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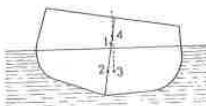
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730 Messrs. • metaphrase

Messrs. Vme-sər^z pl of MR (Jones, Brown, and Robinson)
 mes-sageⁿ [Fr. *méssage*] n [ME, fr. AF, prob. alter. of OF *mesnage*—more at MÉNAGE] (14c) : PREMISE 3b
messy *vme-si* adj mess-i-er; -est (1843) 1 : marked by confusion, disorder, or dirt : UNTIDY (a ~ room) 2 : lacking neatness or precision : CARELESS, SLOVENLY (thinking ~) 3 : extremely unpleasant or trying (as lawsuits) — **mess-i-ly** *Vme-sa-lek* adv — **mess-i-ness** *Vme-sa-nis* n
mesti-za *Vme-sté-za* n [Sp. fem. of *mestizo*] (ca. 1582) : a woman who is a mestizo
mesti-zi-o *Vm̄-zōl*, n, pl -zos [Sp, fr. *mestizo*, adj., mixed, fr. LL *mictus*, fr. L *mixtus*, pp. of *miscere* to mix — more at MIX] (1582) : a person of mixed blood; specif.: a person of mixed European and American Indian ancestry
mestro-na *Vmes-trá-nól*, -nóly n [meth- + estrogen + pregnane (C_21H_{30}) + -ol] (1962) : a synthetic estrogen $C_{21}H_{26}O_2$ used in oral contraceptives
met past and **past part** of **MEET**
meta- or **met-** prefix [NL & ML, fr. L or Gk; L, fr. Gk, among, with, after, fr. *meta* among, with; after; akin to OE *mid*, mith with, OHG *mit*] 1 a : occurring later than or in succession to : after *{metastasis}* b : situated behind or beyond *{metencephalon}* *{metacarpus}* c : later or more highly organized or specialized form of *(metaxylem)* 2 : change : transformation 3 *{metaphysics}* : more comprehensive : transcending *{metapsychology}* — used with the name of a discipline to designate a new but related discipline designed to deal critically with the original one *{metamathematics}* 4 a : involving substitution and/or characterized by two positions in the benzene ring that are separated by one carbon atom (*meta-xylene*) b : derived from by loss of water (*metaphosphoric acid*)
meta-bo-lic *Vme-bo-lík*, -bi-lik adj (1845) : of, relating to, or based on metabolism — **meta-bo-lic-al-ly** *Vme-bo-lík-ál-é* adv
meta-bo-lysm *Vme-bo-lízəm* n [NL, fr. Gk *metabolē* change, fr. *metaboltein* to change, fr. *meta*- + *ballein* to throw — more at DEVIL] (1872) 1 a : the sum of the processes in the buildup and destruction of protoplasm; specif.: the chemical changes in living cells by which energy is provided for vital processes and activities and new material is assimilated b : the sum of the processes by which a particular substance is handled in the living body c : the sum of the metabolic activities taking place in a particular environment (the ~ of a lake) ; METAMORPHOSIS 2 —usu. used in combination *{holometabolism}*
meta-bo-oli-te *Vme-bo-lítē* n (1884) 1 : a product of metabolism 2 : a substance essential to the metabolism of a particular organism or to a particular metabolic process
meta-bo-oli-zm *Vme-bo-lízəm* vb -lized; -liz-ing v (1887) : to subject to metabolism — **meta-bo-oli-zed** *Vme-bo-lízəd* vb -lized; -liz-ing v (1887) : to subject to metabolism — **meta-bo-oli-zable** *Vme-bo-lízəbl* vb -lizable
-li-za-bil adj
meta-car-pal *Vme-to-kár-pál* adj (1739) : of, relating to, or being the metacarpus or a metacarpal
meta-car-pal n (1834) : a bone of the part of the hand or forefoot between the carpus and the phalanges that typically contains five more less elongated bones when all the digits are present
meta-car-pus *Vme-to-kár-pús* n [NL] (1676) : the part of the hand or forefoot that contains the metacarpals
meta-cen-ter *Vme-ta-sen-tər* n [Fr *metacentre*, fr. *meta*- meta- + *centre*] (1794) : the point of intersection of the vertical through the center of buoyancy of a floating body with the vertical through the new center of buoyancy when the body is displaced
meta-cen-tric *Vme-to-sen-trik* adj (1798) 1 : of or relating to a meta-center 2 : having the centromerally situated so that the two chromosomal arms are of roughly equal length — **metacentric** n
meta-cer-car-ia *Vme-to-kár-kár-é* n, -kar-ə, -kar-ər [NL] (1834) : a tailless encysted late larva of a digenetic trematode that is usu. the form which is infective for the definitive host — **meta-cer-car-i-al** *Vme-to-kár-é-al* adj
meta-chro-mat-ic *Vkro-má-nik* adj (1876) 1 : staining or characterized by staining in a different color or shade from what is typical granules in a bacterium) 2 : having the capacity to stain different elements of a cell or tissue in different colors or shades (~ stains)
meta-eth-ics *V-e-thiks* n pl but usu sing in constr (1949) : the meanings of ethical terms, the nature of ethical judgments, and types of ethical arguments — **meta-eth-i-cal** *V-e-thi-kál* adj
meta-fic-tion *Vfik-shən* n (1978) : fiction which refers to or takes its subject fictional writing and its conventions — **meta-fic-tion** n
-shn, -shn² n 1 **meta-fic-tion-ist** *Vfik-shn-ist* n
meta-gal-axy *Vgá-lák-si* n [NL] (1930) the entire system of galaxies : **UNIVERSE** — **meta-gal-ac-tic** *Vgá-lák-tik* adj
meta-gene-sis *Vje-né-sis* n [NL] (ca. 1864) : alternation of generations in animals; esp: regular alternation of a sexual and an asexual generation — **meta-gene-tic** *Vje-né-nek* adj
met-al *Vme-tál* n, often attrib [ME, fr. OF, fr. L *metallum* mine, metal] (14c) 1 : any of various opaque, fusible, ductile, typically lustrous substances that are good conductors of electricity and heat, form cations by loss of electrons, and yield basic oxides or hydroxides; esp: one that is a chemical element as distinguished from an alloy 2 a : METTLE b : the material or substance out of which a person or thing is made 3 : glass in its molten state 4 a : a type of metal b : matter set in metal type 5 : ROAD METAL 6 : HOLLOW METAL
met-al vt -aled or -alled; -aling or -al-ling (1610) : to cover or furnish with metal
meta-lan-guage *Vme-to-lan-gwāj* n (1936) : a language used to about language
meta-lin-guis-tic *Vme-to-lin-gwís-tik* adj (1944) : of or relating to metalanguage or to metalinguistics
meta-lin-guis-tics *Vtik-sis* n pl but sing in constr (1949) : a branch of linguistics that deals with the relation between language and cultural factors in a society



metacenter: 1 center of gravity,
2 center of buoyancy, 3 new
center of buoyancy when float-
ing body is displaced, 4 point
of intersection

metall- or metallo- *comb form* [NL, fr. L. *metallum*] : metal <*metallo-phone*>

me-tal-lic *am-ə-ta-lik* *adj* (15c) 1 : a : of, relating to, or being a metal 2 : made of or containing a metal c : having properties of a metal and reflective properties (<~ blond hair>) 4 a : having an iridescent quality like that of metal (the tea has a ~ taste) b : having an acrid quality: GRATING (a ~ voice) b : having an impersonal or mechanical quality (a ~ smile) — **me-tal-lil-ic-al** *v-i-kəl-ik-əl* *adv* — **me-tal-lie** *n* (1912) : a fiber or yarn made of or coated with metal; also a fabric made with this

me-tal-lif-er-ous *am-e-fi-lif-ər-əs* *adj* [L. *metallifer*, fr. *metallum* + *fer-ferous*] (ca. 1656) : yielding or containing metal

me-tal-li-ze also **me-tal-iz-e** *Vm-e-täl-i-zë* *vt* **me-tal-li-zed** also **me-tal-ized**; **me-tal-li-zing** also **me-tal-iz-ing** (1594) : to coat, treat, or combine with a metal — **me-tal-li-za-tion** *am-e-täl-i-zä-shən* *n*

me-tal-logra-phy *am-e-täl-grä-fē* *n* [TSV] (ca. 1864) : a study of the structure of metals esp with the microscope — **me-tal-logra-pher** *am-e-täl-grä-fär* *n* — **me-tal-logra-graphic** *am-e-täl-tä-grä-fik* *adj* — **me-tal-logra-phy-ically** *v-i-käl-ik-əl* *adv*

me-tal-loid *am-e-täl-loid* *n* (1832) 1 : a nonmetal that can combine with a metal to form an alloy 2 : an element intermediate in properties between the typical metals and nonmetals

me-talloid also **me-tal-loid** *am-e-täl-loid* *n* (ca. 1833) : resembling a metal 2 : of, relating to, or being a metalloid

me-tal-lo-phone *am-e-täl-tä-fon* *n* (ca. 1883) : a percussion musical instrument consisting of a series of metal bars of varying pitch struck with hammers

me-tal-lur-gy *am-e-täl-ürgy* *n* (esp Brit *ma-tlä-ürgy*) *n* [NL. *metallurgia*, fr. *metall-* + *-urgia* (*urgyn*) (ca. 1704)] : the science and technology of metals — **me-tal-lur-gi-al** *am-e-täl-ürg-i-əl* *adj* — **me-tal-lur-gi-al-ly** *v-i-käl-ik-əl* *adv* — **me-tal-lur-gist** *Vm-e-täl-ürg-ist*, *esp Brit* *ma-tlä-ürg-ist* *n*

me-tal-mak *Vm-e-täl-mäk* *n* (ca. 1909) : any of a family (Riodinidae) of small or medium-sized ushers, brightly colored chiefly tropical butterflies that often have metallic coloration on the wings

me-tal-smith *v-i-smith* *n* (14c) : a person skilled in metalworking

me-tal-war *v-i-war*, *werl* *n* (1896) : ware made of metal; esp : metal utensils for household use

me-tal-work *v-i-wərk* *n* (ca. 1850) : the product of metalworking; esp : a metal object of artistic merit — **me-tal-work-er** *v-i-war-kər* *n*

me-tal-work-ing *v-i-war-king* *n* (1882) : the act or process of shaping things out of metal

me-ta-math-e-mat-ics *Vm-e-tä-mäth'-ämä-tiks*, *ma-thä-kës* *n* pl but usu sing in constr (ca. 1890) : a field of study concerned with the general structure and properties (as the consistency and completeness of axioms) of mathematical systems — **me-ta-math-e-mat-i-cal** *v-i-käl-ik* *adj*

me-ta-mere *Vm-e-tä-mär* *n* [TSV] (1877) : any of a linear series of primatively similar segments into which the body of a higher invertebrate or vertebrate is divisible — **me-ta-meric** *am-e-tä-mär-ik*, *mir-* *adj* — **me-ta-mer-i-cal-ly** *v-i-käl-ik-əl* *adv*

me-tam-erism *am-e-tä-mä-rizm* *n* (1877) : the condition of having or the stage of evolutionary development characterized by a body made up of metameres

me-ta-mor-phic *am-e-tä-mör-fik* *adj* (1816) 1 : of or relating to metamorphosis 2 : of a rock : of, relating to, or produced by metamorphism — **me-ta-mor-phic-ally** *v-i-käl-ik-əl* *adv*

me-ta-mor-phism *Vm-e-tör-fizm* *n* (1845) : a change in the constitution of rock; specif : a pronounced change effected by pressure, heat, and water that results in a more compact and more highly crystalline condition

me-ta-mor-phose *v-i-föz*, *-fös* *vb* **-phosed**; **-phos-ing** [prob. fr. *M* metamorphose, fr. *metamorphosis* metamorphosis, fr. L. *metamorphosis* vi (1576)] 1 a : to change into a different physical form esp by supernatural means b : to change strikingly the appearance or character of something — **TRANSFORM** (you are so *metamorphosed* I can hardly think you master —Shak.) 2 : to cause (rock) to undergo metamorphism 1 : to undergo metamorphism 2 : to become transformed *syn* *TRANSFORM*

me-ta-mor-phosis *am-e-tä-mör-fə-sis* *n*, pl **-pho-ses** *v-i-sëz* [fr. *M* metamorphose, fr. *metamorphosis* metamorphosis, fr. L. *metamorphosis* vi (1576)] 1 a : a change of physical form, structure, or substance esp. by supernatural means b : a striking alteration in appearance or circumstances 2 : a marked and more or less permanent developmental change in the form or structure of an animal (as a butterfly or a frog) occurring subsequent to birth or hatching

me-ta-anal-y-sis *am-e-tä-nä-lä-sis* *n* (1914) : a reanalysis of the division between sounds or words resulting in different constituents (as in the development of an apron from a napron)

me-ta-ne-phros *v-i-ne-fras*, *-fräz* *n*, pl **-roi** *Vm-e-froi* [NL, fr. *meta-* + *Gk.* *nephros* kidney — more at NEPHRITIS] (1884) : either member of the final and most caudal pair of the three successive pairs of vertebral renal organs that functions as a permanent adult kidney in reptiles, birds, and mammals but is not present at all in lower forms — **comparative** — **mesonephros**, **pronephros** — **meta-nephric** *v-i-frik* *adj*

me-ta-phase *Vm-e-tä-faz* *n* [TSV] (1887) : the stage of mitosis at which the chromosomes become arranged in the equatorial plane of the spindle

me-ta-phase plate *n* (1939) : a section in the equatorial plane of the metaphase spindle having the chromosomes oriented upon it

me-ta-phor-a *Vm-e-tä-för-ə* [for also *far*] *n* [MF or L: MF *metaphora*, fr. Gk. *metapherein* to transfer, fr. *meta-* + *pherein* to bear — more at BEAR] (1533) 1 : a figure of speech in which a word or phrase literally denoting one kind of object or idea is used in place of another to suggest a likeness or analogy between them (as in *drain in money*; *broadly* : figurative language — compare *SIMILE*) 2 : **phoric** *am-e-tör-for-ik*, *-fir* *adv* or **me-ta-phor-i-ical** *v-i-käl-v* *adj* — **me-ta-phor-i-cal-ly** *v-i-käl-ik-əl* *adv*

me-ta-phos-phate *am-e-tä-fäts*, *-fät* *n* [TSV] (1833) : a salt or ester of metaphosphoric acid

me-ta-phos-phoric acid *v-i-fis-för-ik*, *-fir* *n*, *fis-fö* *n* [TSV] (1833) : a glassy solid acid HPO_4^{2-} or $(\text{HPO}_4^{2-})_n$ formed by heating orthophoric acid

me-ta-phrase *Vm-e-tä-fraz* *n* (1640) : a literal translation