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transition element *n.* Any of the metallic elements that have an incomplete inner electron shell and that serve as transitional links between the most and the least electropositive in a series of elements. They are characterized by multiple valences, colored compounds, and the ability to form stable complex ions.

transition metal *n.* A transition element.

transition region *n.* A zone in a seed plant where the vascular tissue of the root changes into the vascular tissue of the stem.

trans-i-tive (trán'si-tív, -zí-) *adj.* 1. *Abbr. t., tr., trans. Grammar.* Expressing an action that is carried from the subject to the object; requiring a direct object to complete meaning. Used of a verb or verb construction. 2. Characterized by or involving transition. —**transitive** *n.* *Abbr. t., tr., trans. Grammar.* A transitive verb. [Late Latin *transitivus*, passing over, from *transitus*, past participle of *transire*, to go over. See **TRANSIENT**.] —**trans-i-tive-ly** *adv.* —**trans-i-tive-ness**, **trans-i-tiv-i-ty** *n.*

transit lounge *n.* A waiting room in an airport used typically by international travelers on layovers.

trans-i-to-ry (trán'si-tór'ē, -tór'ē, trán'zī-) *adj.* Existing or lasting only a short time; short-lived or temporary: "the disorder of his life: the succession of cities, of transitory loves" (Carson McCullers). See **Synonyms at TRANSIENT**. [Middle English *transitorie*, from Old French *transitoire*, from Late Latin *transitōrius*, from Latin, having a passageway, from *transitus*, passage. See **TRANSIT**.] —**trans-i-to-ri-ly** *adv.* —**trans-i-to-ri-ness** *n.*

Trans-jor-dan (tráns'jór'dán, trán'z-') See **Jordan**. —**Trans-jor-dan-i-an** (-jór-dá'nē-ən) *adj. & n.*

Trans-kei (tráns-kā', -kī'). An internally self-governing Black African homeland in southeast South Africa on the Indian Ocean coast. It was designated a semiautonomous territory in 1963 and granted nominal independence in 1976. Umtata is the capital. Population, 2,400,000. —**Trans-kei'an** *adj. & n.*

transl. *abbr.* 1. Translated. 2. Translation.

trans-late (tráns-lát', tránz-, tráns'lát', tránz'-) *v.* **-lat-ed, -lat-ing, -lates.** —*tr.* 1. To render in another language. 2. *a.* To put into simpler terms; explain or interpret. *b.* To express in different words; paraphrase. 3. *a.* To change from one form, function, or state to another; convert or transform: *translate ideas into reality*. *b.* To express in another medium. 4. To transfer from one place or condition to another. 5. To forward or retransmit (a telegraphic message). 6. *a. Ecclesiastical.* To transfer (a bishop) to another see. *b. Theology.* To convey to heaven without death. 7. *Physics.* To subject (a body) to translation. 8. *Biology.* To subject (messenger RNA) to translation. 9. *Archaic.* To enrapture. —*intr.* 1. *a.* To make a translation. *b.* To work as a translator. 2. To admit of translation. 3. To be changed or transformed in effect. Often used with *into* or *to*: "Today's low inflation and steady growth in household income translate into more purchasing power" (Thomas G. Exter). [Middle English *translaten*, from Old French *translater*, from Latin *translātus*, past participle of *transfere*, to transfer: *trans-*, *trans-* + *lātus*, brought; see **tele-** in Appendix.] —**trans-lat'a-bil'i-ty**, **trans-lat'a-ble** *n.* —**trans-lat'a-ble** *adj.*

trans-la-tion (tráns-lá'shən, tránz-) *n.* *Abbr. tr., trans., transl.* 1. *a.* The act or process of translating, especially from one language into another. *b.* The state of being translated. 2. A translated version of a text. 3. *Physics.* Motion of a body in which every point of the body moves parallel to and the same distance as every other point of the body; nonrotational displacement. 4. *Biology.* The process by which messenger RNA directs the amino acid sequence of a growing polypeptide during protein synthesis. —**trans-la'tion-al** *adj.*

trans-la-tor (tráns-lá'tor, tránz-, tráns'lá'tor, tránz'-) *n.* *Abbr. tr., trans.* 1. One that translates, especially one employed to render written works into another language. 2. An interpreter. —**trans-la-to-ri-al** (-lá-tór'ē-əl, -tór'-) *adj.*

trans-lit-er-ate (tráns-lít'ə-rát', tránz-) *tr.v.* **-at-ed, -at-ing, -ates.** To represent (letters or words) in the corresponding characters of another alphabet. [**TRANS-** + Latin *littera*, *littera*, letter + **-ATE**¹.] —**trans-lit'er-a'tion** *n.*

trans-lo-cate (tráns-ló'kát', tránz-) *tr.v.* **-cat-ed, -cat-ing, -cates.** 1. To cause to change from one place or position to another; displace. 2. To transfer (a chromosomal segment) to a new position; cause to undergo translocation.

trans-lo-ca-tion (tráns'ló-ká'shən, tránz'-) *n.* 1. A change of location. 2. *Genetics.* *a.* A transfer of a chromosomal segment to a new position, especially on a nonhomologous chromosome. *b.* A chromosomal segment that is translocated.

trans-lu-cent (tráns-ló'sənt, tránz-) *adj.* 1. Transmitting light but causing sufficient diffusion to prevent perception of distinct images. 2. Clear; lucid. [Latin *translucēns*, *translucēt*, present participle of *translucēre*, to shine through: *trans-*, *trans-* + *lucēre*, to shine; see **leuk-** in Appendix.] —**trans-lu'cence**, **trans-lu'cen-cy** *n.* —**trans-lu'cent-ly** *adv.*

trans-lu-nar (tráns'lóo'nar, tránz'-, tráns-lóo'-, tránz'-) *adj.* Extending beyond the moon or the moon's orbit around Earth.

trans-mar-ine (tráns'mə-rén', tránz'-) *adj.* 1. Crossing the sea. 2. Beyond or coming from across the sea. [Latin *transmarinus*: *trans-*, *trans-* + *marinus*, of the sea; see **MARINE**.]

trans-mem-brane (tráns-mém'brán, tránz-) *adj.* Passing or occurring across a membrane.

trans-mi-grant (tráns-mí'gránt, tránz-) *n.* 1. One that

transmigrates. 2. One in transit through a country on the way to the country in which one intends to settle.

trans-mi-grate (tráns-mí'grát', tránz-) *intr.v.* **-grat-ed, -grat-ing, -grates.** 1. To migrate. 2. To pass into another body after death. Used of the soul. [Latin *transmigrāre*, *transmigrāt-*: *trans-*, *trans-* + *migrāre*, to migrate; see **MIGRATE**.] —**trans-mi'gra-tor** *n.* —**trans-mi'gra-to-ry** (-mí'grá-tór'ē, -tór'ē) *adj.*

trans-mi-gra-tion (tráns'mí-grá'shən, tránz'-) *n.* 1. The act or process of transmigrating. 2. The passing of a soul into another body after death; reincarnation. —**trans-mi'gra-tion-ism** *n.*

trans-mis-si-ble (tráns-mís'ə-bəl, tránz-) *adj.* That can be transmitted: *transmissible messages*; *transmissible signals*. —**trans-mis'si-bil-i-ty** *n.*

trans-mis-sion (tráns-mísh'ən, tránz-) *n.* 1. *a.* The act or process of transmitting. *b.* The fact of being transmitted. 2. Something, such as a message, that is transmitted. 3. An automotive assembly of gears and associated parts by which power is transmitted from the engine to a driving axle. Also called *gearbox*. 4. The sending of a signal, picture, or other information from a transmitter. [Latin *transmissio*, *transmissiōn-*, a sending across, from *transmissus*, past participle of *transmittere*, to transmit. See **TRANSMIT**.] —**trans-mis'sive** (-mís'iv) *adj.*

trans-mis-som-e-ter (tráns'mí-sóm'í-tər, tránz'-) *n.* A device used to measure transmission of light through a medium. [**TRANSMISS(ION)** + **-METER**.] —**trans-mis'som-e-try** *n.*

trans-mit (tráns-mít', tránz-) *v.* **-mit-ted, -mit-ting, -mits, -tr.** 1. To send from one person, thing, or place to another; convey. See **Synonyms at SEND**¹. 2. To cause to spread; pass on: *transmit an infection*. 3. To impart or convey to others by heredity or inheritance; hand down. 4. To pass along (news or information); communicate. 5. *a. Electronics.* To send (a signal), as by wire or radio. *b. Physics.* To cause (a disturbance) to propagate through a medium. 6. To convey (force or energy) from one part of a mechanism to another. —*intr.* To send out a signal. [Middle English *transmitten*, from Latin *transmittere*: *trans-*, *trans-* + *mittere*, to send.] —**trans-mit'ta-ble** *adj.*

trans-mit-tal (tráns-mít'təl, tránz-) *n.* The act or process of transmitting; a transmission.

trans-mit-tance (tráns-mít'tns, tránz-) *n.* 1. A transmission. 2. *Physics.* The ratio of the radiant energy transmitted to the total radiant energy incident on a given body.

trans-mit-ter (tráns-mít'tər, tránz-) *n.* 1. One that transmits: *a transmitter of disease*; *a transmitter of tall tales*. 2. *a.* An electronic device that generates and amplifies a carrier wave, modulates it with a meaningful signal derived from speech or other sources, and radiates the resulting signal from an antenna. *b.* The portion of a telephone that converts the incident sounds into electrical impulses that are conveyed to a remote receiver. *c.* A telegraphic sending instrument.

trans-mit-ter-re-ceiver (tráns-mít'tər-rí-sē'vər, tránz-) *n.* An electronic device that both transmits and receives communications signals.

trans-mog-ri-fy (tráns-móg'ri-fí', tránz-) *tr.v.* **-fied (-fid'), -fy-ing, -fies** (-fiz'). To change into a different shape or form, especially one that is fantastic or bizarre. See **Synonyms at CONVERT**. [Origin unknown.] —**trans-mog'ri-fi-ca'tion** (-fiká'shən) *n.*

trans-mon-tane (tráns-mó-i,tán', tránz-, tráns'món-tán', tránz'-) *adj.* Tramontane. [Latin *transmontānus*. See **TRAMONTANE**.]

trans-mun-dane (tráns-mūn-dán', tránz'-, tráns-mūn'dá', tránz-) *adj.* Existing or extending beyond the physical world.

trans-mu-ta-tion (tráns'myóo-tá'shən, tránz'-) *n.* 1. *a.* The act or an instance of transmuting; transformation. *b.* The state of being transmuted. 2. *Physics.* Transformation of one element into another by one or a series of nuclear reactions. 3. The supposed conversion of base metals into gold or silver in alchemy. —**trans-mu-ta'tion-al**, **trans-mut'a-tive** (-myóo'ta-tív) *adj.*

trans-mute (tráns-myóot', tránz-) *v.* **-mut-ed, -mut-ing, -mutes.** —*tr.* To change from one form, nature, substance, or state into another; transform: "the tendency to transmute what has become customary into what has been divinely ordained" (Suzanne LaFollette). See **Synonyms at CONVERT**. —*intr.* To undergo transmutation. [Middle English *transmuten*, from Latin *transmutāre*: *trans-*, *trans-* + *mutāre*, to change; see **mei-** in Appendix.] —**trans-mut'a-bil-i-ty**, **trans-mut'a-ble** *n.* —**trans-mut'a-ble** *adj.* —**trans-mut'a-bly** *adv.* —**trans-mut'er** *n.*

trans-na-tion-al (tráns-násh'ə-nəl, tránz-) *adj.* 1. Reaching beyond or transcending national boundaries: "the transnational ramifications of terror networks" (Emanuel Litvinoff). 2. Relating to or involving several nations or nationalities: *transnational organizations*.

trans-o-ce-an-ic (tráns'ó-shē-án'ik, tránz'-) *adj.* 1. Situated beyond or on the other side of the ocean. 2. Spanning or crossing the ocean.

trans-om (trán'səm) *n.* 1. *a.* A horizontal crosspiece over a door or between a door and a window above it. *b.* A small hinge window above a door or another window. 2. A horizontal dividing bar of wood or stone in a window. 3. A lintel. 4. *Nautical.* *a.* Any of several transverse beams affixed to the sternpost of a wooden ship and forming part of the stern. *b.* The aftermost



transom