

Random House Webster's college dictionary

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# WEBSTER'S UNIVERSAL COLLEGE DICTIONARY

GRAMERCY BOOKS  
New York

EXHIBIT  
2001  
IPR 2015-01653  
tabbles

PE 1628

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1997b

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This 1997 edition is published by Gramercy Books,  
a division of Random House Value Publishing, Inc.,  
201 East 50th Street, New York, N. Y. 10022  
by arrangement with Random House Reference & Information Publishing.

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Random House  
New York • Toronto • London • Sydney • Auckland  
<http://www.randomhouse.com/>

Typeset and Printed in the United States of America

*Webster's Universal College Dictionary*  
ISBN 0-517-18361-7

15. die out, a. to cease to abide. —Idiom. 16. die y or after a bitter struggle:

died, die-ing. —n. 1. a material in a press or a vice of steel, often combed, for cutting the threads with small conical holes. 2. an engraved stamp used in coining money, press, shape, or cut with a malleable decision has been

n., pl. -bach-i-as, any achia, of the arum family, with white foliage.

1. vigorously resists change. 2. n. -hour period, esp. a regular of an organism.

tor of electricity; insulator maintained with a minimum to a dielectric substance.

ns, -la (-le), the posterior and hypothalamus. —di-

-ses (-sēz'). 1. a sign (?) to indicate that it is to be live and cooperate. 2. the e of the end of a foot and y.

achine or vehicle powered by pertaining to a diesel engine. 1913), German automotive

tor powered directly by a target.

ngine in which fuel, introduced approximately 1000 p

illate used as fuel for die-

1. food and drink considered. 2. a particular selection or limitation on it: to go on a diet. 4. the animal, or group. 5. any ready diet of game shows he food one eats, esp. to ments of a diet. —v.t. 8. to 10. suitable for consumption. —di-eter, n.

ner in countries, as Japan. 2. ner Holy Roman Empire. —adj. 1. of or pertaining to

s dealing with permitted dishes and dishes

1. pertaining to diet or suitable for special diets. 2. caloric intake. —n. 3. concerned with nutrition and

rol), n. a synthetic estrogen used when used to suppress: DES

erson who is an expert in

r, or distinct in nature of opinion, belief, etc.; disapproved, -encing. —n. 1. the y. 2. an instance or point in their behavior. 3. a sign made no difference what distinguishing characteristic, which one person or thing; discrimination; distinction or quarrel. 9. Math. a. r less than another. b. (of h) — f(x). 10. a difference in or between; make difference; discriminate. 11. ke in character or quality; or distinct: three different

answers. 3. various; several: Different people told me the same story. 4. not ordinary; unusual. —dif-fer-ent-ly, adv. —dif-fer-ent-ness, n.

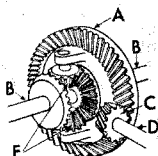
dif-fer-ent-i-a (dif'ə ren'shē ə, -shə), n., pl. -ti-ae (-shē ē). 1. the character or attribute by which one species is distinguished from all others of the same genus. 2. the character or basic factor by which one entity is distinguished from another.

dif-fer-ent-ial (dif'ə ren'shəl), adj. 1. of or pertaining to difference or diversity. 2. constituting a difference; distinguishing; distinctive. 3. exhibiting or depending upon a difference or distinction. 4. pertaining to or involving the difference of two or more motions, forces, etc. 5. pertaining to or involving a mathematical derivative or derivatives. —n. 6. a difference or the amount of difference, as in rate, cost, degree, or quality, between things that are comparable. 7. DIFFERENTIAL GEAR. 8. Math. a. a function of two variables that is obtained from a given function, y = f(x), and that expresses the approximate increment in the given function as the derivative of the function times the increment in the independent variable, written as dy = f'(x)dx. b. any generalization of this function to higher dimensions. 9. Physics. the quantitative difference between two or more forces, motions, etc.: a pressure differential. —dif-fer-ent-ial-ly, adv.

dif-fer-ent-ial cal/culus, n. the branch of mathematics that deals with differentials and derivatives.

dif-fer-ent-ial gear, n. an epicyclic train of gears designed to permit two or more shafts to rotate at different speeds.

differential gear  
A, internal gear;  
B, axle; C, drive  
shaft gear; D, drive  
shaft; E, pinion gear



dif-fer-ent-i-ate (dif'ə ren'shē āt'), v., -at-ed, -at-ing. —v.t. 1. to form or mark differently from other such things; distinguish. 2. to perceive the difference in or between. 3. to make different by modification, as a biological species. 4. Math. to obtain the differential or the derivative of. —v.i. 5. to become unlike or dissimilar. 6. to make a distinction. 7. (of cells or tissues) to change from relatively generalized to specialized kinds during development. —dif-fer-ent-i-a-ble, adj. —dif-fer-ent-i-a-tion, n. —dif-fer-ent-i-a-tor, n.

dif-fi-cult (dif'i kʌlt, -kəlt), adj. 1. requiring special effort, skill, or planning; hard: a difficult job. 2. hard to understand or solve: a difficult problem. 3. hard to deal with or get on with: a difficult pupil. 4. hard to please or satisfy. 5. hard to persuade or induce; stubborn. 6. disadvantageous; trying; hampering: performed under difficult conditions. 7. fraught with hardship, esp. financial hardship: difficult times.

dif-fi-cul-ty (dif'i kʌltē, -kəltē), n., pl. -ties. 1. the fact or condition of being difficult. 2. Often, difficult-ties, an embarrassing situation, esp. of financial affairs. 3. a trouble or struggle. 4. a cause of trouble, struggle, or embarrassment. 5. a disagreement or dispute. 6. reluctance; unwillingness. 7. a demur; objection. 8. something that is hard to do, understand, or surmount; impediment; obstacle.

dif-fi-dent (dif'i dənt), adj. 1. lacking confidence in one's own ability, worth, or fitness; timid; shy. 2. hesitant or tentative in manner; reserved. —dif-fi-dence, n. —dif-fi-dent-ly, adv.

dif-frac-t (di frakt'), v.t. to break up or bend by diffraction. —dif-frac-tive, adj.

dif-frac-tion (di frak'shən), n. a modulation of waves in response to an obstacle, as an object, slit, or grating, in the path of propagation, giving rise in light waves to a banded pattern or to a spectrum.

dif-fuse (v. di fyooz'; adj. -fyooz'), v., -fused, -fusing, adj. —v.t. 1. to pour out and spread: oil diffused over a surface. 2. to spread or scatter widely or thinly; disseminate. 3. Physics. to spread or scatter by diffusion. —v.i. 4. to spread. 5. Physics. to intermingle by diffusion. —adj. 6. characterized by great length or discursiveness in speech or writing; wordy. 7. widely spread or scattered; dispersed. 8. (of reflected light) scattered, as from a rough surface. —dif-fuse-ly (-fyooz'lē), adv. —dif-fuse-ness, n. —dif-fus-i-ble (-fyoozə bəl), adj. —dif-fus-i-bil-i-ty, n.

dif-fu-sion (di fyooz'hən), n. 1. the act of diffusing or the state of being diffused. 2. proflixity of speech or writing. 3. a. an intermingling of particles resulting from random thermal agitation, as in the dispersion of a vapor in air. b. a reflection or refraction of light or other radiation from an irregular surface or an erratic dispersion through a surface. 4. a soft-focus effect in a photograph or film, achieved by placing a gelatin or silk plate in front of a light or lens or by the use of filters. 5. the transmission of elements or features of one culture to another by nonviolent contact.

dif-fu-sion-ism (di fyooz'hə niz'əm), n. any theory that attributes similarities between human culture traits to diffusion from one dominant culture or culture area. —dif-fu-sion-ist, n., adj.

dig' (dig), v., dug, dig-ging. —v.t. 1. to break up, turn over, or remove earth, sand, etc., as with a shovel, spade, bulldozer, or claw; make an excavation. 2. to make one's way or work by or as if by removing or turning over material: to dig through the files. —v.i. 3. to break up, turn over, or loosen (earth, sand, etc.), as with a shovel (often fol. by up). 4. to form or excavate (a hole, tunnel, etc.) by removing material. 5. to unearth, obtain, or remove by digging (often fol. by up or out). 6. to find or

discover by effort or search. 7. to poke, thrust, or force: He dug his heels into the ground. 8. dig in, a. to maintain one's opinion or position. b. Informal. to start eating. 9. dig into, to involve oneself with vigorously. 10. dig out, a. to hollow out by digging. b. to find by searching. 11. dig up, a. to discover in the course of digging. b. to find or bring to light; locate. —n. 12. a thrust; poke: a dig in the ribs. 13. a cutting, sarcastic remark. 14. an archaeological site undergoing excavation. 15. digs, Informal. living quarters; lodgings.

dig' (dig), v., dug, dig-ging. Slang. —v.t. 1. to understand: Can you dig what I'm saying? 2. to take notice of: Dig those shoes he's wearing. 3. to like or enjoy. —v.i. 4. to understand.

dig-a-my (dig'ə mē), n., pl. -mies, a second marriage after the death or divorce of the first spouse. Compare MONOGAMY (def. 3). —dig-a-mous, adj.

digest (v. di jēs't, di-; n. di'jēs't), v., -gest-ed, -gest-ing, n. —v.t. 1. to convert (food) in the alimentary canal into a form that can be assimilated by the body. 2. to promote the digestion of (food). 3. to obtain ideas or meaning from; assimilate mentally: to digest an article on nuclear energy. 4. to think over; ponder. 5. to bear with patience; endure. 6. to arrange in convenient or methodical order; reduce to a system; classify. 7. to condense, abridge, or summarize. 8. to soften or disintegrate (a substance), as by moisture, heat, or chemical action. —v.i. 9. to digest food. 10. to undergo digestion. —n. 11. a collection or compendium, as of literary or scientific matter, esp. when classified or condensed. 12. a systematic abstract of some body of law. —digest-ed-ly, adv. —digest-ed-ness, n.

dig-es-tion (di jēs'chən, di-), n. 1. the process in the alimentary canal by which food is broken up physically, as by the action of the teeth, and chemically, as by the action of enzymes, and converted into a substance suitable for absorption and assimilation into the body. 2. the function or power of digesting food. 3. the act of digesting or the state of being digested. —dig-es-tion-al, adj.

dig-es-tive (di jēs'tiv, di-), adj. 1. serving for or pertaining to digestion; having the function of digesting food: the digestive tract. 2. promoting digestion. —n. 3. a substance promoting digestion. —dig-es-tive-ly, adv.

dig-es-tive sys-tem, n. the system by which ingested food is acted upon by physical and chemical means to provide the body with absorbable nutrients and to excrete waste products: in mammals the system includes the alimentary canal extending from the mouth to the anus and the hormones and enzymes assisting in digestion.

dig-ger wasp, n. any of numerous solitary wasps of the family Sphecidae that excavate nests, as in soil, and provision them with prey paralyzed by stinging.

dig-it (dij'it), n. 1. any of the Arabic numerals of 1 through 9 and 0. 2. any symbol of other number systems, as 0 or 1 in the binary. 3. a finger or toe. 4. the breadth of a finger used as a unit of linear measure, usu. equal to 3/4 of an inch (2 cm).

dig-it-al (dij'itl), adj. 1. of, pertaining to, or resembling a digit or finger. 2. performed or manipulated with a finger: a digital switch. 3. having digits or digitlike parts. 4. of, pertaining to, or using data in the form of numerical digits: a digital recording. 5. displaying a readout in numerical digits rather than by a pointer or hands on a dial: a digital clock. 6. Computers. involving or using numerical digits expressed in a scale of notation to represent discretely all variables occurring in a problem. 7. of, pertaining to, or using numerical calculations. —n. 8. one of the keys or finger levers of keyboard instruments. 9. a digital device, as a clock or watch. —dig-it-al-ly, adv.

dig-ital audiotape, n. magnetic tape on which sound is digitally recorded with high fidelity for playback.

dig-ital com-put-er, n. a computer that processes information in digital form. Compare ANALOG COMPUTER.

dig-i-tal-is (dig'itl'is, -tāl'is), n. 1. any plant of the genus Digitalis, of the figwort family, esp. the foxglove, D. purpurea. 2. the dried leaves of the foxglove used as a heart stimulant.

dig-i-ti-, a combining form meaning "finger": digitinervate.

dig-i-tize (dij'it'iz) also digitalize, v.t., -tized, -tiz-ing, to convert (data) to digital form. —dig-i-ti-zation, n. —dig-i-tiz'er, n.

dig-glos-sia (di glos'sē ə, -glōs'sē ə), n. the use within a society of sharply divergent formal and informal varieties of a language for different social contexts or for performing different functions. —di-glos-sic (-glos'sik), adj.

dig-glot (di'glot), adj. 1. bilingual. —n. 2. a bilingual book or edition. —di-glot-tic, adj.

dig-ni-fied (dig'nə fid'), adj. characterized by dignity of aspect or manner; stately; decorous. —dig-ni-fied-ly (-fid'lē, -fid'id-), adv. —dig-ni-fied-ness, n.

dig-ni-fy (dig'nə fi'), v.t., -fied, -fy-ing. 1. to confer honor or dignity upon; honor. 2. to give a grand title or name to; confer unmerited distinction upon: to dignify pedantry by calling it scholarship.

dig-ni-tar-y (dig'nī ter'ē), n., pl. -tar-ies, a person who holds a high rank or office, as in a government or church. —dig-ni-tar-i-al (-tār'ē əl), adj.

dig-ni-ty (dig'nī tē), n., pl. -ties. 1. bearing, conduct, or manner indicative of self-respect, formality, or gravity. 2. nobility or elevation of character; worthiness. 3. elevated rank, office, station, etc. 4. relative standing; rank. 5. a sign or token of respect: a question unworthy of the dignity of a reply.

di-gram (di'gram), n. a sequence of two adjacent letters or other symbols.

