroy or kill (troops, for
 example) by firepower. [Back-formation < *ATTRITION*.]
 at-trib'ition (ə-trib'ish'ən) n. 1. A rubbing away or wearing down
 by friction. 2. A gradual diminution in number or strength.
 3. A gradual reduction in membership or personnel, as
 through retirement or death. 4. *Theol.* Repentance for sin
 motivated by fear of punishment. [ME *attricioun*, regret,
 breaking < OFr. *attrition*, abrasion < LLat. *attritiō*,
attritiōn-, act of rubbing against < Lat. *attritus*, p.part. of
atterere, to rub against: ad-, against; see *ad-* + *terere*, to
 rub; see *tera-**.]
 At-tu (ăt'tōō'). An island of SW AK in the Aleutian Is.
 At-tucks (ăt'təks), Crispus. 1723?–70. Amer. patriot killed in
 the Boston Massacre.
 at-tune (ə-tōōn', ə-tōōn') tr.v. -tuned, -tun-ing, -tunes.
 1. To bring into a harmonious or responsive relationship.
 2. *Mus.* To put (an instrument) into correct tune.
 atty. abbr. *Law.* Attorney.
 Atty. Gen. abbr. *Law.* Attorney General.
 At-wa-ter (ăt'wō'tər, -wōt'ər). A city of central CA WNW of
 Merced. Pop. 22,282.
 a-twit-ter (ə-twīt'ər) adj. Being in a state of nervous excite-
 ment; twittering: *a crowd atwitter with expectation.*
 at wt abbr. Atomic weight.
 a-typ-i-cal (ə-tīp'i-kəl) also a-typ-ic (-ik) adj. Not conform-
 ing to type; unusual or irregular. — a-typ-i-cal'i-ty (-kăl'i-
 tē) n. — a-typ'i-cal-ly adv.
 au n. Author.
 Au The symbol for the element gold 1a. [< Lat. *aurum*, gold.]
 A.U. or A.u. abbr. Angstrom unit.
 a.u. abbr. Astronomical unit.
 au-bade (ō-bād') n. 1. *Mus.* A song or instrumental com-
 position concerning or evoking daybreak. 2. A poem or song of
 or about lovers separating at dawn. [Fr. < OFr. *albade* <
 OProv. *albada* < *alba*, dawn, aubade < Lat., fem. of *albus*,
 white. See *albo-**.]
 Aube (ōb). A river of NE France flowing c. 225 km (140 mi) to
 the Seine R. NNW of Troyes.
 Au-ber (ō-bēr'), Daniel François Esprit. 1782–1871. French
 composer whose operas include *Fra Diavolo* (1829).
 au-ber-gine (ō'bēr-zhēn', ō'bār-jēn) n. See eggplant 1. [Fr.
 < Catalan *albergina* < Ar. *al-bādījān*, the eggplant < Pers.
bādingān.]
 Au-ber-vil-liers (ō'bər-vēl-yā'). A town of N-central France
 NE of Paris. Pop. 67,719.
 Au-brey (ō'brē), John. 1626–97. English antiquarian best
 known for his *Brief Lives*, published posthumously.
 au-burn (ō'bər-n) n. *Color.* A moderate reddish brown to
 brown. [ME < OFr. *aborne*, blond < Lat. *alburnus*, whitish
 < *albus*, white. See *albo-**.] — au'burn adj.
 Au-burn (ō'bər-n). 1. A city of E AL ENE of Montgomery. Pop.
 33,830. 2. A city of S ME on the Androscoggin R.; settled in
 1765. Pop. 24,309. 3. A city of W-central NY in the Finger
 Lakes region WSW of Syracuse; founded 1793. Pop. 31,258.
 4. A city of W WA ENE of Tacoma. Pop. 33,102.
 Au-bus-son (ō'bū-sən, -sōn') n. A tapestry or carpet woven in
 Aubusson, a city of central France, or similar to the ones
 made there.
 A.U.C. abbr. *Lat.* 1. Ab urbe condita (from the founding of the
 city [of Rome in 753? B.C.]). 2. Anno urbis conditae (in the
 year from the founding of the city [of Rome in 753? B.C.]).
 Auck-land (ōk'lənd). A city of New Zealand on an isthmus of
 NW North I. Met. area pop. 860,000.
 au cou-rant (ō' kōō-rān') adj. Fully informed on current af-
 fairs; up-to-date. [Fr.: *au*, in the + *courant*, current.]
 auc-tion (ōk'tshən) n. 1. A public sale in which property or
 goods are sold to the highest bidder. 2. *Games.* The bidding

ā pat	oi boy
ā pay	ou out
ār care	ōō tōōk
ā father	ōō bōōt
ē pet	ū cut
ē be	ūr urge
ī plt	th thin
ī ple	th this
īr pler	hw which
ō pot	zh vision
ō paw	ā about
ō toe	item

Stress marks: