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SECOND EDITION

RANDOM HOUSE REFERENCE

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prive or strip of apparatus, furniture, equipment, defense, etc.: to dismantle a ship; to dismantle a fortress. 2. to dissesemble or pull down; take apart: They dismantled the machine and shipped it in pieces. 3. to divest of test, covering, etc.: The wind dismantled the trees of their leaves. [1570-80; < MF desmanteler. See DIS-', their leaves. [1570-80; < MF desmantler. See DIS-', their leaves. (dis mant). The dismantler is the seed of the seed

dis-mast (dis mast/, -mäst/), v.t. to deprive (a ship) of masts; break off the masts of. [1740–50; DIS-1 + MAST]

masts; break off the masts of. [1/40-DU; DIS-1 + MAST1]

dis-mast/ment, n.

dis-mast/ment

archaized sp. of DIME]

dis-mem-ber (dis mem/ber), v.t. 1. to deprive of imbs; divide limb from limb: The ogre dismembered his victims before he ate them. 2. to divide into parts; cut to pieces; mutilate. 3. to reduce, reorganize, or discontinue the services or parts of (a company, government agency, etc.): Our business was dismembered by the conglomerate that bought it. [1250-1300; ME dismemberen < AF, OF desmembere, equiv. to des- DIS-1 + -membere, v. deriv. of membre. MEMBER] —dis-mem/ber-er, n. —dis-mem/ber-memt, n.

mem/ber-ment, n, dis-miss (dis miss'), v.t. 1. to direct (an assembly of persons) to disperse or go: I dismissed the class early. 2. to bid or allow (a person) to go; give permission or a request to depart. 3. to discharge or remove, as from office or service: to dismiss an employee. 4. to discard or reject: to dismiss a suitor. 5. to put off or away, esp. from consideration; put aside; reject: She dismissed the story as mere rumor. 6. to have done with (a subject) after summary treatment: After a perfunctory discussion, he dismissed the idea. 7. Law. to put out of court, as a complaint or appeal. [1400-50; late ME < MI. dismissus (for L dimissus, ptp. of dimittere to send away), equiv. to L dismissus, btp. of dimittere to send + -tus ptp. suffix]—dis-miss'|bbe, adj.

—Syn. 2. See release. 3. fire. —Ant. 2. recall. 3.

—Syn. 2. See release. 3. fire. —Ant. 2. recall. 3. hire. 4. accept.

dismiss-al (dis mis/al), n. 1. an act or instance of dismissing. 2. the state of being dismissed. 3. a spoken or written order of discharge from employment, service, enrollment, etc. Also, dis-mis-sion (dis mish/an). [1800-10; DISMISS + -AL²]

dis-mis-sive (dis mis/iv), adj. 1. indicating dismissal or rejection; having the purpose or effect of dismissing, as from one's presence or from consideration: a curt, dismissive gesture. 2. indicating lack of interest or approbation; scornful; disdainful. [1635-45; DISMISS + -IVE]—dis-mis/sive-ly, adv.

dis-mount (w. dis mount', n. dis mount', dis'mount'),
u. 1. to get off or alight from a horse, bicycle, etc.
-u.t. 2. to bring or throw down, as from a horse; unhorse; throw: The horse twisted and bucked and finally
dismounted its rider. 3. to remove (a thing) from its
mounting, support, setting, etc.: to dismount a picture.
4. to take (a mechanism) to pieces. -n. 5. an act or
process of dismounting. 6. Gymnastics. a move by
which a gymnast gets off an apparatus or finishes a floor
exercise, usually landing upright on the feet. [1525-35;
prob. modeled on ML dismontare or MF desmonter. See
18-1, Mount'] —dis-mount'a-ble, adj.

dis-na-ture (dis na'cher). v.t. -tured. -tur-ing. to de-

disna-ture (dis nā/cher), v.t., -tured, -tur-ing. to deprive (something) of its proper nature or appearance; make unnatural. [1400-50; late ME < AF, MF desnature, equiv. to des- DIS-1 + -naturer, v. deriv. of nature Nature. ure NATURE

Dis-ney (diz'nē), n. Walt(er E.), 1901-66, U.S. creator and producer of animated cartoons, motion pictures, etc. bis-ney-land (diz/ne land/), 1. Trademark a large amusement park in Anaheim, Calif: prototypical theme park. —n. 2. any large, bustling place noted for its coloriul attractions: The new shopping center has become an after-hours Disneyland. 3. a land or place of makebelieve; fantasyland.

diso-be-di-ence (dis's be'de ens), n. lack of obedi-ence or refusal to comply; disregard or transgression. [1350-1400; ME < OF desobedience, equiv. to des- DIS-1 + obedience OBEDIENCE]

+ obedience obedience]

dis-obe-di-ent (dis/a bē/dē ant), adj. neglecting or refusing to obey; not submitting; refractory. [1400-50; late ME < OF desobedient, equiv. to des- DIS-1 + obediant, obedient-obedient, equiv. to des- DIS-1 + obediant. obedient-obedient, entrangle of the obedient obedient. —Ant. obedient.

dis-obey (dis/a bā/), v.t., v.i. to neglect or refuse to obey, [1350-1400; ME disobeien < OF desobeir, equiv. to des- DIS-1 + obeir to obey] —dis/o-bey/er, n.

Syn. defy, disregard, resist, ignore, oppose.

dis-o-blige (dis/a bli/), v.t., -bliged, -blig-ing. 1. to

dis-o-blige (dis/a blij/), v.t., -bliged, -blig-ing. 1. to refuse or newlect to oblige: act contrary to the desire or

di-so'di-um phos'phate (dī sō'dē əm), Chem. See sodium phosphate (def. 2). [DI-1 + SODIUM]

di-so-pyr-a-mide (di-sō pir'ə mid'), n. Pharm. a substance, C₂₁H₂₀N₃O, used in its phosphate form in the symptomatic and prophylactic treatment of certain cardiac arrhythmias. [contr. of the chemical name]

symptomatic and prophylactic treatment of certain cardiac arrhythmias. (contr. of the chemical name)

dis-or-der (dis ôr/dər), n. 1. lack of order or regular arrangement; confusion: Your room is in utter disorder.

2. an irregularity: a disorder in legal proceedings. 3. breach of order; disorderly conduct; public disturbance.

4. a disturbance in physical or mental health or functions; malady or dysfunction: a mild stomach disorder.—u.t. 5. to destroy the order or regular arrangement of; disarrange. 6. to derange the physical or mental health or functions of. [1470-80; DIS-¹ + ORDER]

—Syn. 1. disorderliness, disarray, jumble, litter, clutter. 3. riot, turbulence. Disorder, ranker, disarrange are disruptions or interruptions of a peaceful situation. Disorder refers to civil unrest or to any scene in which there is confusion or fighting: The police went to the scene of the disorder. A brawn is a noisy, unseemly quarrel, usually in a public place: a tavern brawl. A disturbance is disorder of a size as to inconvenience people: to cause a disturbance. An uproar is a tumult, a bustle and clamor of many voices, often because of a disturbance: a mighty uproar.

4. ailment, malady, illness, complaint, sickness, indisposition. 5. disarray, mess up, disorganize. 6. disturb, upset, confuse.

disordered (dis ôr/derd, adj. 1. lacking organization or in confusion discorders.

disorganize. 6. disturb, upset, contuse.

dis-or-dered (dis ôr/dord), adj.

1. lacking organization or in confusion; disarranged.

2. suffering from or afflicted with a physical or mental disorder: a disordered liver. [1540-50; pisconper + -ep²] —dis-or/dered-ly, adv. —dis-or/dered-ness, n.

— Syn. 1. confused, disarrayed, haphazard.

dis-or-der-ly (dis ôr-der le), adj. 1. characterized by disorder; irregular; untidy; confused: a disorderly desk. 2. unruly; turbulent; tumultuous: a disorderly mob. 3. Law. contrary to public order or morality. —adv. 4. in a disorderly manner. [1555-65; DIS-1 + ORDERLY] —disorderly manner. or/der-li-ness, n.

disor/derly con/duct, Law. any of various petty misdemeanors, generally including nuisances, breaches of the peace, offensive or immoral conduct in public, etc. [1885–90]

disor/derly house/, 1. a house of prostitution; brothel. 2. a gambling place. [1800–10]

disor/derly per/son, Law. a person guilty of disorderly conduct. [1735–45]

dis-organ-i-za-tion (dis ôr'go no zà/shon), n. 1. a breaking up of order or system; disunion or disruption of constituent parts. 2. the absence of organization or orderly arrangement; disarrangement; disorder. [1785-95; < F désorganisation, equiv. to désorganis(er) to DISORGANIZE + -ation -ATION]

dis-organ-ize (dis ôr'ge niz'), v.t., -ized, -iz-ing, to destroy the organization, systematic arrangement, or orderly connection of, throw into confusion or disorder. Also, esp. Brit., dis-or'gan-ise'. [1785-95; < F désorganiser, equiv. to dés- DIS-1 + organiser to ORGANIZE] —dis-or'gan-iz'er, n.

dis-or-gan-ized (dis ôr/gə nizd'), adj. 1. functioning without adequate order, systemization, or planning; uncoordinated: a woefully disorganized enterprise. 2. careless or undisciplined; sloppy: too disorganized a person to be an agreeable roommate. [1805-15; DISORGANIZE +

-Syn. muddled, confused, disorderly, unsystematic. dis-orient (dis ôr/ē ent/, -ōr/-), v.t. 1. to cause to lose one's way: The strange streets disoriented him. 2. to confuse by removing or obscuring something that has guided a person, group, or culture, as customs, moral standards, etc.: Society has been disoriented by changing values. 3. Psychiatry. to cause to lose perception of time, place, or one's personal identity. [1645-55; < F désorienter, equiv. to dés- DIS-¹ + orienter to ORIENT]

dis-o-ri-en-tate (dis ôr/ë en tāt/, -ōr/-), v.t., -tat-ed, -tat-ing. to disorient. [1695-1705; DIS-1 + ORIENTATE] —dis-o-ri-en-ta/tion, n.

dis-o-ri-ent-ed (dis ôr/ē en/tid, -ōr/-), adj. confused as to time or place; out of touch: therapy for disoriented patients. [DISORIENT + -ED²]
—Syn. distracted, mixed up, unstable, unhinged.

dis-own (dis on'), v.t. to refuse to acknowledge as belonging or pertaining to oneself; deny the ownership of or responsibility for; repudiate; renounce: to disown one's heirs; to disown a published statement. [1610-20; pis-1 + own] —dis-own/ment, n. — Gyn. disclaim, disavow, reject, abjure.

dis-par-age (di spar'ij), v.t., -aged, -ag-ing. 1. to speak of or treat slightingly; depreciate; belittle: Do not disparage good manners. 2. to bring reproach or discredit upon; lower the estimation of: Your behavior will disparage the whole family. [1250-1300; ME < AF, OF desparag(i)er to match unequally, equiv. to des-DIS-1+paragiver vo fparage equality, equiv. to par(er) to equalize (< L parāre; see PEER¹) + -age -AGE] —dis-DAPJarger v par/ag-er. n

—Syn. 1. ridicule, discredit, mock, demean, denounce, derogate.

dis-par-age-ment (di spar'ij ment), n. 1. the act of disparaging. 2. something that derogates or casts in a bad light, as a remark or censorious essay. [1480-90; < AF, MF desparagement, equiv. to desparag(ier) to DISPARAGE + -ment -MENT]

dis-par-ag-ing (di spar'i jing), adj. that disparages; tending to belittle or bring reproach upon: disparaging remarks. [1635-45; DISPARAGE + -ING²] —dis-par'ag-ing-ly. adv.

dis-par-i-ty (di spar/i té), n., pl. -ties. lack of similar-ity or equality; inequality; difference: a disparity in age; disparity in rank. [1545-55; < MF desparite < LL dis-paritàs; see DIS-', PARITY'] —Syn. See difference.

dis-part (dis part/), v.t., v.i. to divide into parts; separate; sunder. [1580-90; appar. < It dispartire < L dispartire to part, separate, divide, equiv. to dis- nis-1 + partire to share out, deriv. of part- PART] —dis-part/-ment, n.

dis-pas-sion (dis pash/ən), n. the state or quality of being unemotional or emotionally uninvolved. [1685–95; DIS-¹ + PASSION]

dis-pas-sion-ate (dis pash/ə nit), adj. free from or unaffected by passion; devoid of personal feeling or bias; impartial; calm: a dispassionate critic. [1585-95; nis-¹ + passionAte] —dis-pas/sion-ate-ly, adv. —dis-pas/sion-ate-ness, n. —Syn. cool, unemotional, uninvolved; fair, just.

sion-ate-ness, n.
—Syn. cool, unemotional, uninvolved; fair, just.

dis-patch (di spach/), v.l. 1. to send off or away with speed, as a messenger, telegram, body of troops, etc. 2. to dismiss (a person), as after an audience. 3. to put to death; kill: The spy was promptly dispatched. 4. to transact or dispose of (a matter) promptly or speedily.—v.i. 5. Archaic. to hasten; be quick. —n. 6. the sending off of a messenger, letter, etc., to a destination. 7. the act of putting to death; killing; execution. 8. prompt or speedy transaction, as of business. 9. expeditious performance; promptness or speed; Proceed with all possible dispatch. 10. Com. a. a method of effecting a speedy delivery of goods, money, etc. b. a conveyance or organization for the expeditious transmission of goods, money, etc. 11. a written message sent with speed. 12. an official communication sent by special messenger. 13. Journalism. a news story transmitted to a newspaper, wire service, or the like, by one of its reporters, or by a wire service to a newspaper or other news agency. 14. mentioned in dispatches, Brit. honored by being named in official military reports for special bravery or acts of service. Also, despatch. [1510-20; < It dispacciar to hasten, speed, or < Sp despachar both ult. < Of despeechier to unshackle, equiv. to des- nis-1 + -peechier < LL -pedicare to shackle; see IMPEACH]
—Syn. 9. rapidity, haste, alacrity, celerity.

dispatch/ boat/, Naut. a small, fast boat used for delivering dispatches. [1785.-95]

dispatch' boat', Naut. a small, fast boat used for delivering dispatches. [1785-95]

dispatch/ case/. See attaché case. [1915-20]

dis-patch-er (di spach/er), n. 1. a person who dispatches. 2. a person who oversees the departure of trains, airplanes, buses, etc., as for a transportation company or railroad. 3. dispatchers, Slang. a fraudulently made pair of dice; loaded dice. [1540-50; DISPATCH + FP1]

Dis Pa-ter (dis pä/tər), Class. Myth. Dis.

dis-pau-per (dis pô'per), v.t. Law. to divest of the status of a person having the privileges of a pauper, as of public support or of legal rights as a pauper. [1625-35; DIS-¹ + PAUFER]

dis-pel (di spel'), v.t., -pelled, -pel-ling. 1. to drive off in various directions; disperse; dissipate: to dispel the dense fog. 2. to cause to vanish; alleviate: to dispel her fears. [1625-35; < L dispellere to drive asunder, equiv. to dis- Dis-' + pellere to drive] —dis-pel'la-ble, adj.—dis-pel'ler, n.

-Syn. 1, 2. See scatter. -Ant. 1. gather.

dis-pend (di spend'), v.t. Obs. to pay out; expend; spend. [1250-1300; ME dispenden < AF, OF despendre < L dispendere to weigh out; see dispense]

CL dispendere to weigh out; see DISPENSE]
dis-pen-sa-ble (di spen/sa bel), adj. 1. capable of being dispensed with or done without; not necessary or essential. 2. capable of being dispensed or administered: The money is not dispensable at present. 3. Rom. Cath. Ch. capable of being permitted or forgiven, as an offense or sin. [1526-35; < ML dispensabilis, equiv. to L dispens(āre) to distribute by weight (see DISPENSE) + -ābilis -ABLE] — dis-pen/sa-bil/i-ty, dis-pen/sa-ble-ness, n. — Syn. 1. expendable, unnecessary; unessential, unimportant, extraneous.</p>

— Syn. 1. expendable, unnecessary; unessential, unimportant, extraneous.

dis-pen-sa-ry (di spen/sə re), n., pl. -ries. 1. a place where something is dispensed, esp. medicines. 2. a charitable or public facility where medicines are furnished and free or inexpensive medical advice is available. [1690-1700; < ML dispënsäria storeroom, equiv. to L dispëns(áre) to dispensiria storeroom, equiv. to L dispëns(áre) to dispensing; distribution. 2. something that is distributed or given out. 3. a certain order, system, or arrangement; administration or management. 4. Theol. a. the divine ordering of the affairs of the world. b. an appointment, arrangement, or favor, as by God. c. a divinely appointed order or age: the old Mosaic, or Jewish, dispensation; the new gospel, or Christian, dispensation of law in a particular case granted by a competent superior or the superior or the superior or the laws that the superior has the power to make and enforce: a dispensation regarding the Lenten fast. b. an official document authorizing such a relaxation of law. [1325-75; ME dispensacioun < ML dispensation. (s. of dispensario) a pardon, relaxation, LL: order, system, divine grace, L: distribution, equiv. to dispensat(us) (ptp. of dispensare to dispensare). Syn. 1. dispersion, meting out, apportioning, dis-

— Syn. 1. dispersion, meting out, apportioning, dissemination, bestowal.

dis-pen-sa-tion-al-ism (dis/pən sa/shə nl iz/əm,