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Phry-gian \fri-j(ē)-ən\ n (15c) 1: a native or inhabitant of ancient Phrygia 2: the extinct Indo-European language of the Phrygians — see INDO-EUROPEAN LANGUAGES table — **Phrygian adj**

phthalic acid \tha-lik-ə\ n [ISV, short for obs. *naphthalic acid*, fr. *naphthalene*] (1857): any of three isomeric acids C₈H₆O₄, obtained by oxidation of various benzene derivatives

phthalic anhydride n (1855): a crystalline cyclic acid anhydride C₈H₄O₃, used esp. in making alkyd resins

phtha-lo-cy-a-nine \tha-lō-sī-ə-nēn, thā-\ n [ISV *phthalic acid* + *-o-* + *cyanine*] (1933): a bright greenish blue crystalline compound C₂₇H₁₈N₆; also: any of several metal derivatives that are brilliant fast blue to green dyes or pigments

phthis-ic \thi-zik\ n [ME *tisique*, fr. MF *tisique*, fr. *tisique* tubercular, fr. L *phthisicus*, fr. Gk *phthisikos*, fr. *phthisis*] (14c): **PHTHISIS** — **phthisic** or **phthis-i-cal** \-zi-kəl\ **adj**

phthis-osis \thi-sōs, -ti-, -thi- or with *i* for *i*\ n, pl **phthis-oses** \-sēz\ [L, fr. Gk, fr. *phthisinēn* to waste away; akin to Skt *kṣinoti* he destroys] (1526): a progressively wasting or consumptive condition; esp: pulmonary tuberculosis

phyco- **comb form** [Gk *phykos* seaweed]: algae (*phycology*)

phy-co-cy-a-nin \fi-kō-sī-ə-nōn\ n [ISV *phyco-* + *cyan-* + *-in*] (1875): any of various bluish green protein pigments in the cells of blue-green algae

phy-co-er-y-thrin \-er-i-thrən\ n [ISV *phyco-* + *erythr-* + *-in*] (ca. 1868): any of the red protein pigments in the cells of red algae

phy-col-o-gy \fi-kā-lō-jē\ n (ca. 1847): **ALGOLGY** — **phy-co-log-i-cal** \fi-kā-lō-jī-kəl\ **adj** — **phy-col-o-gist** \fi-kā-lō-jīst\ n

phy-co-my-cete \fi-kō-mī-sēt, -mī-sēt\ n [ultim. fr. Gk *phykos* + *mykē-*, *mykēs* fungus — more at MYC] (ca. 1900): any of a large class (Phycomycetes) of lower fungi that are in many respects similar to algae and are now often assigned to subdivisions (Mastigomycotina and Zygomycotina) — **phy-co-my-cet-ous** \-mī-sē-təs\ **adj**

phyl- or **phyllo-** **comb form** [L, fr. Gk, fr. *phylē*, *phylon*; akin to Gk *phyein* to bring forth — more at BE]: tribe: race: phylum (*phylology*)

phylac-tery \fə-lak-t(ə)-rē\ n, pl **-teries** [ME *phylaterie*, fr. ML *phylaterium*, alter. of LL *phylacterium*, fr. Gk *phylaktērion* amulet, *phylactery*, fr. *phylas-* to guard, fr. *phylak-*, *phylax* guard] (14c) 1: either of two small square leather boxes containing slips inscribed with scriptural passages and traditionally worn on the left arm and on the head by Jewish men during morning weekday prayers 2: **AMULET**

phyle \fi-(l)ē\ n, pl **phylae** \-lē\ [Gk *phylē* tribe, *phylē*] (1863): the largest political subdivision among the ancient Athenians

phyletic \fi-lē-tik\ **adj** [ISV *phyl-* + *-etic* (as in *genetic*)] (1881): of or relating to evolutionary change in a single line of descent without branching — **phyletic-al-ly** \-tī-k(ə)-lē\ **adv**

phyllo- or **phyllo-** **comb form** [NL, fr. Gk, fr. *phyllon* — more at BLADE]: leaf (*phyllo-*)

-phyll **n comb form** [NL *-phyllum*, fr. Gk *phylon* leaf]: leaf (*sporophyll*)

phyl-lar-y \fi-lā-rē\ n, pl **-ries** [NL *phyllarium*, fr. Gk *phyllarion*, dim. of *phylon* leaf] (1857): one of the involucre bracts subtending the flower head of a composite plant

phyl-lo \fi-lō\ n [NGK, sheet of pastry dough, lit., leaf, fr. Gk *phylon*] (ca. 1950): extremely thin pastry dough that is layered to produce a flaky pastry

phyl-lo-clade \fi-lō-klād\ n [NL *phyllocladium*, fr. *phyll-* + Gk *kladōs* branch — more at HOLT] (1858): a flattened stem or branch (as a joint of a cactus) that functions as a leaf

phyl-lode \fi-lōd\ n [NL *phylloodium*, fr. Gk *phyllōdēs* like a leaf, fr. *phylon* leaf] (1848): a flat expanded petiole that replaces the blade of a foliage leaf, fulfills the same functions, and is analogous to a cladophyll

phyl-lo-di-um \fi-lō-dē-əm\ n, pl **-dia** \-dē-ə\ [NL] (ca. 1847): **PHYLLODE**

phyl-lome \fi-lōm\ n [ISV] (1875): a plant part that is a leaf or is phylogenetically derived from a leaf

phyl-lo-tac-tic \fi-lō-tak-tik\ **adj** (1857): of or relating to phyllotaxis

phyl-lo-tac-tis \fi-lō-tak-tis\ **n** also **phyl-lo-taxy** \fi-lō-tak-sē\ n [NL *phyllo-taxis*, fr. *phyll-* + *-taxis*] (1857) 1: the arrangement of leaves on a stem and in relation to one another 2: the study of phyllotaxis and of the laws that govern it

-phyllous **adj comb form** [NL *-phyllus*, fr. Gk *-phyllos*, fr. *phylon* leaf — more at BLADE]: having (such or so many) leaves, leaflets, or leaf parts (*heterophyllous*)

phyl-lox-er-a \fi-lāk-sī-rə, fə-lāk-sə-rə\ n [NL, fr. *phyll-* + Gk *xēros* dry] (1868): any of various plant lice (esp. genus *Phylloxera*) that differ from aphids esp. in wing structure and in being continuously comparable

phy-lo-ge-net-ic \fi-lō-jē-ne-tik\ **adj** [ISV, fr. NL *phylogenesis* phylogeny, fr. *phyl-* + *genesis*] (1877) 1: of or relating to phylogeny 2: based on natural evolutionary relationships 3: acquired in the course of phylogenetic development: **RACIAL** — **phy-lo-ge-net-i-cal-ly** \-tī-k(ə)-lē\ **adv**

phy-log-e-ny \fi-lā-jō-nē\ n, pl **-nies** [ISV] (1872) 1: the evolutionary history of a kind of organism 2: the evolution of a genetically related group of organisms as distinguished from the development of the individual organism 3: the history or course of the development of something (as a word or custom)

phylum \fi-ləm\ n, pl **phyla** \-lā\ [NL, fr. Gk *phylon* tribe, race —



phylactery 1

phys ed \fiz-ed\ n (1955): **PHYSICAL EDUCATION**

physi- or **physio-** **comb form** [L, fr. Gk, fr. *physis* — more at PHYSICS] 1: nature (*physiography*) 2: physical (*physiotherapy*)

phys-iat-rist \fi-zē-ə-trist\ n [*physiatrics* physical medicine, fr. Gk *physis* + ISV *-iatrics*] (ca. 1947): a physician who specializes in physical medicine

phys-ic \fi-zik\ n [ME *physik* natural science, art of medicine, fr. OF *fisque*, fr. L *physica*, sing., natural science, fr. Gk *physikē*, fr. fem. of *physikos* — more at PHYSICS] (14c) 1 a: the art or practice of healing disease b: the practice or profession of medicine 2: a medicinal agent or preparation; esp: **PURGATIVE 3 archaic**: **NATURAL SCIENCE**

phys-ic **vr** **phys-icked**; **phys-ick-ing** (14c) 1: to treat with or administer medicine to; esp: **PURGE 2**: **HEAL, CURE**

phys-i-cal \fi-zī-kəl\ **adj** [ME *phisciale* medical, fr. ML *physicalis*, fr. L *physica*] (1597) 1 a: having material existence: perceptible esp. through the senses and subject to the laws of nature (everything ~ is measurable by weight, motion, and resistance — Thomas De Quincey) b: of or relating to material things 2 a: of or relating to natural science b (1): of or relating to physics (2): characterized or produced by the forces and operations of physics 3 a: of or relating to the body b: concerned or preoccupied with the body and its needs; **CARNAL c**: characterized by esp. rugged and forceful physical activity: **ROUGH** (a ~ hockey game) (a ~ player) **syn** see **MATERIAL** — **phys-i-cal-ly** \-k(ə)-lē\ **adv** — **phys-i-cal-ness** \-kəl-nəs\ n

physical n (1934): **PHYSICAL EXAMINATION**

physical anthropology n (1873): anthropology concerned with the comparative study of human evolution, variation, and classification esp. through measurement and observation — compare **CULTURAL ANTHROPOLOGY** — **physical anthropologist** n

physical education n (1830): instruction in the development and care of the body ranging from simple calisthenic exercises to a course of study providing training in hygiene, gymnastics, and the performance and management of athletic games

physical examination n (1884): an examination of the bodily functions and condition of an individual

physical geography n (1808): geography that deals with the exterior physical features and changes of the earth

phys-i-cal-ism \fi-zī-kə-lī-zəm\ n (ca. 1931): a thesis that the descriptive terms of scientific language are reducible to terms which refer to spatiotemporal things or events or to their properties — **phys-i-cal-ist** \-list\ n — **phys-i-cal-ist-ic** \fi-zī-kə-lis-tik\ **adj**

phys-i-cal-i-ty \fi-zē-kā-lə-tē\ n, pl **-ties** (1660) 1: intensely physical orientation: predominance of the physical usu. at the expense of the mental, spiritual, or social 2: a physical aspect or quality

physical medicine n (1939): a branch of medicine concerned with the diagnosis and treatment of disease and disability by physical means (as radiation, heat, and electricity) — compare **PHYSICAL THERAPY**

physical science n (1802): any of the natural sciences (as physics, chemistry, and astronomy) that deal primarily with nonliving materials — **physical scientist** n

physical therapy n (1922): the treatment of disease by physical and mechanical means (as massage, regulated exercise, water, light, heat, and electricity) — **physical therapist** n

phys-i-cian \fi-zī-shən\ n [ME *fiscien*, fr. OF, fr. *fisque* medicine] (13c) 1: a person skilled in the art of healing; *specif*: a doctor of medicine 2: one exerting a remedial or salutary influence

physician's assistant n (1970): a person certified to provide basic medical services usu. under the supervision of a licensed physician — called also **PA, physician assistant**

phys-i-cist \fi-zē-sist, fiz-sist\ n (1840) 1: a specialist in physics 2 **archaic**: a person skilled in natural science

phys-i-co-chem-i-cal \fi-zī-kō-ke-mī-kəl\ **adj** (1664) 1: being physical and chemical 2: of or relating to chemistry that deals with the physicochemical properties of substances — **phys-i-co-chem-i-cal-ly** \-k(ə)-lē\ **adv**

phys-ics \fi-ziks\ n **pl** but **sing** or **pl** in **constr** [L *physica*, pl., natural science, fr. Gk *physika*, fr. neut. pl. of *physikos* of nature, fr. *physis* growth, nature, fr. *phyein* to bring forth — more at BE] (1715) 1: a science that deals with matter and energy and their interactions 2 a: the physical processes and phenomena of a particular system b: the physical properties and composition of something

Phys-i-o-crat \fi-zē-ə-krat\ n [F *physiocrate*, fr. *physi-* *physi-* + *-crate* -crat] (1798): a member of a school of political economists founded in 18th century France and characterized chiefly by a belief that government policy should not interfere with the operation of natural economic laws and that land is the source of all wealth — **phys-i-o-crat-ic** \fi-zē-ə-kra-tik\ **adj**, **often cap**

phys-i-og-nom-ic \fi-zē-ə(g)-nā-mik\ also **phys-i-og-nom-i-cal** \-mī-kəl\ **adj** (1588): of, relating to, or characteristic of physiognomy or the physiognomy — **phys-i-og-nom-i-cal-ly** \-mī-k(ə)-lē\ **adv**

phys-i-og-no-my \fi-zē-ə(g)-nō-mē\ n, pl **-mies** [ME *phisonomie*, fr. MF, fr. LL *physiognomia*, *physiognomia*, fr. Gk *physiognōmia*, fr. *physiognōmōn* judging character by the features, fr. *physis* nature, *physique*, appearance + *gnōmōn* interpreter — more at **GNOMON**] (14c) 1: the art of discovering temperament and character from outward appearance 2: the facial features held to show qualities of mind or character by their configuration or expression 3: external aspect; also: inner character or quality revealed outwardly

phys-i-og-ra-phy \fi-zē-ə-grā-fē\ n [prob. fr. F *physiographie*, fr. *physi-* + *-graphie* -graphy] (ca. 1828): **PHYSICAL GEOGRAPHY** — **phys-i-og-ra-pher** \-fər\ n — **phys-i-og-graph-ic** \fi-zē-ə-grā-fik\ also **phys-i-og-graph-i-cal** \-fi-kəl\ **adj**

phys-i-o-log-i-cal \fi-zē-ə-lā-jī-kəl\ or **phys-i-o-log-ic** \-jik\ **adj** (1814) 1: of or relating to physiology 2: characteristic of or appropriate to an organism's healthy or normal functioning 3: differing in, involving, or affecting physiological factors (a ~ strain of bacteria) — **phys-i-o-log-i-cal-ly** \-jī-k(ə)-lē\ **adv**

PHYSICAL SCIENCE