



WEBSTER'S Ninth N Collegia Diction

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MERRIAM-WEBSTER INC., Publishers
Springfield, Massachusetts, U.S.A.



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Library of Congress Cataloging in Publication Data
Main entry under title:

Webster's ninth new collegiate dictionary.

p. cm.

ISBN 0-87779-508-8. — ISBN 0-87779-509-6 (indexed). — ISBN
0-87779-510-X (deluxe)

1. English language—Dictionaries.

PE1628.W5638 1990

423—dc20

89-38961

CIP

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decussate \ˈdek-ə-sāt, di-ˈkəs-ət\ *vb* -sated; -sating [L *decussatus*, pp. of *decussare*, fr. *decussis* the number ten, numeral X, intersection, fr. *decem* + *ass*, as unit — more at ACE] (1658): INTERSECT, CROSS

decussate \ˈdek-ə-sāt, di-ˈkəs-ət\ *adj* (ca. 1823): arranged in pairs each at right angles to the next pair above or below (~ leaves)

decussation \ˈdek-ə-sā-shən, -dē-ˈkə- (ca. 1656) 1: the action of crossing (as of nerve fibers) esp. in the form of an X 2: a crossed tract of nerve fibers passing between centers on opposite sides of the nervous system

dedicate \ˈded-i-kət\ *adj* [ME, fr. L *dedicatus*, pp. of *dedicare* to dedicate, fr. *de-* + *dicare* to proclaim, dedicate — more at DICTION] (14c): DEDICATED

dedicate \ˈded-i-kāt\ *vi* -cated; -cating (15c) 1: to devote to the worship of a divine being; *specif*: to set apart (a church) to sacred uses with solemn rites 2: to set apart to a definite use (money dedicated to their vacation fund) 3: to become committed to as a goal or way of life (ready to ~ his life to public service) 4: to inscribe or address by way of compliment (~ a book to a friend) 5: to open to public use *syn* see DEVOTE — *ded-i-ca-tor* \-kāt-ər\ *n*

dedicated \ˈded-i-kət\ *adj* (1600) 1: devoted to a cause, ideal, or purpose: ZEALOUS (a ~ scholar) 2: given over to a particular purpose (a ~ process control computer) — *ded-i-cated-ly* *adv*

dedicatee \ˈded-i-kā-ˈte\ *n* (1760): one to whom a thing is dedicated

dedication \ˈded-i-kā-shən\ (14c) 1: an act or rite of dedicating to a divine being or to a sacred use 2: a devoting or setting aside for a particular purpose 3: a name and often a message prefixed to a literary, musical, or artistic production in tribute to a person or cause 4: self-sacrificing devotion — *ded-i-ca-to-ry* \ˈded-i-kā-tōr-ē, -tōr-\ *adj*

dedifferentiation \ˈdē-dif-ə-ˈren-cheɪ-ā-shən\ (1915): reversion of specialized structures (as cells) to a more generalized or primitive condition often as a preliminary to major change — *de-dif-fer-en-ti-ate* \-ˈren-cheɪ-āt\ *vi*

deduce \ˈdi-d(y)ūs\ *vi* -duced; -duc-ing [L *deducere*, lit., to lead away, fr. *de-* + *ducere* to lead — more at TOW] (15c) 1: to determine by deduction; *specif*: to infer from a general principle 2: to trace the course of *syn* see INFER — *de-duc-ible* \-d(y)ū-sə-bəl\ *adj*

deduct \ˈdi-d(ə)kt\ *vi* [L *deductus*, pp. of *deducere*] (15c) 1: to take away (an amount) from a total: SUBTRACT 2: DEDUCE, INFER

deductible \ˈdi-d(ə)kt-ə-bəl\ *adj* (1856): capable of being deducted — *de-duc-ti-bil-i-ty* \-d(ə)kt-ə-bil-ə-tē\ *n*

deductible \ˈdi-d(ə)kt-ə-bəl\ *n* (1929): a clause in an insurance policy that relieves the insurer of responsibility for an initial specified loss of the kind insured against

deduction \ˈdi-d(ə)kt-shən\ (13c) 1: an act of taking away (~ of legitimate business expenses) 2: something that is or may be subtracted (~s from his taxable income) 3: the deriving of a conclusion by reasoning; *specif*: inference in which the conclusion about particulars follows necessarily from general or universal premises — compare INDUCTION 4: a conclusion reached by logical deduction

deductive \ˈdi-d(ə)kt-iv\ *adj* (1665) 1: of, relating to, or provable by deduction 2: employing deduction in reasoning — *de-duc-tive-ly* *adv*

dee \ˈde\ *n* (13c): the letter d

deed \ˈded\ *n* [ME *dede*, fr. OE *dēd*; akin to OE *dōn* to do] (bef. 12c) 1: something that is done (evil ~s) 2: a usu. illustrious act or action: FEAT, EXPLOIT 3: the act of performing: ACTION (righteous in word and in ~) 4: a signed and usu. sealed instrument containing some legal transfer, bargain, or contract — *deed-less* \-ləs\ *adj*

deed \ˈded\ *vi* (1806): to convey or transfer by deed

deed poll \ˈpɒl\ *n*, *pl* deeds poll [deed + poll, *adj*. (having the edges cut even rather than indented), fr. *poll*] Brit (1588): a deed (as to change one's name) made and executed by only one party

deedy \ˈded-ē\ *adj* -deed-i-er; -est *dialect chiefly Eng* (1615): INDUSTRIOUS

deejay \ˈdeɪ-ˈjɑ\ *n* [disc jockey] (ca. 1949): DISC JOCKEY

deem \ˈdem\ *vb* [ME *demen*, fr. OE *dēman*; akin to OHG *tuomen* to judge, OE *dōm* doom] *vi* (bef. 12c): to come to think or judge: HOLD (~ed it wise to go slow) ~ *vi*: to have an opinion: BELIEVE

de-empha-size \ˈdē-ˈem(p)-fə-ˈsiz\ *vi* (1938): to play down — *de-em-phas-is* \-fə-səs\ *n*

deep \ˈdep\ *adj* [ME, fr. OE *dēop*; akin to OHG *tiof* deep, OE *dyppan* to dip — more at DIP] (bef. 12c) 1: extending far from some surface or area: as a: extending far downward (a ~ well) b (1): extending well inward from an outer surface (a ~ gash) (a deep-chested animal) (2): not located superficially within the body (~ pressure receptors in muscles) c: extending well back from a surface accepted as front (a ~ closet) d: extending far laterally from the center (~ borders of lace) e: occurring or located near the outer limits of the playing area (hit to ~ right field) 2: having a specified extension in an implied direction usu. downward or backward (shelf 20 inches ~) (cars parked three-deep) 3: difficult to penetrate or comprehend: RECONDITE (~ mathematical problems) b: MYSTERIOUS, OBSCURE (a ~ dark secret) c: grave in nature or effect (in ~est disgrace) d: of penetrating intellect: WISE (a ~ thinker) e: INVOLVED, ENGROSSED (~ in debt) f: characterized by profundity of feeling or quality (a ~ sleep); *also*: DEEP-SEATED (~ religious beliefs) 4: a of color: high in saturation and low in lightness b: having a low musical pitch or pitch range (a ~ voice) 5: situated well within the boundaries (a house ~ in the woods) b: remote in time or space c: being below the level of the conscious (~ neuroses) d: covered, enclosed, or filled to a specified degree — *usu.* used in combination (she was ankle-deep in mud) 6: LARGE (~ discounts) *syn* see BROAD — *deep-ly* *adv* — *deep-ness* *n* — *in deep water*: in difficulty or distress

deep \ˈdep\ *adv* (bef. 12c) 1: to a great depth: DEEPLY (still waters run ~)

points on a sounding line other than the marks

deep-dish pie *n* (1918): a pie usu. with a fruit filling and no bottom crust that is baked in a deep dish

deep-en \ˈdep-ən, -dēp-ən\ *vb* -deep-ened; -deep-en-ing \ˈdēp-ən-ɪŋ\ *vi* (1598): to make deep or deeper ~ *vi*: to become deeper or more profound

deep fat *n* (1921): hot fat or oil deep enough in a cooking utensil to cover the food to be fried

deep-freeze \ˈdēp-ˈfrēz\ *vi* -froze \-ˈfrōz\; -fro-zen \-ˈfrōz-ən\ (1943) 1: QUICK-FREEZE 2: to store in a frozen state

deep freeze \ˈdēp-ˈfrēz\ *n* (1948): COLD STORAGE 2 (bill presently in deep freeze awaiting a new congress — *Newsweek*)

deep-fry \ˈdēp-ˈfri\ *vi* (1922): to cook in deep fat

deep fryer *n* (1950): a utensil suitable for deep-fat frying

deep-going \ˈdēp-ˈgō-ɪŋ, -ˈgō(-)ŋ\ *adj* (1859): FUNDAMENTAL (a ~ theory)

deep pocket *n* (1976) 1: a person or an organization having substantial financial resources 2 *pl*: substantial financial resources

deep-rooted \ˈdē-ˈprūt-əd, -ˈprūt-\ *adj* (15c): deeply implanted or established (a ~ loyalty)

deep-sea \ˈdēp-ˈse\ *adj* (1626): of, relating to, or occurring in the deeper parts of the sea (~ fishing)

deep-seated \ˈdēp-ˈset-əd\ *adj* (1741) 1: situated far below the surface (a ~ inflammation) 2: firmly established (a ~ tradition)

deep-six \ˈdēp-ˈsiks\ *vi* (1952) 1 *slang*: to throw away: DISCARD 2 *slang*: to throw overboard

deep six *n* [naval slang for "burial at sea"; perh. fr. the tradition of burying bodies six feet under ground] *slang* (1944): a place of disposal or abandonment — *used esp. in the phrase give it the deep six*

deep space *n* (ca. 1952): space well beyond the limits of the earth's atmosphere including space outside the solar system — called also *deep sky*

deep structure *n* (1964): a formal representation of the underlying semantic content of a sentence; *also*: the structure which such a representation specifies

deer \ˈdi(ə)r\ *n*, *pl* deer *also* deers [ME, deer, animal, fr. OE *dēor* beast; akin to OHG *tior* wild animal, Skt *dhr̥vaṣati* he perishes] (bef. 12c) 1 *archaic*: ANIMAL: esp: a small mammal 2: a ruminant mammal (family Cervidae, the deer family) having two large and two small hooves on each foot and antlers borne by the males of nearly all and by the females of a few forms

deer-ber-ry \ˈber-ē\ *n* (1814) 1: either of two shrubs (*Vaccinium stamineum* or *V. caesium*) of dry woods and scrub of the eastern U.S. 2: the edible fruit of a deerberry

deer-fly \ˈdi(ə)r-ˈfli\ *n* (1853): any of numerous small horseflies (as of the genus *Chrysops*) that include important vectors of tularemia

deer-hound \ˈhaʊnd\ *n* (1818): SCOTTISH DEERHOUND

deer mouse *n* [fr. its agility] (1833): WHITE-FOOTED MOUSE

deer-skin \ˈdi(ə)r-ˈskɪn\ *n* (14c): leather made from the skin of a deer; *also*: a garment of this leather

deer-stalker \ˈstɔ-kər\ *n* (1870): a close-fitting hat with a visor at the front and the back and with earflaps that may be worn up or down — called also *deerstalker cap*, *deerstalker hat*

deer-yard \ˈdi(ə)r-ˈjɑrd\ *n* (1849): a place where deer herd in winter

de-es-ca-late \ˈdē-es-kə-ˈlāt, -ˈkya-\ *vi* (1964): to decrease in extent, volume, or scope ~ *vi*: LIMIT 2b — *de-es-ca-la-tion* \ˈdē-es-kə-ˈlā-shən, -ˈkya-\ *n* — *de-es-ca-la-to-ry* \ˈdē-es-kə-ˈlōr-ē, -ˈlōr-, -ˈkya-\ *adj*

deet \ˈdēt\ *n* [prob. fr. *d. e. t.*, fr. *di-* + *ethyl* + *toluamide* (C₆H₄NO)] (1962): a colorless oily liquid insect repellent C₁₂H₁₇NO

de-face \ˈdi-fās\ *vi* [ME *defacen*, fr. MF *desfacier*, fr. OF, fr. *des-de* + *face* front, face] (14c) 1: to mar the external appearance of: injure by effacing significant details (~ an inscription) 2: IMPAIR 3 *obs*: DESTROY — *de-face-ment* \-ˈfā-smənt\ *n* — *de-facer* *n*

de-fac-to \ˈdi-fak-(t)ō, dā-ˈadv\ [NL] (1601): in reality: ACTUALLY

de-facto \ˈde-fak-to\ *adj* (1696) 1: ACTUAL (a *de facto* state of war) 2: exercising power as if legally constituted (a *de facto* government) — compare DE JURE

de-fal-cate \ˈdi-fal-kāt, di-fōl-, -ˈdef-əl-\ *vb* -cat-ed; -cat-ing [ML *defalcatus*, pp. of *defalcare*, fr. L *de-* + *falc*, *falc* sickle] *vi*, *archaic* (1540): DEDUCT, CURTAIL ~ *vi*: to engage in embezzlement — *de-fal-ca-tor* \-kāt-ər\ *n*

de-fal-ca-tion \ˈdē-fal-ˈkā-shən, -ˈdē-fōl-, di-, -ˈdef-əl-\ *n* (15c) 1 *archaic*: DEDUCTION 2: the act or an instance of embezzling 3: a failure to meet a promise or an expectation

def-a-ma-tion \ˈdef-ə-ˈmā-shən\ *n* (14c): the act of defaming another

def-a-ma-tory \ˈdi-fam-ə-tōr-ē, -ˈtōr-\ *adj*

de-fame \ˈdi-fām\ *vi* -famed; -def-am-ing [ME *defamen*, *defamen*, fr. MF & L; ME *diffamen* fr. MF *diffamer*, fr. L *diffamare*, fr. *dis-* + *fama* fame; ME *defamen* fr. MF *defamer*, fr. ML *defamare*, fr. L *de-* + *fama*] (14c) 1 *archaic*: DISGRACE 2: to harm the reputation of by libel or slander 3 *archaic*: ACCUSE *syn* see MALIGN — *de-fame-er* *n*

de-fang \ˈdē-faŋ\ *vi* (1953): to make harmless or less powerful

de-fat \ˈdē-fat\ *vi* (1919): to remove fat from

de-fault \ˈdi-fōlt\ *n* [ME *defaute*, *defaute*, fr. OF *defaute*, fr. (assumed) VL *defallita*, fr. fem. of *defallius*, pp. of *defallere* to be lacking, fail, fr. L *de-* + *fallere* to deceive — more at FAIL] (13c) 1: failure to do something required by duty or law: NEGLECT 2 *archaic*: FAULT 3: a failure to pay financial debts 4: a failure to appear at the required time in a legal proceeding 5: failure to compete in or to finish an appointed contest — *in default of*: in the absence of

default \ˈdi-fōlt\ *vi* (15c): to fail to fulfill a contract, agreement, or duty: as a: to fail to meet a financial obligation b: to fail to appear in court c: to fail to compete in or to finish an appointed contest; *also*: to forfeit a contest by such failure ~ *vi* 1: to fail to perform, pay, or make good 2: a: FORFEIT b: to exclude (a player or a team) from a contest by default — *de-fault-er* *n*