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College Dictionary

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authoritarian

automatic

**au·thor·i·tar·i·an** (ə-thôr'î-târ'ē-ən, ə-thôr'-, ô-thôr'-, ô-thôr'-) *adj.* 1. Characterized by or favoring absolute obedience to authority, as against individual freedom. 2. Of, relating to, or expecting unquestioning obedience. —**au·thor·i·tar·i·an** *n.* —**au·thor·i·tar·i·an·ism** *n.*

**au·thor·i·ta·tive** (ə-thôr'î-tâ'tîv, ə-thôr'-, ô-thôr'-, ô-thôr'-) *adj.* 1. Having or arising from authority; official. 2. Known to be accurate or excellent; highly reliable. 3. Wielding authority; commanding. —**au·thor·i·ta·tive·ly** *adv.* —**au·thor·i·ta·tive·ness** *n.*

**au·thor·i·ty** (ə-thôr'î-tē, ə-thôr'-, ô-thôr'-, ô-thôr'-) *n., pl. -ties* 1a. The power to enforce laws, exact obedience, command, determine, or judge. b. One that is invested with this power, esp. a government or body of government officials: *land titles issued by the civil authority.* 2. Power assigned to another; authorization: *Deputies were given authority to make arrests.* 3. A public agency or corporation with administrative powers in a specified field: *a city transit authority.* 4a. An accepted source of expert information or advice: *a noted authority on birds.* b. A quotation or citation from such a source: *biblical authorities for a moral argument.* 5. Justification; grounds: *On what authority do you make such a claim?* 6. A conclusive statement or decision that may be taken as a guide or precedent. 7. Power to influence or persuade resulting from knowledge or experience. 8. Confidence derived from experience or practice; firm self-assurance. [ME *autorite* < OFr. *autorite* < Lat. *auctoritas*, *auctōritās* < *auctor*, creator. See *AU·THOR·I·*]

**au·thor·i·za·tion** (ô'thâr-î-zâ'shən) *n.* 1. The act of authorizing. 2. Something that authorizes; a sanction.

**au·thor·ize** (ô'thâr-îz'ē) *tr.v.* -ized, -iz·ing, -iz·es 1. To grant authority or power to. 2. To give permission for; sanction. 3. To be sufficient grounds for; justify. [ME *autorisen* < OFr. *autoriser* < Med.Lat. *auctorizare* < Lat. *auctor*, author. See *AUTHOR·I·*] —**au·thor·i·z'er** *n.*

**au·thor·ized** *Version* (ô'thâr-îz'ēd) *n.* See *King James Bible.*

**au·thor·ship** (ô'thâr-ship') *n.* 1. The act, fact, or occupation of writing. 2. Source or origin, as of a book or idea.

**au·tism** (ô'tîz'əm) *n.* A psychiatric disorder of childhood characterized by marked deficits in communication and social interaction, preoccupation with fantasy, and abnormal behavior patterns. —**au·tist** *n.* —**au·tis'tic** (-tîk) *adj. & n.* —**au·tis'ti·cal·ly** *adv.*

**au·to** (ô'tô) *n., pl. -tos* An automobile. ♦ *intr.v.* -toed, -to·ing, -tos To go by or ride in a car. [Short for *AUTOMOBILE*.]

**au·to** or **au·t** -*pref.* 1. Self; same: *autogamy.* 2. Automatic: *autopilot.* [Gk. < *autos*, self.]

**au·to·an·ti·bod·y** (ô'tô-ăn'tî-bôd'ē) *n.* An antibody that reacts with the cells, tissues, or native proteins of the organism in which it is formed.

**au·to·bahn** (ô'ta-bân', ou'tô-) *n.* An expressway in Germany and German-speaking countries. [Ger.: *Auto*, automobile; see *AUTO* + *Bahn*, road < MHGer. *ban*. See *g'hem-* in App.]

**au·to·bi·og·ra·phy** (ô'tô-bî-ôg'rā-fē) *n., pl. -phies* The biography of a person by that person. —**au·to·bi·og·ra·pher** *n.* —**au·to·bi·og·raph·ic** (-bî'ô-grāf'îk), **au·to·bi·og·raph·i·cal** *adj.* —**au·to·bi·og·raph·i·cal·ly** *adv.*

**au·to·bus** (ô'tô-bûs') *n., pl. -buses* or **-buses** A motor coach; a bus.

**au·to·cat·al·y·sis** (ô'tô-ka-tâl'î-sîs) *n., pl. -ses* (-sēz') Catalysis of a chemical reaction by one of the products of the reaction. —**au·to·cat·al·yt·ic** (-kât'î-lî'tîk) *adj.* —**au·to·cat·al·yt·i·cal·ly** *adv.*

**au·toch·thon** (ô-tôk'thən) *n., pl. -thons* or **-thones** (-thā-nēz') 1. One of the earliest known inhabitants of a place; an aborigine. 2. *Ecology* An indigenous plant or animal. [Gk. *autochthōn*: *auto-*, *auto-* + *khthōn*, earth; see *dghem-* in App.]

**au·toch·tho·nous** (ô-tôk'thō-nōs) also **au·toch·tho·nal** (-thā-nəl) or **au·toch·thon·ic** (ô'tôk'thōn'îk) *adj.* 1. Originating where found; indigenous. 2. *Biology* Originating or formed in the place where found. —**au·toch·thon·ism**, **au·toch·tho·ny** *n.* —**au·toch·tho·nous·ly** *adv.*

**au·to·clave** (ô'tô-klāv') *n.* A strong, pressurized, steam-heated vessel, as for sterilization or cooking. [Fr.: Gk. *auto-*, *auto-* + Lat. *clavis*, key (< its being self-locking from the pressurization).]

**au·to·cracy** (ô-tôk'rā-sē) *n., pl. -cies* 1. Government by a single person having unlimited power; despotism. 2. A country or state governed by a person with unlimited power.

**au·to·crat** (ô'tô-krāt') *n.* 1. A ruler having unlimited power; a despot. 2. A person with unlimited power or authority: *a corporate autocrat.* [Fr. *autocrate* < Gk. *autokratēs*, ruling by oneself: *auto-*, *auto-* + *-kratēs*, -crat.] —**au·to·crat·ic**, **au·to·crat·i·cal** *adj.* —**au·to·crat·i·cal·ly** *adv.*

**au·to·da·fé** (ô'tô-dā-fā', ou'tô-) *n., pl. au·tos·da·fé* (ô'tôz-, ou'tôz-) 1. Public announcement of the sentences imposed by the Inquisition. 2. The public execution of those sentences by secular authorities, esp. by burning at the stake. [Port. *auto da fé*: *auto*, act + *da*, of the + *fé*, faith.]

**au·to·de·struct** (ô'tô-dē-strūkt') *intr.v.* -struct·ed, -struct·ing, -structs To destroy itself or oneself; self-destruct. [AUTO- + (SELF-)DESTRUCT.]

**au·to·di·dict** (ô'tô-dî-dākt') *n.* A self-taught person. [< Gk.

*autodidakτος*, self-taught: *auto-*, *auto-* + *didaktos*, taught; see *DI·DACTIC*.] —**au·to·di·dic'tic** *adj.*

**au·to·dyne** (ô'tô-dîn') *n.* A heterodyne radio device in which one tube serves simultaneously as oscillator and detector. [AUTO- + (HETERO)DYNE.] —**au·to·dyne** *adj.*

**au·toe·cious** (ô-tē'shəs) *adj.* Having all stages of a life cycle occurring on the same host. [*<* AUTO- + Gk. *oikos*, house; see *WEIK-* in App.] —**au·toe·cism** (-sîz'əm) *n.*

**autoerotic asphyxia** (ô'tô-er'ô-tîk'ā-sîz'ē) *n.* A form of sexual masochism in which oxygen flow to the brain is reduced, as by controlled strangulation, in order to enhance the pleasure of masturbation.

**au·to·er·o·tism** (ô'tô-er'ô-tîz'əm) or **au·to·er·o·t·i·cism** (-î-rô'tî-sîz'əm) *n.* 1. Self-satisfaction of sexual desire, as by masturbation. 2. The arousal of sexual feeling without an external stimulus. —**au·to·er·o·t·ic** (-î-rô'tîk) *adj.*

**au·tog·a·my** (ô-tôg'ā-mē) *n.* 1. *Botany* Self-fertilization in plants. 2. *Biology* The union of nuclei within and arising from a single cell, as in certain protozoans and fungi. —**au·to·gam·ic** (ô'tô-gām'îk), **au·to·g·a·mous** *adj.*

**au·to·gen·e·sis** (ô'tô-jên'î-sîs) also **au·to·gen·e·ny** (ô-tôj'ā-nē) *n.* See *abiogenesis.* —**au·to·ge·ne'tic** (-jā-nē'tîk) *adj.* —**au·to·ge·ne'ti·cal·ly** *adv.*

**au·to·gen·ous** (ô-tôj'ā-nōs) also **au·to·gen·ic** (ô'ta-jên'îk) *adj.* 1. Produced from within; self-generating. 2. *Medicine* Originating with the individual to whom applied: *an autogenous graft.* —**au·to·gen·ous·ly** *adv.*

**au·to·gy·ro** also **au·to·gy·ro** (ô'tô-jî'rô) *n., pl. -ros* An aircraft powered by a conventional propeller and supported in flight by a free-wheeling horizontal rotor that provides lift. [Orig. a trademark.]

**au·to·graft** (ô'tô-grāft') *n.* A tissue or organ grafted into a new position on the same individual.

**au·to·graph** (ô'tô-grāf') *n.* 1. A person's own signature or handwriting. 2. A manuscript in the author's handwriting. ♦ *tr.v.* -graphed, -graph·ing, -graphs 1. To write one's name or signature on or in; sign. 2. To write in one's own handwriting. ♦ *adj.* Written in the writer's own handwriting. [LLat. *autographum* < neut. of Lat. *autographus*, written with one's own hand < Gk. *autographos*: *auto-*, *auto-* + *graphein*, to write; see -GRAPH.] —**au·to·graph·ic**, **au·to·graph·i·cal** *adj.* —**au·to·graph·i·cal·ly** *adv.*

**au·to·gra·phy** (ô-tôg'rā-fē) *n.* 1. The writing of something in one's own handwriting. 2. Autographs considered as a group.

**au·to·harp** (ô'tô-hārp') A trademark used for a musical instrument similar to a zither.

**au·to·hyp·no·sis** (ô'tô-hîp-nô'sîs) *n.* 1. The act or process of hypnotizing oneself. 2. A self-induced hypnotic state. —**au·to·hyp·not'ic** (-nô'tîk) *adj.*

**au·to·im·mune** (ô'tô-î-myōn') *adj.* Of or relating to an immune response by the body against one of its own cells, molecules, or tissues. —**au·to·im·mu·ni·ty** *n.* —**au·to·im·mu·ni·za'tion** (-îm'ya-nā-zā'shən) *n.*

**au·to·in·fec·tion** (ô'tô-în-fēk'tshən) *n.* Infection, such as recurrent boils, caused by bacteria, viruses, or parasites that persist on or in the body.

**au·to·in·oc·u·la·tion** (ô'tô-î-nôk'ya-lā'shən) *n.* 1. Inoculation with a vaccine made from microorganisms obtained from the recipient's body. 2. An infection by a disease that has spread from a different part of the body. —**au·to·in·oc·u·la·ble** *adj.*

**au·to·in·tox·i·ca·tion** (ô'tô-în-tôk'sî-kā'shən) *n.* Self-poisoning caused by endogenous microorganisms, metabolic wastes, or other toxins produced within the body.

**au·to·load·ing** (ô'tô-lô'dîng) *adj.* Semiautomatic.

**au·to·lo·gous** (ô-tô-lô-gəs) *adj.* Derived or transferred from the same individual's body. [AUTO- + -*logous*, as in *HOMOLOGOUS*.]

**au·to·ly·sate** (ô-tô-lî-sāt', -zāt') *n.* An end product of autolysis.

**au·tol·y·sin** (ô-tô-lî-sîn, ô'ta-lî'sîn) *n.* A substance, such as an enzyme, that is capable of destroying the cells or tissues of an organism within which it is produced.

**au·tol·y·sis** (ô-tô-lî-sîs) *n.* The destruction of tissues or cells of an organism by the action of substances produced within the organism. —**au·tol·yt·ic** (ô'ta-lî'tîk) *adj.*

**au·to·mak·er** (ô'tô-māk'ēr) *n.* A manufacturer of automotive vehicles; a carmaker.

**au·to·mate** (ô'ta-māt') *v.* -mat·ed, -mat·ing, -mates —*tr.* 1. To convert to automatic operation: *automate a factory.* 2. To control or operate by automation. —*intr.* To convert to or make use of automation: *a company that chose to automate for greater efficiency.* [Back-formation < *AUTOMATION*.] —**au·to·mat·a·ble** *adj.*

**au·to·mat·ed** *teller machine* (ô'ta-mā'tîd) *n.* An unattended computer terminal that provides banking services.

**au·to·mat·ic** (ô'ta-māt'îk) *adj.* 1a. Acting or operating in a manner essentially independent of external influence or control: *an automatic switch.* b. Self-regulating. 2a. Acting or done without volition or conscious control; involuntary. b. Acting or done as if by machine; mechanical: *an automatic reply to a question.* 3a. Capable of firing continuously until ammunition is exhausted or the trigger is released. b. Semiautomatic: *an automatic pistol.* ♦

*n.* 1. An automatic machine or a. A semiautomatic firearm. 3. With an automatic gear-shifting mechanism functioning by or as if by itself. [*<* Gk. *automatos*: *auto-*, *auto-* + *mat'* (see *MAT'* in App.)] —**au·to·mat·i·cal·ly** *adv.*

**automatic pilot** *n.* 1. A navigator that automatically maintains a flight in which one acts without deliberate thought, typically by spontaneous action.

**automatic writing** *n.* Writing thought, typically by spontaneous action.

**au·to·ma·tion** (ô'ta-mā'shən) or **control** of equipment, a process and equipment used to achieve a desired result. 3. The condition of being automatic. [*<* *AUTOMATIC*.]

**au·to·ma·tism** (ô-tô-mā-tîz'əm) being automatic. b. Automaticity. The theory that the body is a mechanism but not controlled by the involuntary functioning of a conscious control, such as the behavior of a body part. 4. Psychology. Aimless behavior characteristic of an automaton. [*<* Lat. *automaton*, automaton. See *AUTOMATON*.]

**au·tom·a·tize** (ô-tô-mā-tîz'ē) *tr.* make automatic. 2. To turn into automatic. —**au·tom·a·ti·za'tion** (-tî-zā'shən) *n.*

**au·tom·a·ton** (ô-tô-mā-tōn, -tē) self-operating machine or mechanism that behaves or responds in a mechanical manner. [*<* Gk. < neut. of *automa* < *auto-* + *mat'* (see *MAT'* in App.)] —**au·tom·a·tous** *adj.*

**au·to·mo·bile** (ô'ta-mô-bēl', -bēl'ē) *n.* A passenger vehicle that uses an internal combustion engine, used for land transportation. [*<* Fr. *mobile*, mobile (< OFr.; see *MO·BILE* in App.)] —**au·to·mo·bil·ist** *n.*

**au·to·mo·tive** (ô'ta-mô'tîv) *adj.* pertaining or self-propelled. 2. Relating to automaticity. —**au·to·nom·ic** (ô'tô-nôm'îk) *adj.* or *controlled* by the automatic nervous system. —**au·to·nom·i·cal·ly** *adv.*

**au·to·nomic nervous system** *n.* The nervous system that regulates involuntary functions, such as heart, and glands.

**au·ton·o·mous** (ô-tôn'ō-mōs) *adj.* or *by outside forces; independent judgment; self-directed.* 3a. Independent of government; self-governing. b. Self-governing: *an autonomous region.* [*<* Gk. *autonomos*: *auto-*, *auto-* + *nomos*, law. See *AUTONOMY* in App.] —**au·ton·o·mous·ly** *adv.*

**au·ton·o·my** (ô-tôn'ō-mē) *n.* 1. The quality of being autonomous. 2a. Self-government; self-determination. b. Respect to local or internal affairs. c. Independence, unity, or group. [Gk. *autonomia*, autonomy. See *AUTONOMY* in App.] —**au·ton·o·mist** *n.*

**au·to·nym** (ô'ta-nîm') *n.* A name group refers to itself. [AUTO- + -*nym* (see *NYM* in App.)] —**au·to·pen** (ô'tô-pēn') *n.* A mechanical imitation of a personal signature.

**au·toph·a·gy** (ô'tô-fā-jē) *n.* The cell through the action of its own enzymes. —**au·toph·ag·ous** (ô'tô-fā-jē's) *adj.*

**au·topi·lot** (ô'tô-pî'lōt) *n.* An autopilot. [*<* *topi*, without conscious control.]

**au·to·plas·ty** (ô'tô-plās'tē) *n.* Su of a body part using tissue taken from the body. —**au·to·plas·tic** *adj.* —**au·to·plastic** *n.*

**au·to·poly·ploid** (ô'tô-pôl'î-pîd) *n.* A cell with two sets of chromosomes all derived from autopolyploid organism. —**au·topoly·ploid *adj.***

**au·topsy** (ô'tôp'sî, ô'tôp-) *n., pl. -sies* To subject to an autopsy. [Gk. *auto-*, *auto-* + *opsis*, sight; see *OK·UPSY* in App.] —**au·top·sist** *n.*

**au·to·ra·di·o·gram** (ô'tô-rā-dē-gram) *n.*

**au·to·ra·di·o·graph** (ô'tô-rā-dē-gram) *n.* A photograph of a specimen containing a radioactive substance. —**au·to·ra·di·o·graph·ic** (-ôg'rā-fē) *adj.*

automatic pilot

avail

**n.** 1. An automatic machine or device. 2a. An automatic firearm. b. A semiautomatic firearm. 3. A transmission or a motor vehicle with an automatic gear-shifting mechanism. —*Idiom:* on automatic Functioning by or as if by automatic machine or device. [*< Gk. automatos: auto-, auto- + -matos, willing; see men-1 in App.*] —*au'to-mat'i-cal-ly* *adv.* —*au'to-mat'i-ci-ty* (-măt-si-tē) *n.*

**automatic pilot** *n.* 1. A navigation mechanism, as on an aircraft, that automatically maintains a preset course. 2. A state of mind in which one acts without deliberate effort or self-awareness.

**automatic writing** *n.* Writing performed without conscious thought, typically by spontaneous free association or as a spiritual medium.

**au'to-mat-ion** (ô'tô-măt-shən) *n.* 1. The automatic operation or control of equipment, a process, or a system. 2. The techniques and equipment used to achieve automatic operation or control. 3. The condition of being automatically controlled or operated. [*< AUTOMATIC.*]

**au'to-mat-ism** (ô-tôm'ă-tiz'əm) *n.* 1a. The state or quality of being automatic. b. Automatic mechanical action. 2. *Philosophy* The theory that the body is a machine whose functions are accompanied but not controlled by consciousness. 3. *Physiology a.* The involuntary functioning of a body structure that is not under conscious control, such as the beating of the heart. b. The reflexive action of a body part. 4. *Psychology* Mechanical, seemingly aimless behavior characteristic of various mental disorders. [*< Lat. automaton, automaton. See AUTOMATON.*] —*au'tom'ă-tist* *n.*

**au'to-mat-ize** (ô-tôm'ă-tiz'ē) *tr.v.* -tized, -tizing, -tizes 1. To make automatic. 2. To turn into an automaton. [*< AUTOMATIC.*] —*au'tom'ă-tiz'a-tion* (-tī-ză'shən) *n.*

**au'to-mat-on** (ô-tôm'ă-tən, -tôn') *n., pl. -tons or -ta* (-tə) 1. A self-operating machine or mechanism, esp. a robot. 2. One that behaves or responds in a mechanical way. [*Lat., self-operating machine < Gk. < neut. of automatos, self-acting. See AUTOMATIC.*] —*au'tom'ă-tous* *adj.*

**au'to-mo-bile** (ô'tô-mô-bēl', -mô'bēl') *n.* A self-propelled passenger vehicle that usu. has four wheels and an internal-combustion engine, used for land transport. [*Fr.: Gk. auto-, auto- + Fr. mobile, mobile < OFr.; see MOBILE.*] —*au'to-mo-bil-ly* *adv.* —*au'to-mo-bil-ist* *n.*

**au'to-mo-tive** (ô'tô-mô-tiv) *adj.* 1. Moving by itself; self-propelling or self-propelled. 2. Relating to self-propelled vehicles.

**au'to-nom-ic** (ô'tô-nôm'ik) *adj.* 1. *Physiology a.* Of, relating to, or controlled by the autonomic nervous system. b. Occurring involuntarily; automatic. 2. Resulting from internal stimuli; spontaneous. —*au'to-nom'ic-al-ly* *adv.*

**autonomic nervous system** *n.* The part of the vertebrate nervous system that regulates involuntary action, as of the intestines, heart, and glands.

**au'to-nom-ous** (ô-tôn'ô-məs) *adj.* 1. Not controlled by others or by outside forces; independent. 2. Independent in mind or judgment; self-directed. 3a. Independent of the laws of another state or government; self-governing. b. Of or relating to a self-governing entity. c. Self-governing with respect to local or internal affairs: *an autonomous region of a country.* 4. Autonomic. [*< Gk. autonomos: auto-, auto- + nomos, law; see nem- in App.*] —*au'ton'om-ous-ly* *adv.*

**au'ton-om-y** (ô-tôn'ô-mē) *n., pl. -mies* 1. The condition or quality of being autonomous. 2a. Self-government or the right of self-government; self-determination. b. Self-government with respect to local or internal affairs. 3. A self-governing state, community, or group. [*Gk. autonomia < autonomos, self-ruling. See AUTONOMOUS.*] —*au'ton'om-ist* *n.*

**au'to-nym** (ô'tô-nim') *n.* A name by which a people or social group refers to itself. [*AUT(O)- + -ONYM.*]

**au'to-pen** (ô'tô-pēn') *n.* A mechanical device used for writing imitations of a personal signature.

**au'to-ph-a-gy** (ô-tôf'ă-jē) *n.* The process of self-digestion of a cell through the action of its own enzymes.

**au'to-pi-lot** (ô'tô-pi'lot) *n.* Automatic pilot. —*Idiom:* on autopilot *Informal* Without conscious thought or effort.

**au'to-plas'ty** (ô'tô-plăs'tē) *n.* Surgical repair or reconstruction of a body part using tissue taken from another part of the body. —*au'to-plas'tic* *adj.* —*au'to-plas'ti-cal-ly* *adv.*

**au'to-pol-y-ploid** (ô'tô-pôl'ă-ploid') *adj.* Having more than two sets of chromosomes all derived from the same species. ♦ *n.* An autopolyploid organism. —*au'to-pol'y-ploi'dy* *n.*

**au'top-sy** (ô'tôp'sē, ô'tap-) *n., pl. -sies* 1. Examination of a cadaver to determine or confirm the cause of death. 2. A critical assessment or examination after the fact. ♦ *tr.v.* -sied, -sying, -sies To subject to an autopsy. [*Gk. autopsia, a seeing for oneself: auto-, auto- + opsia, sight; see ok- in App.*] —*au'top'sic*, *au'top'sic-al* *adj.* —*au'top'sist* *n.*

**au'to-ra-di-o-gram** (ô'tô-ră'dē-ô-grăm') *n.* See autoradiograph.

**au'to-ra-di-o-graph** (ô'tô-ră'dē-ô-grăf') *n.* An image recorded on a photographic film or plate produced by the radiation emitted from a specimen containing a radioactively labeled isotope. —*au'to-ra'di-o-graph'ic* *adj.* —*au'to-ra'di-og'ra-phy* (-ôg'ră-fē) *n.*

**au'to-route** (ô'tô-rôôt') *n.* An expressway in France and French-speaking countries. [*Fr.: auto, automobile; see AUTO + route, road (< OFr.; see ROUTE).*]

**au'to-some** (ô'tô-sôm') *n.* A chromosome that is not a sex chromosome. —*au'to-so'mal* (-sô'məl) *adj.* —*au'to-so'mal-ly* *adv.*

**au'to-strada** (ô'tô-stră'dă, ou'tô-) *n.* An expressway in Italy. [*Ital.: auto, automobile; see AUTO + strada, street (< LLat. strata, paved road; see STREET).*]

**au'to-sug-ges-tion** (ô'tô-săg-jēs'chən) *n.* *Psychology* The process by which a person induces self-acceptance of an opinion, belief, or plan of action. —*au'to-sug-gest'* *v.* —*au'to-sug-gest'i-bil'i-ty* (-ə-bil'i-tē) *n.* —*au'to-sug-gest'i-ble* *adj.* —*au'to-sug-ges-tive* (-tīv) *adj.*

**au'to-tom-y** (ô-tôt'ô-mē) *n.* The spontaneous casting off of a body part, such as the tail of certain lizards, esp. when the organism is injured or under attack. —*au'to-tom'ic* (ô'tô-tôm'ik), *au'to-tom-ous* *adj.* —*au'to-tom-ize'* *v.*

**au'to-tox-e-mi-a** also *au'to-tox-ae-mi-a* (ô'tô-tôk-sē'mē-ə) *n.* See autointoxication.

**au'to-tox-in** (ô'tô-tôk'sin) *n.* A poison that acts on the organism in which it is generated. —*au'to-tox'ic* *adj.*

**au'to-trans-form-er** (ô'tô-trăns-fôr'mər) *n.* An electrical transformer in which the primary and secondary coils have some or all windings in common.

**au'to-troph** (ô'tô-trôf', -trôf') *n.* An organism capable of synthesizing its own food from inorganic substances, using light or chemical energy. —*au'to-troph'ic* (-trôf'ik, -trôf'ik) *adj.* —*au'to-troph'i-cal-ly* *adv.* —*au'to-tro'phy* (ô-tôt'rô-fē) *n.*

**au'to-work-er** (ô'tô-wûr'kər) *n.* A worker in the automobile industry.

**autumn** (ô'təm) *n.* 1. The season of the year between summer and winter, lasting from the autumnal equinox to the winter solstice and from September to December in the Northern Hemisphere; fall. 2. A period of maturity verging on decline. ♦ *adj.* 1. Of, having to do with, occurring in, or appropriate to the season of autumn. 2. Grown during the season of autumn. [*ME autumpne < OFr. autumpne < Lat. autumnus.*] —*au'tum'nal* (ô-tüm'nəl) *adj.* —*au'tum'nal-ly* *adv.*

**autumnal equinox** *n.* 1. The point at which the ecliptic intersects the celestial equator, the sun having a southerly motion. 2. The moment at which the sun passes through the autumnal equinox, about September 23, marking the beginning of autumn in the Northern Hemisphere.

**autumn crocus** *n.* A corm-producing European and North African plant (*Colchicum autumnale*) with flowers in the fall.

**au-tun-ite** (ô-tün'it', ô'tă-nit) *n.* A yellowish fluorescent minor ore of uranium with the composition Ca(UO<sub>2</sub>)<sub>2</sub>(PO<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub>·10-12H<sub>2</sub>O. [*After Autun, a city of E-central France.*]

**Auvergne** (ô-vûrn', ô-vêrn') A historical region and former province of central France traversed by the Auvergne Mountains, a chain of extinct volcanoes.

**aux.** *abbr.* 1. auxiliary 2. auxiliary verb  
**aux-e-sis** (ôg-zē'sis, ôk-sē'-) *n.* Growth resulting from increase in cell size without cell division. [*Gk. auxesis, growth < auxainein, auxē-, to grow.*] —*aux-et'ic* (ôg-zēt'ik) *adj.* —*aux-et'i-cal-ly* *adv.*

**aux-ili-a-ry** (ôg-zil'ă-re, -zil'ă-re) *adj.* 1. Giving assistance or support; helping. 2. Acting as a subsidiary; supplementary: *the main library and its auxiliary branches.* 3. Held in or used as a reserve: *an auxiliary power generator.* 4. *Nautical* Equipped with a motor as well as sails. 5. *Grammar* Of, relating to, or being an auxiliary verb. ♦ *n., pl. -ries* 1. An individual or group that assists or functions in a supporting capacity. 2. A member of a foreign body of troops serving a country in war. 3. *Grammar* An auxiliary verb. 4. *Nautical a.* A sailing vessel equipped with a motor. b. A vessel that is designed for and used in instances and services other than combat. [*ME < Lat. auxiliarius < auxilium, help.*]

**auxiliary verb** *n.* A verb, such as *have, can, or will*, that accompanies the main verb in a clause and helps make distinctions in mood, voice, aspect, and tense.

**aux-in** (ôk'sin) *n.* Any of several plant hormones that regulate various functions, including cell elongation. [*< Gk. auxein, to grow.*] —*aux'in'ic* *adj.* —*aux'in'i-cal-ly* *adv.*

**aux-o-troph** (ôk'sô-trôf', -trôf') *n.* An auxotrophic organism. [*Back-formation < AUXOTROPHIC.*]

**aux-o-troph-ic** (ôk'sô-trôf'ik, -trôf'ik) *adj.* Requiring one or more specific substances for growth and metabolism that can no longer be synthesized because of mutational changes. [*Gk. auxein, to increase.*]

**aux. v. abbr.** auxiliary verb

**AV** (äv, ôv) also **Ab** (ăb, äv, ôv) *n.* The 11th month of the year in the Jewish calendar. See table at *calendar*. [*Mishnaic Heb. 'ab < Akkadian abu, a month name (July/August).*]

**AV** *abbr.* 1. audio-visual 2. Authorized Version  
**av. abbr.** 1. Av. avenue 2. average 3. avoirdupois  
**a.v. or a/v** *abbr.* ad valorem

**a-vail** (ə-vəl') *v.* **a-vailed, a-vail-ing, a-vails** —*tr.* To be of use or advantage to; help: *Nothing could avail the dying patient.* —*in-tr.* To be of use, value, or advantage; serve. ♦ *n.* Use, benefit, or advantage: *labored to no avail.* —*Idiom:* avail (oneself) of To

ă	pat	oi	boy
ā	pay	ou	out
â	care	ôo	took
ā	father	ôo	boot
ē	pet	û	cut
ē	be	ûr	urge
î	pit	th	thin
î	pie	th	this
îr	pier	hw	which
ô	pot	zh	vision
ô	toe	ə	about
ô	paw	ibem	item

**Stress marks:**  
' (primary);  
˘ (secondary), as in  
**lexicon** (lĕk'sĭ-kŏn')