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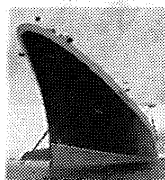
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proverb
prudent



prow
Of the Queen Elizabeth 2

similar digestive chamber in certain insects and worms. [pro-² + Lat. *ventriculus*, stomach, dim. of *venter*, belly.] — **pro-ven-tri-cu-lar** (-lə) *adj.*

prov-erb (prɒv'ɜ:b) *n.* 1. A short pithy saying that expresses a basic truth or practical precept. 2. **Proverbs**. (*used with a sing. v.*) See table at Bible. [ME *proverbe* < OFr. < Lat. *proverbium*: *pro-*, forth; see *ro-* + *verbum*, word; see *word-*.]

prov-er-bi-al (prə-vɜ:'bi:əl) *adj.* 1. Of the nature of a proverb. 2. Expressed in a proverb. 3. Widely referred to, as if the subject of a proverb; famous. — **prov-er-bi-al-ly** *adv.*

pro-vid-e (prə-vid') *v.* -vid-ed, -vid-ing, -vides. — *tr.* 1. To furnish; supply. 2. To make available; afford. 3. To set down as a stipulation. 4. *Archaic*. To make ready ahead of time; prepare. — *intr.* 1. To take measures in preparation. 2. To supply means of subsistence. 3. To make a stipulation or condition. [ME *providen* < Lat. *providēre*, to provide for: *pro-*, forward; see *ro-* + *vidēre*, to see; see *weld-*.]

pro-vid-ed (prə-vid'id) *conj.* On the condition; if.

prov-i-dence (prɒv'ɪ:dns, -dɛns) *n.* 1. Care or preparation in advance; foresight. 2. Prudent management; economy. 3. The care, guardianship, and control exercised by a deity; divine direction. 4. **Providence**. God.

Providence. The cap. of RI, in the NE part on Narragansett Bay; founded by Roger Williams in 1636. Pop. 160,728.

prov-i-dent (prɒv'ɪ:dnt, -dɛnt) *adj.* 1. Providing for future needs or events. 2. Frugal; economical. [ME < Lat. *providens*, *providēt-*, *pr.* part. of *providēre*, to provide for. See *ro-* + *vid-*.] — **prov-i-dent-ly** *adv.*

prov-i-den-tial (prɒv'ɪ:dntʃəl) *adj.* 1. Of or resulting from divine providence. 2. Happening as if through divine intercession; opportune. — **prov-i-den-tial-ly** *adv.*

prov-i-d'er (prə-vid'ɜ:) *n.* 1. One who supplies a means of subsistence. 2. One that makes something available.

prov-vid-ing (prə-vid'ɪŋ) *conj.* On the condition; provided.

prov-in-ce (prɒv'ɪns) *n.* 1. A territory governed as an administrative or political unit of a country or an empire. 2. *Eccles.* A division of territory under the jurisdiction of an archbishop. 3. **provinces**. Areas of a country situated away from the capital or population center. 4. A comprehensive area of knowledge, activity, or interest. 5. The range of one's proper duties and functions; scope or jurisdiction. 6. *Ecol.* An area of land, less extensive than a region, having a characteristic plant and animal population. 7. Any of various lands outside Italy conquered by the Romans and administered as self-contained units. [ME < OFr. < Lat. *provincia*.]

Prov-ince-town (prɒv'ɪns-taʊn) *n.* A town of SE MA on the tip of Cape Cod. Pilgrims first landed on the site in 1620 before sailing on to Plymouth. Pop. 3,374.

prov-in-cial (prə-ɪn'ʃiəl) *adj.* 1. Of or relating to a province. 2. Of characteristic of people from the provinces; not fashionable or sophisticated. 3. Limited in perspective; narrow and self-centered. — *n.* 1. A native or inhabitant of the provinces. 2. A person who has provincial ideas or habits. — **prov-in'cial-ism**, **prov-in'cial-i-ty** (-shə-əl'i-ti) *n.* — **prov-in'cial-ly** *adv.*

prov-in'cial-ize (prə-ɪn'ʃi-ə-lɪz) *tr.v.* -ized, -iz-ing, -iz-es. To make provincial. — **prov-in'cial-i-za-tion** (-ʃi-ə-lɪ-zə-ʃən) *n.*

prov-ing ground (prɒv'ɪŋ) *n.* A place for testing new devices, weapons, or theories.

prov-i-rus (prɒ'vɪ-rʊs, prɒ-ɪ'vɪ-) *n.*, *pl.* -rus-es. The precursor or latent form of a virus that is capable of being integrated into the genetic material of a host cell and replicated with it.

pro-vid-sion (prə-ɪvɪʒ'n) *n.* 1. The act of supplying or fitting out. 2. Something provided. 3. A preparatory action or measure. 4. **provisions**. A stock of necessary supplies, esp. food. 5. A stipulation or qualification, esp. a clause in a document or an agreement. — *tr.v.* -sion-ed, -sion-ing, -sions. To supply with provisions. [ME < OFr. forethought < Lat. *provisio*, *provisiō-* < *provisus*, *p.* part. of *providēre*, to foresee, provide for. See *ro-* + *vid-*.] — **pro-vid-sion-er** *n.*

pro-vid-sion-al (prə-ɪvɪʒ'nəl) *adj.* Provided or serving only for the time being; temporary. — *n.* 1. A person hired temporarily for a job, typically before having taken a qualifying examination. 2. **Provisional**. A member of the extremist faction of the Irish Republican Army established in 1970. — **pro-vid-sion-al-ly** *adv.*

pro-vid-so (prə-ɪvɪ-zo) *n.*, *pl.* -sos or -soes. A clause in a document making a qualification or restriction. [ME < Med.Lat. *provisō* (*quod*), provided, (that). < Lat. *provisō*, ablative of *provisus*, *p.* part. of *providēre*, to provide. See *ro-* + *vid-*.]

pro-vid-so-ry (prə-ɪvɪ-zə-ri) *adj.* Depending on a proviso; conditional. [Fr. *provisoire* < OFr. < Med.Lat. *provisōrius* < Lat. *provisus*, *p.* part. of *providēre*, to provide for. See *ro-* + *vid-*.] — **pro-vid-so-ri-ly** *adv.*

pro-vi-ta-min (prɒ-ɪvɪ'ta-mɪn) *n.* A vitamin precursor that is converted to its active form through normal metabolism.

Provo (prɒ'vɒ) *n.* A city of N-central UT; SSE of Salt Lake City; settled by Mormons in 1849. Pop. 86,835.

Provo (prɒ'vɒ) *n.*, *pl.* -vos. A Provisional.

prov-o-ca-tor (prɒ-ɒk'ə-tɜ:) *n.* An agent provocateur.

prov-o-ca-tion (prɒ-ɒk'ə-ʃən) *n.* 1. The act of provoking or inciting. 2. Something that provokes. [Ult. < Lat. *provocatio*, *provocatio-*, a challenging < *provocāre*, to challenge. See *ro-* + *vo-*.] — **prov-o-ca-tive** (prə-ɒk'ə-tɪv) *adj.* Tending to provoke. — **prov-o-ca-tive-ly** *adv.*

prov-o-ca-tive-ness *n.* — **prov-o-ca-tive-ly** *adv.*

prov-oke (prə-ɒk') *tr.v.* -vok-ed, -vok-ing, -vokes. 1. To incite to anger or resentment. 2. To stir to action or agitation. 3. To give rise to; evoke. 4. To bring about deliberately. [ME *provoeken* < OFr. *provoquer* < Lat. *provocāre*, to challenge: *pro-*, forth; see *ro-* + *vo-*, to call. See *ro-* + *vo-*.] — **prov-ok-er** *n.*

prov-ok-ing (prə-ɒv'ɪŋ) *adj.* Troubling the nerves or excite of mind, as by repeated vexations. — **prov-ok-ing-ly** *adv.*

prov-o-lo-ne (prɒ-ɒ-lə-nə) *n.* A hard, usu. smoked Italian cheese. [Ital., aug. of *provola*, a kind of cheese.]

prov-ost (prɒ'vɒst) *n.* 1. A university administrator of high rank. 2. The highest official in certain cathedrals or collegiate churches. 3. The keeper of a prison. 4. The chief magistrate of certain Scottish cities. [ME < OFr. *provoit* and OFr. *provost*, both < Med.Lat. *propositus*, alteration of Lat. *praepositus*, superintendent < *p.* part. of *praeposuisse*, place over: *pra-*, pre- + *ponere*, to put; see *ap-*.] — **prov-ost-mar-shal** (prɒ'vɒ) *n.* The head of a unit of military police.

prōw (prəʊ) *n.* 1. *Naut.* The forward part of a ship's hull. 2. A projecting forward part, such as the front end of a ski. [Fr. *proue* < OFr. < Ital. dial. *prua* < Vlat. *prua*, alteration of Lat. *prora* < Gk. *prōra*. See *per-*.] — **prōw-ess** (prəʊ'ɪs) *n.* 1. Superior skill or ability. 2. Superior strength, courage, or daring; esp. in battle. [ME *proesse* < OFr. *proesse* < *prud*, *prōw*, brave; See *ro-*.] — **prōw-ing** (prəʊ'ɪŋ) *n.* prowled, **prōw-ing**, **prōw-er** *v.* — *tr.* To move through stealthily, as in search of prey. — *intr.* To move actively or with predatory intent. — *n.* The act or an instance of prowling. — *Idiom*, on the **prōw**. Actively looking for something. [ME *prohlen*, to move about.] — **prōw-er** *n.*

prōw-car *n.* See **squad-car**.

prox. *abbr.* Proximo.

prox-i-mal (prɒk'ɪ-sə-məl) *adj.* 1. Nearest; proximate. 2. Nearer to a point of reference such as an origin, a point of attachment, or the midline of the body. [< Lat. *proximus*, nearest. See *proximate*.] — **prox-i-mal-ly** *adv.*

prox-i-mate (prɒk'ɪ-sə-mɪt) *adj.* 1. Closely related in time, or order; very near. See *Syns at close*. 2. Approximate. [Lat. *proximatus*, *p.* part. of *proximāre*, to come near < *proximus*, nearest. See *per-*.] — **prox-i-mate-ly** *adv.* — **prox-i-mate-ness** *n.*

prox-im-i-ty (prɒk-sɪm'i-ti) *n.* The state, quality, sense, or fact of being near or next; closeness. See *Usage Notes at close*, *redundancy*. [ME < OFr. *proximité* < Lat. *proximū* < *proximus*, nearest. See *proximate*.]

proxim-ity *n.* An electronic device for detonating a head as it approaches a target; used in antiaircraft shells.

prox-y (prɒk'ɪ-ti) *n.*, *pl.* -ies. 1. A person authorized to act for another; an agent or a substitute. 2. The authority to act for another. 3. The written authorization to act in place of another. [ME *procy*, contraction of earlier *procurator*, payment to a prelate < AN *procuracie* < Med.Lat. *procuratio*, alteration of Lat. *procuratio* < *procurāre*, *p.* part. of *procurāre*, to take care of. See *ro-*.] — **Pro-zac** (prɒ'zæk). A trademark used for the hydrochloride form of fluoxetine.

prude (prʊd) *n.* One who is excessively concerned with one's or appearing proper, modest, or righteous. [Fr. *prude*, *femme*, virtuous woman < OFr. *prude*, fem. of *prud*, virtuous; see *ro-* + Fr. *femme*, woman (< Lat. *femina*, FEMININE).] — **prude-ly** *adv.*

pru-dence (prʊd'ns) *n.* 1. The state, quality, or fact of being prudent. 2. Careful management; economy. — *Syns*: **prudence**, **discretion**, **foresight**, **forbearance**, **caution**. These nouns refer to the exercise of good judgment, common sense, and even caution, especially in practical matters. **Prudence** is the most comprehensive: "She had forced into **prudence** in her youth, she learned **prudence** grew older." (Jane Austen); **Discretion** suggests wise restraint, as in resisting a rash impulse: "The better **prudence** is **discretion**." (Shakespeare). **Foresight** implies the ability to foresee and make provision for what may happen: "Foresight to plan. **Foresight** suggests advance concern for future eventualities. An **emphatic** **prudence** or **discretion** of **foresight**. **Circumspection** implies discretion and concern for moral or social repercussions: "The **prudence** of the times... calls for our utmost **circumspection**." (Adams).

pru-dent (prʊd'nt) *adj.* 1. Wise in handling practical matters; exercising good judgment or common sense. 2. In regard to one's own interests; provident. 3. Careful in one's conduct; circumspect. [ME < OFr. *prudēt* < Lat. *prudēt-*, contraction of *providēt-*, *p.* part. of *providēre*, to provide for. See *ro-* + *vid-*.] — **pru-dent-ly** *adv.*