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3: requiring or employing a mordant (~ dyes) 4: PROCEDURAL (~ law) — **ad-ject-ive-ly** *adv*

**adjective** *n* (14c): a word belonging to one of the major form classes in any of numerous languages and typically serving as a modifier of a noun to denote a quality of the thing named, to indicate its quantity or extent, or to specify a thing as distinct from something else

**ad-join** \ə-'join, ə-'vb [ME, fr. MF *adjoinere*, fr. L *adjungere*, fr. *ad-* + *jungere* to join — more at Yoke] *vt* (14c) 1: to add or attach by joining 2: to lie next to or in contact with ~ *vi*: to be close to or in contact with one another

**ad-join-ing** *adj* (15c): touching or bounding at a point or line *syn* see ADJACENT

**ad-joint** \ə-'jɔɪnt\ *n* [F, fr. pp. of *adjoindre* to adjoin] (1907): the transpose of a matrix in which each element is replaced by its cofactor

**ad-journ** \ə-'jɔrn\ *vb* [ME *ajournen*, fr. MF *ajourner*, fr. *a-* (fr. L *ad-*) + *jour* day — more at JOURNEY] *vt* (15c): to suspend indefinitely or until a later stated time ~ *vi* 1: to suspend a session indefinitely or to another time or place 2: to move to another place

**ad-journ-ment** \-mənt\ *n* (1607) 1: the act of adjourning 2: the state or interval of being adjourned

**ad-judge** \ə-'dʒɛj\ *vt* **ad-judged**; **ad-judg-ing** [ME *ajugen*, fr. MF *ajugere*, fr. L *adjudicare*, fr. *ad-* + *judicare* to judge — more at JUDGE] (14c) 1 a: to decide or rule upon as a judge: ADJUDICATE b: to pronounce judicially: RULE 2 *archaic*: SENTENCE, CONDEMN 3: to hold or pronounce to be: DEEM (~ the book a success) 4: to award or grant judicially in a case of controversy

**ad-ju-di-cate** \ə-'ju-di-'kæt\ *vb* -**cat-ed**; -**cat-ing** *vt* (1775): to settle judicially ~ *vi*: to act as judge — **ad-ju-di-ca-tive** \-kə-tiv-, -kə-'*adj* — **ad-ju-di-ca-tor** \-kə-tər\ *n*

**ad-ju-di-ca-tion** \ə-'ju-di-'kæ-shən\ *n* [F or LL; F, fr. LL *adjudicatio*, fr. L *adjudicare*] (1691) 1: the act or process of adjudicating 2 a: a judicial decision or sentence b: a decree in bankruptcy — **ad-ju-di-ca-to-ry** \-jū-di-kə-'tɔr-ē-, -tɔr-ē\ *adj*

**ad-junct** \ə-'jʊŋ(k)t\ *n* [L *adjunctum*, fr. neut. of *adjunctus*, pp. of *adjungere*] (1588) 1: something joined or added to another thing but not essentially a part of it 2 a: a word or word group that qualifies or completes the meaning of another word or other words and is not itself a main structural element in its sentence b: an adverb or adverbial (as *heartily* in "Most children eat heartily" or *at noon* in "We will leave at noon") attached to the verb of a clause esp. to express a relation of time, place, frequency, degree, or manner — compare DISJUNCT 2 3: an associate or assistant of another — **ad-junc-tive** \ə-'jʊŋ(k)-tiv-, ə-'*adj*

**ad-junct** *adj* (1595) 1: added or joined as an accompanying object or circumstance 2: attached in a subordinate or temporary capacity to a staff (an ~ psychiatrist) — **ad-junct-ly** \ə-'jʊŋ(k)-tlē-, -jʊŋ-klē\ *adv*

**ad-junc-tion** \ə-'jʊŋ(k)-shən\ *n* (1618): the act or process of adjoining

**ad-ju-ra-tion** \ə-'jʊ-rā-shən\ *n* (1611) 1: a solemn oath 2: an earnest urging or advising — **ad-ju-ra-to-ry** \ə-'jʊr-ə-, -tɔr-ē-, -tɔr-ē\ *adj*

**ad-jure** \ə-'jʊr\ *vt* **ad-jured**; **ad-ju-ring** [ME, fr. MF & L; MF *ajurer*, fr. L *adjurare*, fr. *ad-* + *jurare* to swear — more at JURY] (14c) 1: to command solemnly under or as if under oath or penalty of a curse 2: to urge or advise earnestly *syn* see BEG

**ad-just** \ə-'jʌst\ *vb* [ME *ajusten*, fr. MF *ajuster* to gauge, adjust, fr. *a-* (fr. L *ad-*) + *juste* right, exact — more at JUST] *vt* (14c) 1 a: to bring to a more satisfactory state: (1): SETTLE, RESOLVE (2): RECTIFY b: to make correspondent or conformable: ADAPT c: to bring the parts of to a true or more effective relative position (~ a carburetor): 2: to reduce to a system: REGULATE 3: to determine the amount to be paid under an insurance policy in settlement of (a loss) ~ *vi* 1: to adapt or conform oneself (as to new conditions) 2: to achieve mental and behavioral balance between one's own needs and the demands of others *syn* see ADAPT — **ad-just-abil-i-ty** \-jəs-tə-'bi-lə-tē\ *n* — **ad-just-able** \-jəs-tə-bəl\ *adj* — **ad-just-ive** \-jəs-tiv\ *adj*

**ad-just-able rate mortgage** *n* (1981): a mortgage having an interest rate which is usu. initially lower than that of a mortgage with a fixed rate but is adjusted periodically according to the cost of funds to the lender

**ad-just-ed** *adj* (ca. 1674) 1: accommodated to suit a particular set of circumstances or requirements 2: having achieved an often specified and usu. harmonious relationship with the environment or with other individuals (a well-*adjusted* schoolchild)

**ad-just-er** *also* **ad-just-er** \ə-'jʌs-tər\ *n* (1673): one that adjusts; *esp*: an insurance agent who investigates personal or property damage and makes estimates for effecting settlements

**ad-just-ment** \ə-'jʌs(t)-mənt\ *n* (1644) 1: the act or process of adjusting 2: a settlement of a claim or debt in a case in which the amount involved is uncertain or full payment is not made 3: the state of being adjusted 4: a means (as a mechanism) by which things are adjusted one to another 5: a correction or modification to reflect actual conditions — **ad-just-men-tal** \ə-'jʌs(t)-'men-tl-, ə-'jʌs(t)-\ *adj*

**ad-ju-tan-cy** \ə-'jʌ-tən(t)-sē\ *n* (1775): the office or rank of an adjutant

**ad-ju-tant** \ə-'jʌ-tənt\ *n* [L *adjutant-*, *adjutans*, prp. of *adjutare* to help — more at AID] (1539) 1: a staff officer in the army, air force, or marine corps who assists the commanding officer and is responsible esp. for correspondence 2: one who helps: ASSISTANT

**adjutant general** *n*, *pl* **adjutants general** (1645) 1: the chief administrative officer of an army who is responsible esp. for the administration and preservation of personnel records 2: the chief administrative officer of a major military unit (as a division or corps)

**ad-ju-vant** \ə-'ju-vənt\ *adj* [F or L; F, fr. L *adjuvanti-*, *adjuvans*, prp. of *adjuvare* to aid — more at AID] (1574) 1: serving to aid or contribute: AUXILIARY 2: assisting in the prevention, amelioration, or cure of disease (~ chemotherapy following surgery)

**ad-ju-vant** *n* (1609): one that helps or facilitates: as a: an ingredient (as in a prescription or a solution) that modifies the action of the principal ingredient b: something (as a drug or method) that enhances the effectiveness of medical treatment c: a substance enhancing the immune response to an antigen

**Ad-ler-ri-an** \əd-'lɪr-ē-ən, əd-'\ *adj* [Alfred Adler] (1924): of, relating to, or being a theory and technique of psychotherapy emphasizing the

**ad-lib** \əd-'lib\ *vb* **ad-libbed**; **ad-lib-bing** [*ad lib*] *vt* (1919): to deliver spontaneously ~ *vi*: to improvise esp. lines or a speech — **ad-lib** *n*

**ad-lib** *adj* (1935): spoken, composed, or performed without preparation

**ad lib** *adv* [NL *ad libitum*] (ca. 1811) 1: in accordance with one's wishes 2: without restraint or limit

**ad li-bi-tum** \,əd-'li-bi-təm\ *adv* [NL, in accordance with desire] (1610): AD LIB (rats fed *ad libitum*)

**ad libitum** *adj* (ca. 1801): omissible according to a performer's wishes — used as a direction in music; compare OBLIGATO

**ad-man** \əd-'mæn\ *n* (1909): a person who writes, solicits, or places advertisements

**ad-mass** \əd-'mas\ *n*, *often attrib* [*advertising* + *mass*] (1955) *chiefly Brit*: mass-media advertising; *also*: the society influenced by it

**ad-mea-sure** \əd-'me-zhər-, -mā-\ *vt* -**sured**; -**sur-ing** [ME *amesuren*, fr. MF *amesurer*, fr. *a-* (fr. L *ad-*) + *mesurer* to measure] (1641): to determine the proper share of: APPORTION

**ad-measure-ment** \-'me-zhər-mənt-, -mā-\ *n* (1523) 1: determination and apportionment of shares 2: determination or comparison of dimensions 3: DIMENSIONS, SIZE

**Ad-me-tus** \əd-'mē-təs\ *n* [L, fr. Gk *Admētōs*]: a king of Phaeac who is saved by Apollo from his fated death when his wife Alcestis offers to die in his place

**ad-min-is-ter** \əd-'mi-nə-stər\ *vb* -**is-tered**; -**is-ter-ing** \-st(ə-)rɪŋ\ [ME *administren*, fr. MF *administrer*, fr. L *administrare*, fr. *ad-* + *ministrare* to serve, fr. *minister* servant — more at MINISTER] *vt* (14c) 1: to manage or supervise the execution, use, or conduct of (~ a trust fund) 2 a: to mete out: DISPENSE (~ punishment) b: to give ritually (~ the last rites) c: to give remedially (~ a dose of medicine) ~ *vi* 1: to perform the office of administrator 2: to furnish a benefit: MINISTER (~ to an ailing friend) 3: to manage affairs — **ad-min-is-tra-ble** \-strə-bəl\ *adj* — **ad-min-is-trant** \-strənt\ *n*

**ad-min-is-trate** \-strāt\ *vb* -**trat-ed**; -**trat-ing** [L *administratus*, pp. of *administrare*] (ca. 1617): ADMINISTER

**ad-min-is-tra-tion** \əd-'mi-nə-'strā-shən-, (ə)d-\ *n* (14c) 1: performance of executive duties: MANAGEMENT 2: the act or process of administering 3: the execution of public affairs as distinguished from policy-making 4 a: a body of persons who administer b *often cap*: a group constituting the political executive in a presidential government c: a governmental agency or board 5: the term of office of an administrative officer or body

**ad-min-is-tra-tive** \əd-'mi-nə-'strā-tiv-, -strə-\ *adj* (ca. 1731): of or relating to administration or an administration: EXECUTIVE — **ad-min-is-tra-tive-ly** *adv*

**administrative county** *n* (1949): a British local administrative unit often not coincident with an older county

**administrative law** *n* (1896): law dealing with the establishment, duties, and powers of and available remedies against authorized agencies in the executive branch of the government

**ad-min-is-tra-tor** \əd-'mi-nə-'strā-tər-, -strā-'tɔr\ *n* (15c) 1: a person legally vested with the right of administration of an estate 2 a: one that administers esp. business, school, or governmental affairs b: a priest appointed to administer a diocese or parish temporarily

**ad-min-is-tra-trix** \-mi-nə-'strā-triks\ *n*, *pl* -**tra-tri-ces** \-'strā-trə-'sez\ [NL] (ca. 1623): a woman administrator esp. of an estate

**ad-mis-ra-ble** \əd-'m(ə-)rə-bəl\ *adj* (15c) 1: deserving the highest esteem: EXCELLENT 2 *obs*: exciting wonder: SURPRISING — **ad-mi-ra-bil-i-ty** \əd-'m(ə-)rə-'bi-lə-tē\ *n* — **ad-mi-ra-ble-ness** \əd-'m(ə-)rə-'bəl-nəs\ *n* — **ad-mi-ra-bly** \-blē\ *adv*

**ad-mi-ral** \əd-'m(ə-)rəl\ *n* [ME, fr. MF *amiral* admiral & ML *admiralis* emir, *admirallus* admiral, fr. Ar *amīr-al-* commander of the (as in *amīr-al-bahr* commander of the sea)] (15c) 1 *archaic*: the commander in chief of a navy 2 a: FLAG OFFICER b: a commissioned officer in the navy or coast guard who ranks above a vice admiral and whose insignia is four stars — compare GENERAL 3 *archaic*: FLAGSHIP 4: any of several brightly colored butterflies (family Nymphalidae)

**admiral of the fleet** (1660): the highest-ranking officer of the British navy

**ad-mi-ral-ty** \əd-'m(ə-)rəl-tē\ *n* (15c) 1 *cap*: the executive department or officers formerly having general authority over British naval affairs 2: the court having jurisdiction over questions of maritime law; *also*: the system of law administered by admiralty courts

**ad-mi-ra-tion** \əd-'mā-'rā-shən\ *n* (15c) 1 *archaic*: WONDER 2: an object of esteem 3: delighted or astonished approbation

**ad-mire** \əd-'mɪr\ *vb* **ad-mired**; **ad-mir-ing** [MF *admirer*, fr. L *admirari*, fr. *ad-* + *mirari* to wonder, fr. *mirus* astonishing] *vt* (1579) 1 *archaic*: to marvel at 2: to regard with admiration ~ *vi*, *dial*: to like very much (I would ~ to know why not — A. H. Lewis) *syn* see REGARD — **ad-mir-er** *n* — **ad-mir-ing-ly** \-'mɪ-rɪŋ-lē\ *adv*

**ad-mis-si-ble** \əd-'mi-sə-bəl, əd-\ *adj* [F, fr. ML *admissibilis*, fr. L *admissus*, pp. of *admittere*] (ca. 1611) 1: capable of being allowed or conceded: PERMISSIBLE (evidence legally ~ in court) 2: capable or worthy of being admitted (~ to the university) — **ad-mis-si-bil-i-ty** \-mi-sə-'bi-lə-tē\ *n*

**ad-mis-sion** \əd-'mi-shən, əd-\ *n* (15c) 1 a: the act or process of admitting b: the state or privilege of being admitted c: a fee paid at or for admission 2 a: the granting of an argument or position not fully proved b: acknowledgment that a fact or statement is true *syn* see ADMITTANCE — **ad-mis-sive** \-'mi-siv\ *adj*

**ad-mit** \əd-'mit, əd-\ *vb* **ad-mit-ted**; **ad-mit-ting** [ME *admitten*, fr. L *admittere*, fr. *ad-* + *mittere* to send] *vt* (15c) 1 a: to allow scope for: PERMIT (~s no possibility of misunderstanding) b: to concede as true or valid (*admitted* making a mistake) 2: to allow entry (as to a place, fellowship, or privilege) (an open window had *admitted* rain) (*admitted* to the club) ~ *vi* 1: to give entrance or access 2 a: AL-

\ə\ abut \ʌ\ kitten, F table \ər\ further \ə\ ash \ə\ ace \ə\ mop, mar \aʊ\ out \ch\ chin \e\ bet \ē\ easy \g\ go \i\ hit \i\ ice \j\ job

**afore-thought** \ə-'thot\ *adj* (1581): previously in mind: PREMEDITATED, DELIBERATE (with malice ~)  
**a-for-ti-o-rē** \ä-'for-shē-'ör-ē, -'ör-tē-, 'ör-\ *adv* [NL, lit., from the stronger (argument)] (1588): with greater reason or more convincing force — used in drawing a conclusion that is inferred to be even more certain than another (the man of prejudice is, *a fortiori*, a man of limited mental vision)  
**afoul** \ə-'fau-lə\ *prep* (1824): 1: in or into conflict with 2: in or into collision or entanglement with  
**Afr-** or **Afro-** *comb form* [L *Afr-, Afer*]: African (<Afro-American>); African and (<Afro-Asiatic>); African and (<Afro-Asiatic>)  
**afraid** \ə-'frād, Southern also ə-'fred\ *adj* [ME *affraid*, fr. pp. of *afraien* to frighten — more at AFFRAY] (14c): 1: filled with fear or apprehension (~ of machines) (~ for his job) 2: filled with concern or regret over an unwanted situation (I'm ~ I won't be able to go) 3: having a dislike for something (~ of hard work) *SYN* see FEARFUL  
**A-frame** \ə-'frām\ *n* (ca. 1909): 1: a support structure shaped like the letter A 2: a building typically having triangular front and rear walls and a roof reaching to the ground  
**afreet** or **afrit** \ä-'frēt, ə-'frēt\ *n* [Ar *'frit*] (1786): a powerful evil jinni, demon, or monstrous giant in Arabic mythology  
**afresh** \ə-'frefh\ *adv* (15c): from a fresh beginning; ANEW, AGAIN  
**Afri-can** \ä-'fri-kən\ *also* ä-'n (bef. 12c): 1: a native or inhabitant of Africa 2: a person and esp. a black person of immediate or remote African ancestry  
**African** *adj* (1564): of, relating to, or characteristic of the continent of Africa or its people — **Afri-can-ness** \kə-'nəs\ *n*  
**Afri-can-ism** \ä-'fri-'kə-'niz-əm\ *n* [Ar *'frit*] (1908): materials (as books, documents, or artifacts) relating to African history and culture  
**Afri-can-American** \ä-'fri-'kə-'nə-'mər-ə-'kən\ *also* ä-'n (1984): AFRO-AMERICAN — **Afri-can-American** *adj*  
**African buffalo** *n* (1902): CAPE BUFFALO  
**African daisy** *n* (ca. 1889): any of a genus (*Arctotis*) of widely cultivated composite herbs  
**Afri-kan-der** or **Afri-kan-der** \ä-'fri-'kən-'dər\ *n* [Afrik *Afrikaner*, Afrikaander, lit., Afrikaner] (1852): any of a breed of tall red large-horned humped southern African cattle used chiefly for meat or draft  
**African elephant** *n* (1607): ELEPHANT 1a  
**Afri-can-ise** *Brit var of* AFRICANIZE  
**Afri-can-ism** \ä-'fri-'kə-'niz-əm\ *also* ä-'n (1641): 1: a characteristic feature (as a custom or belief) of African culture 2: a characteristic feature of an African language occurring in a non-African language 3: allegiance to the traditions, interests, or ideals of Africa  
**Afri-can-ist** \-nist\ *n* (1895): a specialist in African languages or cultures  
**Afri-can-ize** \-niz\ *v* -ized; -izing (1853): 1: to cause to acquire a distinctively African trait 2: to bring under the influence, control, or cultural or civil supremacy of Africans and esp. black Africans — **Afri-can-ization** \ä-'fri-'kə-'nə-'zā-'shən\ *also* ä-'n  
**Africanized bee** *n* (1974): a honeybee that originated in Brazil as an accidental hybrid between an aggressive African subspecies (*Apis mellifera scutellata*) and previously established European honeybees and has spread to Mexico and the southernmost U.S. by breeding with local bees producing populations retaining most of the African bee's traits — called also *Africanized honeybee*, *killer bee*  
**African mahogany** *n* (1842): MAHOGANY 1b  
**African violet** *n* (1902): any of several tropical African gesneriads (esp. *Saintpaulia ionantha*) widely grown as houseplants for their velvety fleshy leaves and showy purple, pink, or white flowers  
**Afri-kaans** \ä-'fri-'kän(t)s, ä-, 'känz, 'ä-'ri-, 'ä-\ *n* [Afrik, fr. *afrikaans*, *adj.*, African, fr. obs. Afrik *afrikanisch*, fr. L *africanus*] (1908): a language developed from 17th century Dutch that is one of the official languages of the Republic of So. Africa  
**Afrikaans** *adj* (1923): of or relating to Afrikaners or Afrikaans  
**Afri-kan-er** \ä-'fri-'kən-ər\ *n*, often attrib [Afrik, lit., African, fr. L *africanus*] (1824): a South African of European descent whose native language is Afrikaans — **Afri-kan-er-dom** \-dəm\ *n*  
**Afro** \ä-'(fr)ə\ *adj* [prob. fr. *Afro-American*] (1938): characterized by or being a hairstyle of tight curls in a full even rounded shape  
**Afro n, pl** Afros (1968): an Afro hairstyle  
**Afro-American** \ä-'frə-'ə-'mər-ə-'kən\ *n* (1853): an American of African and esp. of black African descent — **Afro-American** *adj*  
**Afro-Asi-atic** \ä-'frə-'ä-'zhe-'ä-'tik, -zē-\ *also* -shē-\ *adj* (1953): of, relating to, or being a family of languages widely distributed over southwestern Asia and Africa comprising the Semitic, Egyptian, Berber, Cushitic, and Chadic subfamilies  
**Aft** \aft\ *adv* [ME *afte* back, fr. OE *aftan* from behind, behind; akin to OE *after*] (1628): near, toward, or in the stern of a ship or the tail of an aircraft: **ABAFT** (called all hands ~)  
**Aft** *adj* (1816): REARWARD, AFTER 2 (the ~ decks)  
**Aft** *Scott var of* OFT  
**After** \ä-'tər\ *adv* [ME, fr. OE *after*, akin to OHG *afar* after, and prob. to OE *of*] (bef. 12c): following in time or place: AFTERWARD, BEHIND, LATER (we arrived shortly ~) (returned 20 years ~)  
**After** *prep* (bef. 12c): 1: a: behind in place b (1): subsequent to in time or order (2): subsequent to and in view of (~ all our advice) 2: used as a function word to indicate the object of a stated or implied action (go ~ gold) (was asking ~ you) 3: so as to resemble: as a ~ in accordance with b: with the name of or a name derived from  
**After** *adj* (bef. 12c): 1: in the characteristic manner of: d: in imitation of  
**After** *adj* (bef. 12c): subsequently to the time when  
**After** *adj* (bef. 12c): 1: later in time (~ years) 2: located toward the rear and esp. toward the stern of a ship or tail of an aircraft  
**Aft-er** \ä-'tər\ *verbal auxiliary* (1800) chiefly Irish — used with a pres-participle to indicate action completed and esp. just completed (the old man is ~ dying on me — J. M. Synge)  
**After** *n* (ca. 1902): AFTERNOON  
**After** *adv* (1846): 1: IN SPITE OF CONSIDERATIONS OR EXPECTATIONS TO THE CONTRARY: NEVERTHELESS (decided to take the train *after all*) (didn't *after all*)  
**After** *adv* 2 — used as a sentence modifier to emphasize some-

thing to be taken into consideration (literature which is *after all* only a special department of reading — W. W. Watt)  
**Aft-er-birth** \ä-'tər-'bərth\ *n* (1587): the placenta and fetal membranes that are expelled after delivery  
**Aft-er-burn-er** \ä-'bər-nər\ *n* (1947): 1: a device incorporated into the tail pipe of a turbojet engine for injecting fuel into the hot exhaust gases and burning it to provide extra thrust 2: a device for burning or catalytically destroying unburned or partially burned carbon compounds in exhaust (as from an automobile)  
**Aft-er-care** \ä-'ker, -kär\ *n* (1894): the care, treatment, help, or supervision given to persons discharged from an institution (as a hospital or prison)  
**Aft-er-clap** \ä-'klap\ *n* (14c): an unexpected damaging or unsettling event following a supposedly closed affair  
**Aft-er-deck** \ä-'dek\ *n* (1897): the part of a deck abaft amidships  
**Aft-er-effect** \ä-'tər-'fekt\ *n* (1817): an effect that follows its cause after an interval  
**Aft-er-glow** \ä-'tər-'glō\ *n* (1871): 1: a reflection of past splendor, success, or emotion 2: a glow remaining where a light has disappeared  
**Aft-er-hours** \ä-'tər-'au(-ə)'rɪz\ *adj* (1929): engaged in or operating after a legal or conventional closing time (~ drinking) (an ~ club)  
**Aft-er-im-age** \ä-'tər-'i-mij\ *n* (1874): a usu. visual sensation occurring after stimulation by its external cause has ceased  
**Aft-er-life** \ä-'tər-'li:f\ *n* (ca. 1593): 1: an existence after death 2: a later period in one's life  
**Aft-er-mar-ket** \ä-'mər-'kət\ *n* (1940): 1: the market for parts and accessories used in the repair or enhancement of a product (as an automobile) 2: a secondary market available after sales in the original market are finished (a movie in the videocassette ~)  
**Aft-er-math** \ä-'mæθ\ *n* [*after* + *math* (moving, crop)] (1523): 1: a second-growth crop — called also *rowen* 2: CONSEQUENCE, RESULT (stricken with guilt as an ~ of the accident) 3: the period immediately following a usu. ruinous event (in the ~ of the war)  
**Aft-er-most** \ä-'məst\ *adj* (1773): farthest aft  
**Aft-er-noon** \ä-'tər-'nu:n\ *n* (13c): 1: the part of day between noon and sunset 2: a relatively late period (as of time or life) (in the ~ of the 19th century) — **afternoon** *adj*  
**Aft-er-noon** \ä-'nu:nz\ *adv* (1896): in the afternoon repeatedly; on any afternoon  
**Aft-er-piece** \ä-'tər-'pi:s\ *n* (1779): a short usu. comic entertainment performed after a play  
**Aft-ers** \ä-'tərz\ *n pl* (ca. 1909) *Brit*: DESSERT  
**Aft-er-shave** \ä-'tər-'shāv\ *n* (1946): a usu. scented lotion for use on the face after shaving  
**Aft-er-shock** \ä-'shäk\ *n* (1894): 1: a minor shock following the main shock of an earthquake 2: an aftereffect of a distressing or traumatic event  
**Aft-er-taste** \ä-'täst\ *n* (ca. 1798): persistence of a sensation (as of flavor or an emotion) after the stimulating agent or experience has gone  
**Aft-er-tax** \ä-'taks\ *adj* (1954): remaining after payment of taxes and esp. of income tax (an ~ profit)  
**Aft-er-thought** \ä-'thot\ *n* (ca. 1661): 1: an idea occurring later 2: a part, feature, or device not thought of originally  
**Aft-er-time** \ä-'tim\ *n* (1597): FUTURE  
**Aft-er-ward** \ä-'tər-'wərd\ or **af-ter-wards** \ä-'wərdz\ *adv* (13c): at a later or succeeding time: SUBSEQUENTLY, THEREAFTER  
**Aft-er-word** \ä-'wərd\ *n* (1890): EPILOGUE 1  
**Aft-er-world** \ä-'wərdl\ *n* (1596): a future world; a world after death  
**ag** \äg\ *adj* (ca. 1918): of or relating to agriculture (~ schools)  
**ag** — see AD  
**Aga-da** \ə-'gä-'də, 'gō-\ *var of* HAGGADAH  
**again** \ə-'gen, -'gin, -'gän\ *adv* [ME, opposite, again, fr. OE *agān* opposite, back, fr. *on* + *gēn*, *gēan* still, again; akin to OE *gān*-against, OHG *gagin* against, toward] (13c): 1: in return: BACK (swore he would pay him ~ when he was able — Shak.) 2: another time: once more: ANEW (I shall not look upon his like ~ — Shak.) 3: on the other hand (fr. *af* go, and ~ he might not) 4: in addition; BE-SIDES (~, there is another matter to consider)  
**again and again** *adv* (1604): OFTEN, REPEATEDLY  
**against** \ə-'gen(t)st, -'gin(t)st, -'gän(t)st\ *prep* [ME, alter. of *againes*, fr. *again*] (13c): 1: a: in opposition or hostility to b: contrary to (~ the law) c: in competition with d: as a basis for disapproval of (had nothing ~ him) 2: a: directly opposite: FACING b *obs*: exposed to 3: compared or contrasted with 4: a: in preparation or provision for b: as a defense or protection from 5: a: in the direction of and into contact with b: in contact with 6: in a direction opposite to the motion or course of: counter to 7: a: as a counter-balance to b: in exchange for c: as a charge on 8: before the background of  
**against** *conj* (14c) *archaic*: in preparation for the time when (throw on another log of wood ~ father comes home — Charles Dickens)  
**Agamemnon** \ə-'gä-'mēm-'nän, -'nən\ *n* [L, fr. Gk *Agamemnon*]: a king of Mycenae and leader of the Greeks in the Trojan War  
**aga-mete** \ä-'gä-'mēt\ *also* -gä-'mēt\ *n* [ISV, fr. Gk *agametes* unmarried, fr. *a-* + *gamein* to marry, fr. *gamos* marriage] (ca. 1920): an asexual reproductive cell (as a spore)  
**agam-ic** \ä-'gä-'mīk\ *adj* [Gk *agamos* unmarried, fr. *a-* + *gamos*] (1850): ASEQUAL PARTHENOGENETIC  
**agam-ma-glob-u-lin-emia** \ä-'gä-'mə-'glä-'byä-'lə-'nē-'mē-'ə\ *n* [NL, fr. *a-* + ISV *gamma globulin* + NL *-emia*] (ca. 1952): a condition in which the body forms few or no gamma globulins or antibodies — **agam-ma-glob-u-lin-emic** \ä-'nē-'mīk\ *adj*  
**aga-mō-sper-my** \ä-'gä-'mə-'spər-'mē, 'ä-'gä-'mə-'spər-\ *n* [Gk *agamos* + E *-spermy*] (1944): APOGAMY; *specif*: apogamy in which sexual union is not completed and the embryo is produced from the innermost layer of the integument of the female gametophyte



Afro

\ə\ abut \ə\ kitten, F table \ər\ further \ə\ ash \ä\ ace \ä\ mop, mar  
 \ä\ out \ch\ chin \ə\ bet \ə\ easy \g\ go \i\ hit \i\ ice \j\ job  
 \j\ sing \d\ go \d\ law \d\ boy \th\ thin \th\ the \ü\ loot \ü\ foot  
 \y\ yet \zh\ vision \ä, k, n, ce, ce, ue, te, \ see Guide to Pronunciation

telgeuse] : a variable red giant star of the first magnitude near one shoulder of Orion

**betel nut** *n* [fr. its being chewed with betel leaves] (1681) : the astringent seed of the betel palm

**betel palm** *n* (1875) : an Asian pinnate-leaved palm (*Areca catechu*) that has an orange-colored drupe with an outer fibrous husk

**bête noire** \bet-ˈnwär, -bät- / *n, pl bêtes noires* \bet-ˈnwär(z), -bät- / [F, lit., black beast] (1844) : a person or thing strongly detested or avoided : BUGBEAR

**beth** \ˈbāth, -bät, -bäs / *n* [Heb *bēth*, fr. *bayith* house] (ca. 1823) : the 2d letter of the Hebrew alphabet — see ALPHABET table

**beth-el** \be-thəl / *n* [Heb *bēth-ēl* house of God] (ca. 1617) 1 : a halloved spot 2 *a* : a chapel for Nonconformists *b* : a place of worship for seamen

**be-think** \bi-ˈtɪŋk / *vt* -**thought** \-ˈthòt /; -**think-ing** (bef. 12c) 1 *a* : REMEMBER, RECALL *b* : to cause (oneself) to be reminded 2 : to cause (oneself) to consider

**be-tide** \bi-ˈtɪd / *vi* (12c) : to happen esp. as if by fate ~ *vt* : to happen to : BEFALL — used chiefly in the phrase *woe betide* (woe ~ our enemies)

**be-times** \bi-ˈtɪmz / *adv* (13c) 1 : in good time : EARLY 2 *archaic* : in a short time : SPEEDILY 3 : at times : OCCASIONALLY

**bè-tise** \bä-ˈtiz / *n, pl bè-tises* \-ˈtiz / [F] (1827) 1 : an act of foolishness or stupidity 2 : lack of good sense : STUPIDITY

**be-to-ken** \bi-ˈtò-kan / *vt* -**to-kened**; -**to-ken-ing** \-ˈtòk-nɪŋ, -ˈtò-kə- / (15c) 1 : to typify beforehand : PRESAGE 2 : to give evidence of : SHOW

**be-tray** \bi-ˈtrā / *vb* [ME, fr. *be-* + *trayen* to betray, fr. OF *traïr*, fr. L *tradere* — more at TRAITOR] *vi* (13c) 1 : to lead astray; esp : SEDUCE 2 : to deliver to an enemy by treachery 3 : to fail or desert esp. in time of need 4 *a* : to reveal unintentionally *b* : SHOW, INDICATE *c* : to disclose in violation of confidence ~ *vi* : to prove false *syn* see REVEAL — **be-tray-al** \-ˈtrā(-ə)l / *n* — **be-tray-er** \-ˈtrā-ər / *n*

**be-troth** \bi-ˈtròth, -ˈtròth / *vi* [ME, fr. *be-* + *trouthe* truth, troth] (14c) 1 : to promise to marry 2 : to give in marriage

**be-troth-al** \-ˈtrò-thəl, -ˈtrò-, -thəl / *n* (1844) 1 : the act of betrothing or fact of being betrothed 2 : a mutual promise or contract for a future marriage

**be-trothed** \bi-ˈtròthd, -ˈtròtht / *n* (1588) : the person to whom one is betrothed

**bet-ta** \ˈbe-tə / *n* [NL] (1927) : any of a genus (*Betta*) of small brilliantly colored long-finned freshwater fishes of southeastern Asia; esp : SIAMESE FIGHTING FISH

**bet-ter** \ˈbe-tər / *adj, comparative* of GOOD [ME *bettere*, fr. OE *betera*; akin to OE *bōt* remedy, Skt *bhadra* fortunate] (bef. 12c) 1 : greater than half 2 : improved in health or mental attitude 3 : more attractive, favorable, or commendable 4 : more advantageous or effective 5 : improved in accuracy or performance

**2better** *vi* (bef. 12c) 1 : to make better: as *a* : to make more tolerable or acceptable (trying to ~ the lot of slum dwellers) *b* : to make more complete or perfect (looked forward to ~ing her acquaintance with the new neighbors) 2 : to surpass in excellence : EXCEL ~ *vi* : to become better *syn* see IMPROVE

**3better** *adv, comparative* of WELL (12c) 1 *a* : in a more excellent manner *b* : to greater advantage : PREFERABLY (some things are ~ left unsaid) 2 *a* : to a higher or greater degree (he knows the story ~ than you do) *b* : MORE (it is ~ than nine miles to the next town)

**4better** *n* (12c) 1 *a* : something better *b* : a superior esp. in merit or rank 2 : ADVANTAGE, VICTORY (get the ~ of him)

**5better** *verbal auxiliary* (1831) : had better (you ~ hurry)

**bet-ter-ment** \ˈbe-tər-mənt / *n* (1598) 1 : a making or becoming better 2 : an improvement that adds to the value of a property or facility

**bet-ter-off** \ˈbe-tər-ɒf / *adj* (ca. 1859) 1 : being in comfortable economic circumstances (the ~ people live in the older section of town) 2 : being in a more advantageous position

**betting shop** *n* (1852) *Brit* : a shop where bets are taken

**bet-tor** or **bet-ter** \ˈbe-tər / *n* (1609) : one that bets

**be-tween** \bi-ˈtwēn / *prep* [ME *betwene*, prep. & adv., fr. OE *betwēnum*, fr. *be-* + *twēonum* (dat. pl.) (akin to Goth *twēihnai* two each); akin to OE *twā* two] (bef. 12c) 1 *a* : by the common action of : jointly engaging (shared the work ~ the two of them) (talks ~ the three — *Time*) *b* : in common to : shared by (divided ~ his four grandchildren) 2 *a* : in the time, space, or interval that separates : *b* : in intermediate relation to 3 *a* : from one to another of (air service ~ Miami and Chicago) *b* : serving to connect or unite in a relationship (as difference, likeness, or proportion) (a one-to-one correspondence ~ sets) *c* : setting apart (the line ~ fact and fancy) 4 : in point of comparison of (not much to choose ~ the two coats) 5 : in confidence restricted to (a secret ~ you and me)

*usage* There is a persistent but unfounded notion that *between* can be used only of two items and that *among* must be used for more than two. *Between* has been used of more than two since Old English; it is esp. appropriate to denote a one-to-one relationship, regardless of the number of items. It can be used when the number is unspecified (economic cooperation *between* nations), when more than two are enumerated (between you and me and the lamppost) (partitioned *between* Austria, Prussia, and Russia — Nathaniel Benchley), and even when only one item is mentioned (but repetition is implied) (pausing *between* every sentence to rap the floor — George Eliot). *Among* is more appropriate where the emphasis is on distribution rather than individual relationships (discontent *among* the peasants). When *among* is automatically chosen for more than two, English idiom may be strained (a worthy book that nevertheless falls *among* many stools — John Simon) (the author alternates *among* mod slang, clichés and quotes from literary giants — A. H. Johnston).

**2between** *adv* (bef. 12c) : in an intermediate space or interval

**be-tween-brain** \-ˈbrān / *n* (ca. 1909) : DIENCEPHALON

**be-tween-ness** \bi-ˈtwēn-nəs / *n* (1892) : the quality or state of being between two others in an ordered mathematical set

**be-tween-ness** \bi-ˈtwēn-nəs / *adv* (1907) : at or during intervals

**betwixt and between** *adv* or *adj* (1832) : in a midway position : neither one thing nor the other

**Beu-lah** \ˈbyü-lə / *n* : an idyllic land near the end of life's journey in Bunyan's *Pilgrim's Progress*

**beurre blanc** \bör-ˈblā / *n* [F, lit., white butter] (1931) : a hot butter sauce (as for fish) flavored with vinegar or lemon juice

**beurre ma-nié** \-mān-ˈyā / *n* [F, lit., handled butter] (1939) : flour and butter kneaded together used as a thickener in sauces

**beurre noir** \-ˈnwär / *n* [F, lit., black butter] (1856) : butter heated until brown or black and often flavored with vinegar or lemon juice

**bevel** \ˈbe-vəl / *adj* (ca. 1600) : OBLIQUE, BEVELED

**bevel** *n* [(assumed) MF, fr. OF *baif* with open mouth, fr. *baer* to yawn — more at ABEYANCE] (1610) 1 : an instrument consisting of two rules or arms jointed together and opening to any angle for drawing angles or adjusting surfaces to be cut at an angle 2 *a* : the angle that one surface or line makes with another when they are not at right angles *b* : the slant of such a surface or line 3 : the part of printing type extending from face to shoulder

**3bevel** *vb* -**eled** or -**elled**; -**el-ing** or -**el-ling** \ˈbev-lɪŋ, ˈbe-və- / *vt* (1677) : to cut or shape to a bevel ~ *vi* : INCLINE, SLANT

**bevel gear** *n* (1833) : either of a pair of toothed wheels whose working surfaces are inclined to nonparallel axes

**bever-age** \ˈbev-rɪj, ˈbe-və- / *n* [ME, fr. MF *beverage*, fr. *beivre* to drink, fr. L *bibere* — more at POTABLE] (14c) : a drinkable liquid

**bevy** \ˈbe-vē / *n, pl bevs-ies* [ME *bevey*] (15c) 1 : a large group or collection (a ~ of girls) 2 : a group of animals and esp. quail together

**be-wail** \bi-ˈwā(ə)l / *vt* (14c) 1 : to wail over 2 : to express deep sorrow for usu. by wailing and lamentation (wringing her hands and ~ing her fate) *syn* see DEPLORE

**be-ware** \bi-ˈwər, -ˈwər / *vb* [ME *been war*, fr. *been* to be + *war* careful — more at BE, WARE] *vi* (14c) : to be on one's guard (~ of the dog) ~ *vt* 1 : to take care of (~ your wallet) 2 : to be wary of (we must ~ the exceedingly tenuous generalization — Matthew Lipman)

**be-whisk-ered** \-ˈhwɪs-kərd, -ˈwɪs- / *adj* (1820) : wearing whiskers

**be-wigged** \bi-ˈwɪgd / *adj* (1774) : wearing a wig

**be-wil-der** \bi-ˈwɪl-dər / *vt* -**wil-dered**; -**wil-der-ing** \-d(ə-)rɪŋ / (1684) 1 : to cause to lose one's bearings 2 : to perplex or confuse esp. by a complexity, variety, or multitude of objects or considerations *syn* see PUZZLE — **be-wil-dered-ly** *adv* — **be-wil-dered-ness** *n* — **be-wil-der-ing-ly** \-d(ə-)rɪŋ-lē / *adv*

**be-wil-der-ment** \-dər-mənt / *n* (1820) 1 : the quality or state of being bewildered 2 : a bewildering tangle or confusion

**be-witch** \bi-ˈwɪtʃ / *vt* (13c) 1 *a* : to influence or affect esp. injuriously by witchcraft *b* : to cast a spell over 2 : to attract as if by the power of witchcraft : ENCHANT (~ed by her beauty) ~ *vi* : to bewitch someone or something — **be-witch-ery** \-ˈwɪtʃ(ə-)rɪ / *n* — **be-witch-ing-ly** \-ˈwɪ-tʃɪŋ-lē / *adv*

**be-witch-ment** \-ˈwɪtʃ-mənt / *n* (1607) 1 *a* : the act or power of bewitching *b* : a spell that bewitches 2 : the state of being bewitched

**be-wray** \bi-ˈrā / *vt* [ME, fr. *be-* + *wrayen* to accuse, fr. OE *wrægan*; akin to OHG *ruogan* to accuse] (13c) *archaic* : DIVULGE, BETRAY

**bey** \ˈbā / *n* [Turk, gentleman, chief] (1595) 1 *a* : a provincial governor in the Ottoman Empire *b* : the former native ruler of Tunis or Tunisia 2 — used as a courtesy title in Turkey and Egypt

**be-yond** \bē-ˈænd / *adv* [ME, prep. & adv., fr. OE *begeondan*, fr. *be-* + *geondan* beyond, fr. *geond* yond — more at YOND] (bef. 12c) 1 : on or to the farther side : FARTHER 2 : in addition : BESIDES

**2beyond** *prep* (bef. 12c) 1 : on or to the farther side of : at a greater distance than 2 *a* : out of the reach or sphere of *b* : in a degree or amount surpassing *c* : out of the comprehension of 3 : in addition to : BESIDES

**3beyond** *n* (14c) 1 : something that lies beyond 2 : something that lies outside the scope of ordinary experience; *specif* : HEREAFTER

**be-zant** \ˈbe-zənt, bə-ˈzənt / *n* [ME *besant*, fr. OF, fr. ML *Byzantium* Byzantine, fr. *Byzantium*, ancient name of Istanbul] (13c) 1 : SOLIDUS 1 2 : a flat disk used in architectural ornament

**be-zel** \ˈbē-zəl, -ˈbe- / *n* [prob. fr. dial. form of F *biseau* bezel, fr. MF] (ca. 1616) 1 : a rim that holds a transparent covering (as on a watch, clock, or headlight) or that is rotatable and has special markings (as on a watch) 2 : the oblique side or face of a cut gem; *specif* : the upper faceted portion of a brilliant projecting from the setting — see BRILLIANT illustration 3 : a usu. metal rim of a piece of jewelry in which an ornament (as a gem) is set

**be-zique** \bə-ˈzɪk / *n* [F *bésique*] (1861) : a card game similar to pinochle that is played with a pack of 64 cards

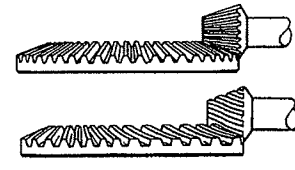
**be-zoar** \ˈbe-zōr, -ˈzōr / *n* [MF, fr. ML, fr. Ar dial. *bezuwār*, fr. Ar *bāzahr*, fr. Per *pād-zahr*, fr. *pād* protecting (against) + *zahr* poison] (1577) : any of various calculi found chiefly in the gastrointestinal organs and formerly believed to possess magical properties — called also *bezoar stone*

**B-girl** *n* [prob. fr. *bar* + *girl*] (1936) : a woman who entertains bar patrons and encourages them to spend freely

**BHA** \ˈbē-(jə-)chā / *n* [butylated hydroxyanisole] (1950) : a phenolic antioxidant  $C_{11}H_{16}O_2$  used esp. to preserve fats and oils in food

**Bha-ga-vad Gī-tā** \bā-gə-ˈvād-ˈgē-tə / *n* [Skt *Bhagavadgītā*, lit., song of the blessed one (Krishna)] (ca. 1785) : a Hindu devotional work in poetic form

**bhak-ti** \ˈbək-ti / *n* [Skt, lit., portion] (1832) : devotion to a deity constituting a way to salvation in Hinduism



bevel gears

\ə / about \ə / kitten, F table \ər / further \ə / ash \ä / ace \ä / mop, mar

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