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pro hac vice /prəˈhæk ˈvɪkə; ˈvɪsə/ **adv.** for or on this occasion only. ▶Latin.

pro-hib-it /prəˈhɪbɪt; prɒ-/ **v.** (-hib-it-ed, -hib-iting) [**trans.**] formally forbid (something) by law, rule, or other authority: laws prohibiting cruelty to animals. ■ (prohibit someone/something from doing something) formally forbid a person or group from doing something: he is prohibited from being a director. ■ (of a fact or situation) prevent (something); make impossible: the budget agreement had prohibited any tax cuts. ▶late Middle English: from Latin prohibēt- 'kept in check,' from the verb prohibere, from pro- 'in front' + habere 'to hold.' —**pro-hib-iter n.** —**pro-hib-itor** /-ətɪr/ **n.** —**pro-hib-itory** /-tɔri/ **adj.**

THE RIGHT WORD ban, disallow, enjoin, forbid, hinder, interdict, preclude, prohibit

There are a number of ways to prevent something from happening. You can prohibit it, which assumes that you have legal or other authority and are willing to back up your prohibition with force (prohibit smoking); or you can simply forbid it and hope that you've got the necessary clout (forbid teenagers to stay out after midnight).

Ban carries a little more weight—both legal and moral—and interdict suggests that church or civil authorities are behind the idea.

To enjoin (in this sense) is to prohibit by legal injunction (the truckers were enjoined from striking), which practically guarantees that you'll get what you want.

A government or some other authority may disallow an act it might otherwise have permitted (the IRS disallowed the deduction), but anyone with a little gumption can hinder an activity by putting obstacles in its path (hinder the thief's getaway by tripping him on his way out the door).

Of course, the easiest way to prohibit something is to preclude it, which means stopping it before it even gets started.

pro-hi-bi-tion /prɒ(h)əˈbɪʃən/ **n.** 1 the action of forbidding something, esp. by law: they argue that prohibition of drugs will always fail. ■ a law or regulation forbidding something: those who favor prohibitions on insider trading. 2 (Prohibition) the prevention by law of the manufacture and sale of alcohol, esp. in the U.S. between 1920 and 1933. ▶late Middle English: from Old French, from Latin prohibitio(-n-), from prohibere 'keep in check' (see PROHIBIT). —**pro-hi-bi-tion-ary** /-neri/ **adj.** —**Pro-hi-bi-tion-ist** /-nist/ **n.**

pro-hib-i-tive /prəˈhɪbɪtɪv; prɒ-/ **adj.** 1 (of a price or charge) excessively high; difficult or impossible to pay: the costs involved were prohibitive | prohibitive interest rates. 2 (esp. of a law or rule) forbidding or restricting something: prohibitive legislation. ■ (of a condition or situation) preventing someone from doing something: a wind over force 5 is prohibitive. ▶late Middle English (sense 2): from French prohibitif, -ive or Latin prohibītivus, from prohibēt- 'kept in check,' from the verb prohibere (see PROHIBIT). —**pro-hib-i-tive-ly adv.** —**pro-hib-i-tive-ness n.**

pro-in-su-lin /prɒˈɪnsələn/ **n.** Biochemistry a substance produced by the pancreas that is converted to insulin.

pro-ject **n.** /ˈprɔːjɛkt; -ɪkt/ 1 an individual or collaborative enterprise that is carefully planned and designed to achieve a particular aim: a research project | a nationwide project to encourage business development. ■ a school assignment undertaken by a student or group of students, typically as a long-term task that requires independent research: a history project. ■ a proposed or planned undertaking: the novel undermines its own stated project of telling a story. 2 (also housing project) a government-subsidized housing development with relatively low rents: her family still lives in the projects.

v. /prəˈjɛkt; prɒˈjɛkt/ [**trans.**] 1 (usu. be projected) estimate or forecast (something) on the basis of present trends: spending was projected at \$72 million. ■ [often as **adj.**] (projected) plan (a scheme or undertaking): a projected exhibition of contemporary art. 2 [**intrans.**] extend outward beyond something else; protrude: I noticed a slip of paper projecting from the book | [as **adj.**] (projecting) a projecting bay window. See note at BULGE. 3 [**trans.**] throw or cause to move forward or outward: seeds are projected from the tree. ■ cause (light, shadow, or an image) to fall on a surface: the one light projected shadows on the wall. ■ cause (a sound, esp. the voice) to be heard at a distance: being audible depends on your ability to project your voice. ■ imagine (oneself, a situation, etc.) as having

projecting the present into the past. 4 present or promote (a particular view or image): he strives to project an image of youth. ■ present (someone or something) in a way intended to create a favorable impression: she liked to project herself more as a friend than a doctor. ■ display (an emotion or quality) in one's behavior: everyone would be amazed that a young girl could project such depths of emotion. ■ (project something onto) transfer or attribute one's own emotion or desire to (another person), esp. unconsciously: men may sometimes project their own fears onto women. 5 Geometry draw straight lines from a center of or parallel lines through every point of (a given figure) to produce a corresponding figure on a surface or a line by intersecting the surface. ■ draw (such lines). ■ produce (such a corresponding figure). 6 make a projection of (the earth, sky, etc.) on a plane surface. ▶late Middle English (in the sense 'preliminary design, tabulated statement'): from Latin projectum 'something prominent,' neuter past participle of proicere 'throw forth,' from pro- 'forth' + jacere 'to throw.' Early senses of the verb were 'plan, devise' and 'cause to move forward.' —**pro-ject-a-ble** /prəˈjɛktəbəl/ **adj.**

pro-ject-ile /prɒˈjɛktɪl; -ɪl/ **n.** a missile designed to be fired from a rocket or gun. ■ an object propelled through the air, esp. one thrown as a weapon: they tried to shield Johnson from the projectiles that were being thrown.

adj. [**attrib.**] of or relating to such a missile or object: a projectile weapon. ■ propelled with great force: projectile vomiting. ▶mid 17th cent.: modern Latin, from project- 'thrown forth,' from the verb proicere (see PROJECT).

pro-jection /prəˈjɛkʃən/ **n.** 1 an estimate or forecast of a future situation or trend based on a study of present ones: plans based on projections of slow but positive growth | population projection is essential for planning. 2 the presentation of an image on a surface, esp. a movie screen: quality illustrations for overhead projection. ■ an image projected in such a way: the background projections featured humpback whales. ■ the ability to make a sound, esp. the voice, heard at a distance: I taught him voice projection. 3 the presentation or promotion of someone or something in a particular way: the legal profession's projection of an image of altruism. ■ a mental image viewed as reality: monsters can be understood as mental projections of mankind's fears. ■ the unconscious transfer of one's own desires or emotions to another person: we protect the self by a number of defense mechanisms, including repression and projection. 4 a thing that extends outward from something else: the particle board covered all the sharp projections. 5 Geometry the action of projecting a figure. 6 the representation on a plane surface of any part of the surface of the earth or a celestial sphere. ■ (also map projection) a method by which such representation may be done. ▶mid 16th cent. (sense 6): from Latin projectio(-n-), from proicere 'throw forth' (see PROJECT). —**pro-jection-ist** /-ɪst/ **n.** (in sense 2).

pro-jection tel-e-vi-sion (also **pro-jection TV**) **n.** a large television receiver in which the image is projected optically onto a large viewing screen.

pro-ject-ive /prəˈjɛktɪv/ **adj.** 1 Geometry relating to or derived by projection: projective transformations. ■ (of a property of a figure) unchanged by projection. 2 Psychology relating to the unconscious transfer of one's own desires or emotions to another person: the projective contents of wish fantasies. ■ relating to or exploiting the unconscious expression or introduction of one's impressions or feelings. —**pro-ject-ive-ly adv.** —**pro-ject-iv-ity** /prɒˈjɛktɪvɪtɪ; ˈprɔːjɛktɪvɪtɪ/ **n.**

pro-ject-ive ge-om-e-try **n.** the study of the projective properties of geometric figures.

pro-ject-ive test **n.** a psychological test in which words, images, or situations are presented to a person and the responses analyzed for the unconscious expression of elements of personality that they reveal.

pro-ject-or /prəˈjɛktər/ **n.** 1 an object that is used to project rays of light, esp. an apparatus with a system of lenses for projecting slides or film onto a screen. 2 archaic a person who plans and sets up a project or enterprise. ■ a promoter of a dubious or fraudulent enterprise.

pro-kar-y-ote /prɒˈkærə, ɒt/ (also **pro-car-y-ote**) **n.** Biology a microscopic single-celled organism, including the bacteria and cyanobacteria, that has neither a distinct nucleus with a membrane nor other spe-

▶1960s: from PRO-² 'before' + Greek karion 'nut, kernel' + -ote as in ZYGOTE. —**pro-kar-y-otic** /prɒˈkærəˈtɪk/ **adj.**

Pro-ko-fi-ev /prɒˈkɒfɪ, ɛf/, Sergei (Sergeevich) (1891–1953), Russian composer. Notable works include the opera *The Love for Three Oranges* (1919), the *Lieutenant Kijé* suite (1934), the ballet music for *Romeo and Juliet* (1935–36), and *Peter and the Wolf* (1936).

Pro-ko-pyevsk /prɒˈkɒpɪfsk/ a coal-mining city in southern Russia, in the Kuznets Basin industrial region, to the south of Kemerovo; pop. 274,000.

pro-lac-tin /prɒˈlæktɪn/ **n.** Biochemistry a hormone released from the anterior pituitary gland that stimulates milk production after childbirth. ▶1930s: from PRO-² 'before' + LACTATION.

pro-lapse **n.** /prɒˈlæps/; 'prɒ,læps/ a slipping forward or down of one of the parts or organs of the body: a rectal prolapse. ■ a prolapsed part or organ, esp. a uterus or rectum.

v. /prɒˈlæps/ [**intrans.**] [usu. as **adj.**] (prolapsed) (of a part or organ of the body) slip forward or down: a prolapsed uterus. ▶mid 18th cent.: from Latin prolaps- 'slipped forward,' from the verb prolabi, from pro- 'forward, down' + labi 'to slip.'

pro-lap-sus /prɒˈlæpsəs/ **n.** technical term for PRO-LAPSE. ▶late 18th cent.: modern Latin, from late Latin, literally 'fall.'

pro-late /ˈprɒ,læt/ **adj.** Geometry (of a spheroid) lengthened in the direction of a polar diameter. Often contrasted with OBLATE. ▶late 17th cent.: from Latin prolatus 'carried forward,' past participle of proferre 'prolong,' from pro- 'forward' + ferre 'carry.'

prole /prɒl/ **informal, derogatory n.** a member of the working class; a worker.

adj. working-class: prole soldiers. ▶late 19th cent.: abbreviation of PROLETARIAT.

pro-leg /prɒˈleg/ **n.** Entomology a fleshy abdominal limb of a caterpillar or similar insect larva.

pro-le-gom-e-non /ˌprɒləˈgɒmə,nən; -nən/ **n.** (pl. -na /-nə/) a critical or discursive introduction to a book. ▶mid 17th cent.: via Latin from Greek, passive present participle (neuter) of prolegein 'say beforehand,' from pro- 'before' + legein 'say.' —**pro-le-gom-e-nous** /-nəs/ **adj.**

pro-lep-sis /prɒˈlepsəs/ **n.** (pl. -ses /-sɛz/) 1 Rhetoric the anticipation and answering of possible objections in rhetorical speech. ■ poetic/literary anticipation: in the first of the novella's three parts Marlow gives a prolepsis of the climax. 2 the representation of a thing as existing before it actually does or did so, as in he was a dead man when he entered. ▶late Middle English (as a term in rhetoric): via late Latin from Greek prolepsis, from prolambanein 'anticipate,' from pro- 'before' + lambanein 'take.' —**pro-lep-tic** /-leptɪk/ **adj.** —**pro-lep-ti-cal-ly** /-leptɪk(ə)li/ **adv.**

pro-le-tar-i-an /ˌprɒliˈte(ə)rɪən/ **adj.** of or relating to the proletariat: a proletarian ideology.

n. a member of the proletariat. ▶mid 17th cent.: from Latin proletarius (from proles 'offspring'), denoting a person having no wealth in property, who only served the state by producing offspring, + -AN.

pro-le-tar-i-an-ism /-nɪzəm/ **n.** —**pro-le-tar-i-an-iza-tion** /-tɪʒən/ **n.** —**pro-le-tar-i-an-ize** /-nɪz/ **v.**

pro-le-tar-i-at /ˌprɒliˈte(ə)rɪət/ (also archaic **pro-le-tar-i-ate**) **n.** [treated as **sing.** or **pl.**] workers or working-class people, regarded collectively (often used with reference to Marxism): the growth of the industrial proletariat. ■ the lowest class of citizens in ancient Rome. ▶mid 19th cent.: from French prolétariat, from Latin proletarius (see PROLETARIAN).

pro-life /prɒˈli/ **adj.** opposing abortion and euthanasia: she is a pro-life activist. Compare with PRO-CHOICE. —**pro-lifer n.**

pro-lif-er-ate /prɒˈlɪfə, rət/ **v.** [**intrans.**] increase rapidly in numbers; multiply: the science-fiction magazines which proliferated in the 1920s. ■ (of a cell, structure, or organism) reproduce rapidly: the Mediterranean faces an ecological disaster if the seaweed continues to proliferate at its present rate. ■ [**trans.**] cause (cells, tissue, structures, etc.) to reproduce rapidly: electromagnetic radiation can only proliferate cancers already present. ■ [**trans.**] produce (something) in large or increasing quantities: the promise of new technology proliferating options on every hand ▶late 19th cent.: back-formation from PROLIFERATION. —**pro-lif-er-a-tive** /-rətɪv/ **adj.** —**pro-lif-er-a-tor** /-rətər/ **n.**

Pronunciation Key ə ago; ɔr over; 'ə or ,ə up; 'ər or ,ər fur; a hat; ā rate; ā car; ɔh chew; e let; ē see; e(ə) air; i fit; i by; i(ə) ear; ŋa sing; ō go; ō for; oi boy; ōō good; ōō