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Kingdom
- 11 Prime Mir
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the outside world.
 -ISM])
 OF AUTOMOBILE]
 vowel] **1** self (*autism*).
 spontaneous (*auto-*
 from or after Gk *auto-*
autobahnen /-nən/) a
 motor car + *Bahn* path,
 a personal account of
 process or literary form.
 /-baɪə'græfɪk/ *adj.*
 dv.
 MOBILE + CAVALCADE]
1 (esp. of an Eastern
 bishop, church, etc.)
 head])
 s or **autochthones**
 own inhabitants of a
adj. **autochthonic**
 (as *AUTO-*, *khthōn*, -*onos*
 nous, native. **2 a** of
 deposit) formed in its
 for chemical reactions
 er using high-pressure
 ce government by one
3 an autocratic country
2 a dictatorial person.
ly *adv.* [F *autocrate* f. Gk
 country or on unmade
 seen by the audience,
 performer as an aid to
 /-təʊz-/ **1** a sentence
 the execution of such a
 = act of the faith]
 person. □ **autodidactic**
 ic]
 also **auto-eroticism**
 enerated by stimulating
 /-r'ɒtɪk/ *adj.*
 focusing a camera etc.
 tilization in plants.
 os marriage]
 ced. □ **autogenous**
 ing the edges together,
 (pl. -*os*) a form of aircraft
 propeller. The autogyro
 ings are not powered but
 pelled by a conventional
 ted and named by the
 ine flew in 1923. [Sp. (as
 tissue from one point to
 signature, esp. that of a
 ot in an author's own
 author. ● *vt.* **1** sign (a
 a letter etc.) by hand. [F
 on neut. of *autographos* (as
 with one's own hand. **2** the

facsimile reproduction of writing or illustration. □ **autographic**
 /-tə'græfɪk/ *adj.*
autogyro var. of *AUTOGIRO*.
autoharp /'ɔ:tə,hɑ:p/ *n.* a kind of zither with a mechanical device to
 allow the playing of chords.
autoimmune /-təʊ'ɪmjʊ:n/ *adj. Med.* (of a disease) caused by
 antibodies or immune lymphocytes produced against substances
 naturally present in the body. □ **autoimmunity** *n.*
autointoxication /-təʊɪntɒksɪ'keɪʃ(ə)n/ *n. Med.* poisoning by a toxin
 formed within the body itself.
autolysis /-təʊ'ləɪsɪs/ *n.* the destruction of cells by their own enzymes.
 □ **autolytic** /-təʊ'ləɪtɪk/ *adj.* [G *Autolyse* (as *AUTO-*, *-LYSIS*)]
automat /'ɔ:tə,mæt/ *n. US* **1** a slot-machine that dispenses goods. **2**
 a cafeteria containing slot-machines dispensing food and drink. [G f. F
automate, formed as *AUTOMATON*]
automate /'ɔ:tə'meɪt/ *vt.* convert to or operate by automation (*the*
ticket office has been automated). [back-form. f. *AUTOMATION*]
automatic /-tə'mætɪk/ *adj. & n.* ● *adj.* **1** (of a machine, device, etc., or
 its function) working by itself, without direct human intervention.
2 a done spontaneously, without conscious thought or intention (*an*
automatic reaction). **b** necessary and inevitable (*an automatic penalty*).
3 Psychol. performed unconsciously or subconsciously. **4** (of a firearm)
 that continues firing until the ammunition is exhausted or the
 pressure on the trigger is released. **5** (of a motor vehicle or its
 transmission) using gears that change automatically according to
 speed and acceleration. ● *n.* **1** an automatic device, esp. a gun or
 transmission. **2 colloq.** a vehicle with automatic transmission.
 □ **automatic pilot** a device for keeping an aircraft on a set course.
 □ **automatically** *adv.* **automaticity** /-tə'təmə'tɪsɪti/ *n.* [formed as
AUTOMATON + *-IC*]
automation /-tə'təmeɪʃ(ə)n/ *n.* **1** the use of automatic equipment
 to save mental and manual labour. **2** the automatic control of the
 manufacture of a product through its successive stages. [irreg. f.
AUTOMATIC + *-ATION*]
automatism /-tə'təmə'tɪz(ə)m/ *n.* **1 Psychol.** the performance of actions
 unconsciously or subconsciously; such action. **2** involuntary action.
3 unthinking routine. [F *automatisme* f. *automate* *AUTOMATON*]
automatize /-tə'təmə'taɪz/ *vt.* (also **-ise**) **1** make (a process etc.)
 automatic. **2** subject (a business, enterprise, etc.) to automation,
 automate. □ **automatization** /-tə'təmə'taɪ'zeɪʃ(ə)n/ *n.* [*AUTOMATIC* +
-IZE]
automaton /-tə'təmət(ə)n/ *n.* (pl. **automata** /-tə/ or **automatons**) **1** a
 mechanism with concealed motive power. **2** a person who behaves
 mechanically, like an automaton. [L f. Gk, neut. of *automatos* acting of
 itself: see *AUTO-*]
automobile /'ɔ:təmə'bi:l/ *n.* *US* a motor car. [F (as *AUTO-*, *MOBILE*)]
automotive /-tə'təmətɪv/ *adj.* concerned with motor vehicles.
autonomic /-tə'tə'nɒmɪk/ *adj.* esp. *Physiol.* functioning involuntarily.
 □ **autonomic nervous system** see *NERVOUS SYSTEM*. [*AUTONOMY* +
-IC]
autonomous /-tə'tɒnəməs/ *adj.* **1** having self-government. **2** acting
 independently or having the freedom to do so. □ **autonomously** *adv.*
 [Gk *autonomos* (as *AUTONOMY*)]
autonomy /-tə'tɒnəmi/ *n.* (pl. **-ies**) **1** the right of self-government.
2 personal freedom. **3** freedom of the will. **4** a self-governing
 community. □ **autonomist** *n.* [Gk *autonomia* f. *autos* self + *nomos* law]
autopilot /'ɔ:təʊ,pɑɪlət/ *n.* an automatic pilot. [abbr.]
autopista /'ɔ:təʊ,pɪstə/ *n.* a Spanish motorway. [Sp. (as *AUTOMOBILE*,
pista track)]
autopsy /'ɔ:təʊpsɪ, ɔ:'təʊpsɪ/ *n.* (pl. **-ies**) **1** a post-mortem examination.
2 any critical analysis. **3** a personal inspection. [F *autopsie* or mod.L
autopsia f. Gk f. *autoptēs* eye-witness]
autoradiograph /-tə'reɪdɪə'grɑ:f/ *n.* a photograph of an object,
 produced by radiation from radioactive material in the object.
 □ **autoradiographic** /-reɪdɪə'græfɪk/ *adj.* **autoradiography**
 /-reɪdɪ'ɒgræfi/ *n.*
autoroute /'ɔ:təʊ,rʊ:t/ *n.* a French motorway. [F (as *AUTOMOBILE*,
route)]
autostrada /'ɔ:təʊ,streɪdə/ *n.* (pl. **autostradas** or **autostrade**
 /-dɪ/) an Italian motorway. [It. (as *AUTOMOBILE*, *strada* road)]
auto-suggestion /-təʊsə'dʒestʃən/ *n.* suggestion to oneself; the
 hypnotic or subconscious adoption of an idea originating within
 oneself.

autotelic /-tə'telɪk/ *adj.* having or being a purpose in itself. [*AUTO-* +
 Gk *telos* end]
autotomy /-tə'tɒtəmi/ *n. Zool.* the casting off of a part of the body when
 threatened, e.g. the tail of a lizard.
autotoxin /-tə'təʊksɪn/ *n.* a poisonous substance originating within
 an organism. □ **autotoxic** *adj.*
autotrophic /-tə'trəʊfɪk, -'trɒfɪk/ *adj. Biol.* able to form complex
 nutritional organic substances from simple inorganic substances such
 as carbon dioxide (cf. *HETEROTROPHIC*). [*AUTO-* + Gk *trophos* feeder]
autotype /'ɔ:tə'taɪp/ *n.* **1** a facsimile. **2 a** a photographic printing
 process for monochrome reproduction. **b** a print made by this process.
autoxidation /-təʊksɪ'deɪʃ(ə)n/ *n. Chem.* oxidation which occurs
 spontaneously at ambient temperatures in the presence of oxygen.
autumn /'ɔ:təm/ *n.* **1** the third season of the year, when crops and
 fruits are gathered and leaves fall, in the northern hemisphere from
 September to November and in the southern hemisphere from March
 to May. **2 Astron.** the period from the autumnal equinox to the winter
 solstice. **3** a time of maturity or incipient decay. □ **autumn crocus**
 the meadow saffron. [ME f. OF *autompne* f. L *autumnus*]
autumnal /-tə'tʌm(ə)n(ə)n/ *adj.* **1** of, characteristic of, or appropriate to
 autumn (*autumnal colours*). **2** occurring in autumn (*autumnal equinox*).
3 maturing or blooming in autumn. **4** past the prime of life. [L
autumnalis (as *AUTUMN*, -*AL*)]
Auvergne /əʊ'veɪn/ a region of south central France. It was a province
 of the Roman Empire, and takes its name from the Arverni, a Celtic
 tribe who lived there in Roman times. The region is mountainous and
 contains the extinct volcanic cones known as the Puy.
auxanometer /-tə'ksə'nɒmɪtə(r)/ *n.* an instrument for measuring the
 linear growth of plants. [Gk *auxanō* increase + *-METER*]
auxiliary /-tə'zɪljəri/ *adj. & n.* ● *adj.* **1** (of a person or thing) that gives
 help. **2** (of services or equipment) subsidiary, additional. ● *n.* (pl. **-ies**)
1 an auxiliary person or thing. **2** (in pl.) *Mil.* auxiliary troops. **3 Gram.**
 an auxiliary verb. □ **auxiliary troops** *Mil.* foreign or allied troops in a
 belligerent nation's service. **auxiliary verb** *Gram.* one used in forming
 tenses, moods, and voices of other verbs. [L *auxiliarius* f. *auxilium* help]
auxin /'ɔ:ksɪn/ *n.* any of a group of plant hormones that regulate
 growth. [G f. Gk *auxō* increase + *-IN*]
AV *abbr.* **1** audiovisual (teaching aids etc.). **2** Authorized Version (of the
 Bible).
Av var. of *Ab*¹.
avadavat /-ævədə'veɪt/ *n.* (also **amadavat** /-æmə-/) a small brightly
 coloured southern Asian waxbill of the genus *Amandava*, esp. the red
A. amandava. [AHMADABAD (where such birds were sold)]
avail /ə'veɪl/ *v. & n.* ● *v.* **1 tr** help, benefit. **2 refl.** (foll. by *of*) profit by; take
 advantage of. **3 intr.** **a** provide help. **b** be of use, value, or profit. ● *n.*
 (usu. in *neg.* or *interrog.* phrases) use, profit (*to no avail*; *without avail*; *of*
what avail?). [ME f. obs. *vail* (v.) f. OF *valoir* be worth f. L *valere*]
available /ə'veɪləb(ə)l/ *adj.* (often foll. by *to, for*) **1** capable of being used;
 at one's disposal. **2** within one's reach. **3** (of a person) **a** free. **b** able to
 be contacted. □ **availably** *adv.* **availableness** *n.* **availability**
 /-ə'veɪlə'bɪləti/ *n.* [ME f. *AVAIL* + *-ABLE*]
avalanche /'ævə'lɑ:nʃ/ *n. & v.* ● *n.* **1** a mass of snow and ice, tumbling
 rapidly down a mountain. **2** a sudden appearance or arrival of
 anything in large quantities (*faced with an avalanche of work*). ● *v.* **1 intr.**
 descend like an avalanche. **2 tr.** carry down like an avalanche. [F, alt.
 of dial. *lavanche* after *avaler* descend]
Avalon /'ævə,lɒn/ **1** (in Arthurian legend) the place to which Arthur
 was conveyed after death. **2 Welsh Mythol.** the kingdom of the dead.
avant-garde /-ævəŋ'gɑ:d/ *n. & adj.* ● *n.* pioneers or innovators esp. in
 art and literature. ● *adj.* (of art, ideas, etc.) new, progressive. □ **avant-**
gardism *n.* **avant-gardist** *n.* [F, = vanguard]
Avar /'ævɑ:(r)/ *n. & adj.* ● *n.* **1** a member of a people prominent in SE
 Europe in the 6th–9th centuries, having a kingdom that at one time
 extended from the Black Sea to the Adriatic. They were conquered by
 Charlemagne (791–9). **2** the Turkic language of these people. ● *adj.* of,
 relating to, or denoting the Avars. [Avar]
avarice /'ævərɪs/ *n.* extreme greed for money or gain; cupidity.
 □ **avaricious** /-ævə'rɪʃəs/ *adj.* **avariciously** *adv.* **avariciousness** *n.*
 [ME f. OF f. L *avaritia* f. *avarus* greedy]
avast /ə'vɑ:st/ *int. Naut.* stop, cease. [Du. *houd vast* hold fast]
avatar /'ævə,tɑ:(r)/ *n.* **1 Hinduisim** the descent of a deity or released soul
 to earth in bodily form. **2** incarnation; manifestation. **3 a**