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To menace or threaten; intimidate. [Latin *terrificāre*, from *terrificus*, terrific. See TERRIFIC.]

ter-rig-e-nous (tĕ-rĭj'ə-nəs) *adj.* *Geology.* Derived from the land, especially by erosive action. Used primarily of sediments. [From Latin *terrigena*, earth-born: *terra*, earth; see **ters-** in Appendix + -GENOUS.]

ter-rine (tə-rĕn') *n.* **1.** An earthenware dish for cooking and serving food. **2.** A food, especially a pâté or a mixture of chopped meat or fish and vegetables, that is cooked or served in such a dish. [French. See TUREEN.]

ter-ri-to-ri-al (tĕr'i-tōr'ē-əl, -tōr'-) *adj.* *Abbr. ter., terr. 1.* Of or relating to the geographic area under a given jurisdiction: *the territorial limits of a country.* **2.** Relating or restricted to a particular territory; regional: *a territorial court.* **3.** Often **Territorial.** Of or relating to an administrative territory: *the territorial government of the U.S. Virgin Islands; Whitehorse, the territorial capital of the Yukon.* **4.** Often **Territorial.** Organized for national or home defense: *the British Territorial Army.* **5.** *Biology.* Displaying territoriality; defending a territory from intruders: *territorial behavior; a territorial species.* —**territorial** also **Territorial n.** A member of a territorial army. —**ter-ri-to-ri-al-ly** *adv.*

ter-ri-to-ri-al-ism (tĕr'i-tōr'ē-əl-iz'm, -tōr'-) *n.* **1.** A social system that gives authority and influence in a state to the landowners. **2.** A system of church government based on primacy of civil power. —**ter-ri-to-ri-al-ist** *n.*

ter-ri-to-ri-al-ity (tĕr'i-tōr'ē-əl'i-tē, -tōr'-) *n., pl. -ities. 1.* The status of a territory. **2.** A behavior pattern in animals consisting of the occupation and defense of a territory.

ter-ri-to-ri-al-ize (tĕr'i-tōr'ē-əl-iz', -tōr'-) *tr.v. -ized, -izing, -izes. 1.* To make a territory of; organize as a territory. **2.** To extend by adding territory. —**ter-ri-to-ri-al-i-za-tion** (-əl-iz-ā'shan) *n.*

territorial waters *pl.n.* Inland and coastal waters under the jurisdiction of a nation or state, especially the ocean waters within 3 or 12 miles (4.8 or 19.3 kilometers) of the shoreline.

ter-ri-to-ry (tĕr'i-tōr'ē, -tōr'ē) *n., pl. -ries. Abbr. ter., terr., t., T. 1.* An area of land; a region. **2.** The land and waters under the jurisdiction of a government. **3.a.** A political subdivision of a country. **b.** A geographic region, such as a colonial possession, that is dependent on an external government: *the territories of the Holy Roman Empire.* **4.** Often **Territory. a.** A subdivision of the United States that is not a state and is administered by an appointed or elected governor and elected legislature. **b.** A similarly organized political subdivision of Canada or Australia. **5. An area for which a person is responsible as a representative or an agent: *a salesperson's territory.* **6.** *Sports.* The area of a field defended by a specified team: *punted the ball deep into the opponent's territory.* **7.** *Biology.* An area occupied by a single animal, mating pair, or group and often vigorously defended against intruders, especially those of the same species. **8.** A sphere of action or interest; a province. See Synonyms at **field.** [Middle English, from Latin *territorium*, from *terra*, earth. See **ters-** in Appendix.]**

ter-ror (tĕr'ər) *n.* **1.** Intense, overpowering fear. See Synonyms at **fear. 2.** One that instills intense fear: *a rabid dog that became the terror of the neighborhood.* **3.** The ability to instill intense fear: *the terror of jackboots pounding down the street.* **4.** Violence committed or threatened by a group to intimidate or coerce a population, as for military or political purposes. **5.** *Informal.* An annoying or intolerable pest: *that little terror of a child.* [Middle English *terrou*, from Old French *terreur*, from Latin *terror*, from *terrere*, to frighten.]

ter-ror-ism (tĕr'ər-iz'm) *n.* The unlawful use or threatened use of force or violence by a person or an organized group against people or property with the intention of intimidating or coercing societies or governments, often for ideological or political reasons.

ter-ror-ist (tĕr'ər-ist) *n.* One that engages in acts or an act of terrorism. —**terrorist** *adj.* Of, relating to, or constituting terrorism. —**ter-ror-is-tic** *adj.*

ter-ror-ize (tĕr'ər-iz') *tr.v. -ized, -izing, -izes. 1.* To fill or overpower with terror; terrify. **2. To coerce by intimidation or fear. See Synonyms at **frighten.** —**ter-ror-i-za-tion** (-ər-iz-ā'shan) *n.* —**ter-ror-iz'er** *n.***

ter-ry (tĕr'ē) *n., pl. -ries. 1.* One of the uncut loops that form the pile of a fabric. **2.** A pile fabric, usually woven of cotton, with uncut loops on both sides, used for bath towels and robes. In this sense, also called *terry cloth.* [Origin unknown.]

Ter-ry (tĕr'ē), Dame **Ellen Alice** or **Alicia.** 1847–1928. British actress. The preeminent English-speaking actress of her day, she was known for her Shakespearean roles and her correspondence with George Bernard Shaw.

terse (tûrs) *adj.* **ters-er, ters-est.** Brief and to the point; effectively concise. [Latin *tersus*, past participle of *tergere*, to cleanse.] —**terse-ly** *adv.* —**terse-ness** *n.*

ter-tial (tûr'shəl) *adj.* Of, relating to, or designating the third row of flight feathers on the basal section of a bird's wing. —**tertial** *n.* A tertial feather. [Latin *tertius*, third; see **tertiary** + -AL¹.]

ter-tian (tûr'shən) *adj.* Recurring every other day or when

or rank. **2.** Of, relating to, or designating the short flight feathers nearest the body on the rear edge of a bird's wing. **3.** *Chemistry. a.* Of or relating to salts of acids containing three replaceable hydrogen atoms. **b. Of or relating to organic compounds in which a group, such as an alcohol or amine, is bound to three nonelementary radicals. **4.** **Tertiary. Geology.** Of, belonging to, or being the geologic time, system of rocks, and sedimentary deposits of the first period of the Cenozoic Era, extending from the Cretaceous Period of the Mesozoic Era to the Quaternary Period of the Cenozoic Era, characterized by the appearance of modern flora and of apes and other large mammals. See table at **geologic time.** —**tertiary** *n., pl. -ies. 1.* A tertiary feather. **2.** **Tertiary. Geology.** The Tertiary Period or its system of deposits. **3.** **Roman Catholic Church.** A member of a religious Third Order. [Latin *tertiarius*, from *tertius*, third. See **trei-** in Appendix.]**

tertiary color *n.* A color resulting from the mixture of two secondary colors.

tertiary consumer *n. Ecology.* An animal that feeds on secondary consumers in a food chain.

tertiary syphilis *n.* The final stage of syphilis, following a latent period that may last years, characterized by spread of the disease to many organs and tissues, including the skin, bones, joints, heart, brain, and spinal cord.

ter-ti-um quid (tûr'shē-əm kwid', tĕr'tē-dōm') *n.* Something that cannot be classified into either of two groups considered exhaustive; an intermediate thing or factor. [Late Latin: Latin *tertium*, neuter of *tertius*, third + *quid*, something.]

Ter-tul-li-an (tər-tūl'yən, -tūl'ē-ən). A.D. 160?–230? Carthaginian theologian who converted to Christianity (c. 193), broke with the Catholic Church (c. 207), and formed his own schismatic sect. His writings greatly influenced Western theology.

ter-va-lent (tər-vā'lənt, tûr'vā'-) *adj.* Trivalent.

ter-za ri-ma (tĕr'tsə rĕ'mə) *n., pl. ter-ze ri-me* (tĕr'tsĕ rĕ'mĕ). A verse form of Italian origin consisting of tercets of 10 or 11 syllables with the middle line rhyming with the first and third lines of the following tercet. [Italian: *terza*, third + *rima*, rhyme.]

TESL *abbr.* Teaching English as a second language.

tes-la (tĕs'lə) *n. Abbr. T* The unit of magnetic flux density in the International System, equal to one weber per square meter. See table at **measurement.** [After Nikola TESLA.]

Tes-la (tĕs'lə), **Nikola.** 1856–1943. Serbian-born American electrical engineer and physicist who discovered the principles of alternating current (1881) and invented numerous devices and procedures that were seminal to the development of radio and the harnessing of electricity.

tesla coil *n.* An air-core transformer that is used as a source of high-frequency power, as for x-ray tubes. [After Nikola TESLA.]

TESOL *abbr.* Teachers of English to speakers of other languages.

tes-sel-late (tĕs'ə-lāt') *tr.v. -lat-ed, -lat-ing, -lates.* To form into a mosaic pattern, as by using small squares of stone or glass. [From Latin *tessellātus*, of small square stones, from *tessella*, small cube, diminutive of *tessera*, a square. See TESSERA.] —**tes-sel-la-tion** *n.*

tes-ser-ae (tĕs'ər-ə) *n., pl. tes-ser-ae* (tĕs'ər-ĕ'). One of the small squares of stone or glass used in making mosaic patterns. [Latin, from Greek, neuter of *tesseres*, variant of *tessares*, four. See **k'etwer-** in Appendix.]

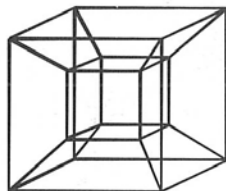
tes-ser-act (tĕs'ə-rākt') *n.* The four-dimensional equivalent of a cube. [Greek *tessera*, neuter pl. of *tesseres*, four; see TESSERA + *aktis*, ray of light; see ACTINO-.]

tes-si-tu-ra (tĕs'i-tōr'ə) *n. Music.* The prevailing range of a vocal or instrumental part, within which most of the tones lie. [Italian, from Latin *textūra*, web, structure. See TEXTURE.]

test¹ (tĕst) *n. 1.* A procedure for critical evaluation; a means of determining the presence, quality, or truth of something; a trial: *a test of one's eyesight; subjecting a hypothesis to a test; a test of an athlete's endurance.* **2.** A series of questions, problems, or physical responses designed to determine knowledge, intelligence, or ability. **3.** A basis for evaluation or judgment: *"A test of democratic government is how Congress and the president work together"* (Haynes Johnson). **4.** *Chemistry. a.* A physical or chemical change by which a substance may be detected or its properties ascertained. **b. A reagent used to cause or promote such a change. **c. A positive result obtained. **5.** A cupel. —**test v. test-ed, test-ing, tests.** —**tr. 1.** To subject to a test; try: *tested the pen by scribbling on scrap paper; testing each mango for ripeness by pressing and smelling it; testing job applicants.* **2.a.** To determine the presence or properties of (a substance). **b.** To assay (metal) in a cupel. —**intr. 1.** To undergo a test. **2.** To administer a test: *test for acid content; test for the presence of an antibody.* **3.** To achieve a score or rating on tests: *took the entrance examinations and tested high.* **4.** To exhibit a given characteristic when subjected to a test: *test positive for the tubercle bacillus.* [Middle English, cupel, from Old French, pot, from Latin *testū, testum.*] —**test-a-bil-i-ty** *n.* —**test-a-ble** *adj.*****

test² (tĕst) *n.* A hard external covering, as that of certain amoebas, dinoflagellates, and sea urchins. [Latin *testa*, shell.]

test. *abbr. 1. Law. a.* Testator. **b. Testatrix. **2.** Testimony.**



tesseract