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it. informal a condom.

imən/ ▶ n. (pl. Frenchmen) a ho is French by birth or descent

▶ n. a style of manicure in are painted pale pink with a

ı rich pastry, often with a filling

hellac polish that produces a

d) with such a polish.

/,pälə'nēzнə/ an overseas the South Pacific; pop. 287,000 speete (on the island of Tahiti). udes the Society Islands, the Tuamotu Archipelago, the ne Marquesas. It was granted

n cal·en·dar ▶ n. a reformed roduced by the French ent on October 5, 1793.

cen to have started on the er 22, 1792, the day of the Republic. It had twelve s each, with five days of end (six in leap years). The s were Vendémiaire, Brumaire, iose, Ventose, Germinal, idor, Thermidor, and Fructidor. is abandoned under the and the Gregorian calendar ed on January 1, 1806.

the overthrow of the France (1789-99).

in began with the meeting embly (the States General) e French government was Bastille was stormed in . The revolution became and ruthless with power inds of the Jacobins and /I's execution in January / Robespierre's Reign of 1 failed to produce a stable overnment, and after several ministration, the last, the rown by Napoleon in 1799.

sp roll of French bread. NCH TWIST.

am with the raw edges

/sə'mälē,land/ former name

d Ant-arc-tic Ter-ri-to-ries f France, comprised of Adélie Kerguelen and Crozet slands of Amsterdam and 1 Indian Ocean.



French twist

. dry

French-Womian / Helich, Woolliell | . ( Frenchwomen) a female who is French by birth or

French·y / frencHē/ (also Frenchie) ➤ adj. informal, diefly derogatory perceived as characteristically French: a perfect example of that kind of progressive Frenchy

n. (pl. Frenchies) 1 informal, chiefly derogatory a French person. 

Canadian a French Canadian. 2 Brit. informal or dated short for FRENCH LETTER

fren-e-my /'frenəmi/ ➤ n. (pl. frenemies) informal a person with whom one is friendly despite a fundamental dislike or rivalry. ORIGIN 1950s: blend of FRIEND and ENEMY

fre net-ic /fra netik/ > adj. fast and energetic in a rather wild and uncontrolled way: a frenetic pace of

DERIVATIVES fre-net-i-cal-ly /-ik(a)le/ adv. ORIGIN late Middle English (in the sense 'insane'): from Old French frenetique, via Latin from Greek phrenitikos, from phrenitis 'delirium,' from phren

'mind.' Compare with FRANTIC. fren-u-lum /'frenyələm/ > n. Anatomy a small fold or ridge of tissue that supports or checks the motion of the part to which it is attached, in particular a fold of skin beneath the tongue, or between the lip and the gum. 

Entomology (in some moths and butterflies) a bristle or row of bristles on the edge of the hind wing that keeps it in contact with the

-origin early 18th cent.: modern Latin, diminutive of Latin frenum 'bridle.'

fre-num /'frenem/ > n. another term for FRENULUM. -ORIGIN mid 18th cent.: from Latin, literally 'bridle.' fren-zied /'frenzēd/ > adj. wildly excited or

uncontrolled: a frenzied attack. -DERIVATIVES fren-zied-ly adv.

fren-zy /'frenzē/ ▶ n. (pl. frenzies) [usu. in sing.] a state or period of uncontrolled excitement or wild behavior: Doreen worked herself into a frenzy of rage. ORIGIN Middle English: from Old French frenesie, from medieval Latin phrenesia, from Latin phrenesis, from Greek phren'mind.'

Fre·on /'frē,än/ ▶ n. trademark an aerosol propellant, refrigerant, or organic solvent consisting of one or more of a group of chlorofluorocarbons and related compounds.

ORIGIN 1930s: of unknown origin.

freq. ▶ abbr. ■ frequency. ■ frequent. ■ Grammar frequentative. 

frequently.

fre-quen-cy /ˈfrēkwənsē/ ➤ n. (pl. frequencies) 1 the rate at which something occurs or is repeated over a particular period of time or in a given sample: shops have closed with increasing frequency during the period. 

the fact of being frequent or happening often. 

Statistics the ratio of the number of actual to possible occurrences of an event.

Statistics the (relative) number of times something occurs in a given sample.

2 the rate at which a vibration occurs that Constitutes a wave, either in a material (as in sound waves), or in an electromagnetic field (as in radio waves and light), usually measured per second. (Symbol: f or v) ■ the particular waveband at which a radio station or other system broadcasts or transmits signals.

ORIGIN mid 16th cent. (gradually superseding late Middle English frequence; originally denoting a gathering of people): from Latin frequentia, from requens, frequent-'crowded, frequent.'

re-quen-cy dis-tri-bu-tion ▶ n. Statistics a hathematical function showing the number of instance. Instances in which a variable takes each of its possible values.

Tequen cy di vi sion mul-ti plex ing ▶ n. Recommunications a technique for sending two or more signals over the same telephone line, radio channel, or other medium. Each signal is transmitted as a

▶ v. /frē'kwent/ [with obj.] visit (a place) often or habitually: bars frequented by soldiers | [as adj., with submodifier] (frequented) one of the most frequented

DERIVATIVES fre-quen-ta-tion /,frēkwən'tāsHən, ,frēkwen-/ n., fre-quent-er /frē'kwentər-/ n.

- ORIGIN late Middle English (in the sense 'profuse, ample'): from French, or from Latin frequens, frequent-'crowded, frequent,' of unknown ultimate

fre-quen-ta-tive /frē'kwentətiv/ Grammar ▶ adj. (of a verb or verbal form) expressing frequent repetition or intensity of action.

▶ n. a verb or verbal form of this type, e.g., chatter in English.

-ORIGIN mid 16th cent.: from French fréquentatif. -ive or Latin frequentativus, from frequens, frequent-'crowded, frequent.'

fre-quent fli-er ▶ n. a person who regularly travels by air on commercial flights, esp. one who is enrolled in a promotional program for such

fre-quent-ly /'frēkwəntlē/ ▶ adv. regularly or habitually; often: they go abroad frequently.

fres·co /'freskō/ ▶ n. (pl. frescoes or frescos) a painting done rapidly in watercolor on wet plaster on a wall or ceiling, so that the colors penetrate the plaster and become fixed as it dries. 

this method of painting, used in Roman times and by the great masters of the Italian Renaissance including Giotto, Masaccio, and Michelangelo.

▶ v. [with obj.] paint in fresco: four scenes had been frescoed on the wall | [as adj.] frescoed ceilings.

ORIGIN late 16th cent.: Italian, literally 'cool, fresh.' The word was first recorded in the phrase in fresco, representing Italian affresco, al fresco 'on the fresh (plaster).'

fres·co sec·co /'freskō 'sekō/ ▶ n. see secco.

fresh /fresH/ ▶ adj. 1 not previously known or used; new or different: the court had heard fresh evidence. 2 recently created or experienced and not faded or impaired: the memory was still fresh in their minds. (of food) recently made or obtained; not canned, frozen, or otherwise preserved. ■ [predic.] (of a person) full of energy and vigor: they are feeling fresh after a good night's sleep. 

(of a color or a person's complexion) bright or healthy in appearance. ■ (of a person) attractively youthful and inexperienced. ■ [predic.] (fresh from/out of) (of a person) having just had (a particular experience) or come from (a particular place): we were fresh out of art school.

3 (of water) not salty. ■ pleasantly clean, pure, and cool: a bit of fresh air does her good.

4 (of the wind) cool and fairly strong

5 informal presumptuous or impudent toward someone, esp. in a sexual way: some of the men tried to get fresh with the girls.

6 (of a cow) yielding a renewed or increased supply of milk following the birth of a calf.

▶ adv. [usu. in combination] newly; recently: fresh-baked bread | fresh-cut grass

-PHRASES be fresh out of informal have just sold or run out of a supply of (something). (as) fresh as a daisy see DAISY. fresh blood see BLOOD.

- DERIVATIVES fresh-ness n.

- ORIGIN Old English fersc 'not salt, fit for drinking,' superseded in Middle English by forms from Old French freis, fresche; both ultimately of Germanic origin and related to Dutch vers and German frisch.

fresh breeze ➤ n. a wind of force 5 on the Beaufort scale (17-21 knots or 20-24 mph).

fresh•en /'fresHən/ ▶ v. 1 [with obj.] make (something) newer, cleaner, or more attractive: it didn't take long to freshen her makeup. add more liquid to (a drink); top off.

2 [no obj.] (of wind) become stronger and colder. 3 [no obj.] (of a cow) give birth and come into milk. fresh·man /'fresHmən/ ▶ n. (t year student at a university, c we invited the freshmen | [as mo second baseman. a newcom someone newly elected to Cor

fresh·wa·ter /'fresh'wôtər, -'v found in fresh water; not of the marine fish.

2 informal (esp. of a school or co

remote or obscure area; provid fresh·wa·ter flea ▶ n. anoth

fresh-wom-an /'fresh,woome freshwomen) a female first-y university, college, or high sch

Fres-nel /frā'nel/, Augustin Je: French physicist and civil engi postulated that light moves in transverse to the direction of

fres-nel /'freznəl, frā'nel/ (also Photography a flat lens made of a rings, to reduce spherical aber - ORIGIN mid 19th cent.: named

Fres-no /'freznō/ a city in centi San Joaquin valley; pop. 476,0

fret¹ /fret/ > v. (frets, fretting, be constantly or visibly worrie fretted about the cost of groceri that my fingers were so skinny. (someone) worry or distress. 2 [with obj.] gradually wear away rubbing or gnawing: the bay's l seafront. 
form (a channel or or wearing away. [no obj.] flow waves: soft clay that fretted bet

▶ n. [in sing.] chiefly Brit. a state of ar -ORIGIN Old English fretan 'de of Germanic origin; related to German fressen, and ultimatel

fret² ➤ n. 1 Art & Architecture a repe design of interlaced vertical ar such as the Greek key pattern. 2 Heraldry a device of narrow dia interlaced through a diamond.

▶ v. (frets, fretting, fretted) [wit fretted) decorate with fretwor and fretted balustrades.

-ORIGIN late Middle English: fr 'trelliswork' and freter (verb),

fret³ ▶ n. each of a sequence of bars or ridges on the fingerboard of some stringed musical instruments (such as the guitar), used for fixing the positions of the fingers to produce the desired notes.

v. (frets, fretting, fretted) [with obj.] (often as adi. fretted) 1 provide (a stringed instrument) with frets 2 play (a note) while

pressing the string down against a fret: fretted notes. - DERIVATIVES fret-less adj.

- ORIGIN early 16th cent.: of unk fret-board /'fret,bôrd/ > n. a fre

a guitar or other musical instru fret·ful /'fretfəl/ ▶ adj. feeling € or irritation: the baby was cryin

whimper. - DERIVATIVES fret-ful-ly adv., f

PRONUNCIATION KEY ago, up; ā ate; ä car; e let; ē see; i fit; ō go; ô law, for; oi toy; ŏo goo TH thin; TH then; ZH vision

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## <sub>hree</sub>-cornered

hree-cor·nered ➤ adj. triangular. ■ (esp. of a rontest) between three people or groups.

ree-cush-ion bil·liards ▶ plural n. [usu. treated as sing] a type of billiards in which the cue ball must strike one object ball and three or more cushions hefore the second object ball.

nree-deck·er ➤ n. a thing with three levels or layers: [as modifier] three-decker sandwiches. ■ historical assiling warship with three gun decks.

hree-di-men-sion-al > adj. having or appearing to have length, breadth, and depth: a three-dimensional object. (a) (of a literary or dramatic work) sufficiently full in characterization and representation of events to be believable.

DERIVATIVES three-di-men-sion-al-i-ty /di\_menSHə'nalətê/ n., three-di-men-sion-al-ly adv.

hree-fold /'THre,föld/ > adj. three times as great of as numerous: a threefold increase in the number of stolen cars. • having three parts or elements: the differences are threefold.

adv. by three times; to three times the number or amount: the aftershocks intensify threefold each

three Grac-es see grace.

hree-leg-ged race /'legad/ > n. a race run by pairs of people, one member of each pair having their left leg tied to the right leg of the other.

hree Mile Is-land an island in the Susquehanna River near Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, site of a nuclear power station. In 1979, an accident caused damage to the reactor core, provoking strong reactions against the nuclear industry in the US.

three-mile lim-it ➤ n. Law the outer boundary of the area extending 3 miles (4.8 km) out to sea from the coast of a state or country, considered to be within its jurisdiction.

three-peat ▶ v. [no obj.] win a particular sports championship three times, esp. consecutively: the Bulls rate as the favorite to three-peat.

n. [in sing.] a third win of a particular sports championship, esp. the third of three consecutive wins: all eyes were on the 49ers' bid for a three-peat.

ORIGIN 1980s: from THREE + a shortened form of SEPEAT.

three-pence /'THrepons, 'THrop-, 'THrepens/ • n. Brit. the sum of three pence, esp. before decimalization (1971).

three-pen-ny /"THrip(a)nē, "THrāp-, "THrē,penē/ ▶ adj. [attīb.] Brit. costing or worth three pence, esp. before decimalization (1971). ■ trifling or paltry; of little worth: a threepenny production.

three-phase ➤ adj. (of an electric generator, motor, or other device) designed to supply or use simultaneously three separate alternating currents of the same voltage, but with phases differing by a third of a period.

three-piece ▶ adj. [attrib.] consisting of three separate and complementary items, in particular: ■ (of a set of furniture) consisting of a sofa and two armchairs. ■ (of a set of clothes) consisting of slacks or a skirt with a vest and jacket.

In a set of three separate and complementary items.

agroup consisting of three musicians.

three-ply > adj. (of material) having three layers or

1.1 knitting wool made of three strands.
 2 plywood made by gluing together three layers with the grain in different directions.

three-point land-ing ▶ n. a landing of an aircraft on the two main wheels and the tailwheel or skid simultaneously.

hree-point turn ▶ n. a method of turning a vehicle around in a narrow space by moving forward, backward, and forward again in a sequence of arcs.

hee-quar-ter > adj. [attrib.] consisting of three Quarters of something (used esp. with reference to size or length): a three-quarter length cashmere coat. (of a view or depiction of a person's face) at an

angle between full face and profile.

1807

rank of lieutenant general, distinguished by three stars on the uniform.

Three Stoog.es, US comedy team, comprising various partners from the early 1930s to 1970. The most popular trio (1934–46) were Moe Howard (born Moses Horwitz) (1897–1975), Curly Howard (Moe's brother; born Jerome Lester Horwitz) (1903–52), and Larry Fine (born Louis Feinberg) (1902–75). The Stooges' nearly 200 movie shorts include Men in Black (1934), Hold That Lion! (1947), and Quiz Whizz (1958).

three strikes ➤ n. [usu. as modifier] legislation providing that an offender's third felony is punishable by life imprisonment or another severe sentence.

-ORIGIN 1990s: from the phrase three strikes and you're out (with allusion to baseball).

**three-way** ▶ adj. involving three directions, processes, or participants: a three-way race for the presidency | a three-way switch.

three-wheel·er > n. a vehicle with three wheels, esp. a child's tricycle.

Three Wise Men another name for MAGI.

threm·ma·tol·o·gy /ˌTHreməˈtäləjē/ ▶ n. the

science of breeding animals and plants.

ORIGIN late 19th cent.: from Greek thremma, thremmat-'nursling' + -LOGY.

thren·o·dy /'THrenədē/ ➤ n. (pl. threnodies) a lament.

- DERIVATIVES thre-no-di-al /THrə'nödēəl/ adj.,

thre nod-ic /THrə'nādik/ adj., thren o dist /-dist/ n.
-ORIGIN mid 17th cent.: from Greek thrēnōidia, from thrēnos 'wailing' + ōidē 'song.'

thre-o-nine / THrēa,nēn, -nin/ ▶ n. Biochemistry a hydrophilic amino acid that is a constituent of most proteins. It is an essential nutrient in the diet of vertebrates. ● Chem. formula: CH<sub>3</sub>CH(OH) CH(NH<sub>2</sub>)COOH.

- ORIGIN 1930s: from threose (the name of a tetrose sugar) + -INE\*.

thresh /THresH/ ▶ v. [with obj.] 1 separate grain from (a plant), typically with a flail or by the action of a revolving mechanism: machinery that can reap and thresh corn in the same process | (as noun threshing) farm workers started the afternoom's threshing. 2 variant spelling of THRASH.

 ORIGIN Old English therscan, later threscan, of Germanic origin; related to Dutch dorsen and German dreschen. Compare with THRASH.

thresh-er /'THresHər/ ▶ n. 1 a person or machine that separates grain from the plants by beating. 2 (also thresher shark) a surface-living shark with a long upper lobe to the tail. Threshers often hunt in pairs, lashing the water with their tails to herd fish into a tightly packed shoal. ● Alopias vulpinus, family Alopidae.

thresh-ing floor > n. a hard, level surface on which grain is threshed with a flail.

thresh-ing ma-chine ▶ n. a power-driven machine for separating grain from plants.

thresh.old /'THresh,(h)old/ > n. 1 a strip of wood, metal, or stone forming the bottom of a doorway and crossed in entering a house or room. ■ [in sing.] a point of entry or beginning: she was on the threshold of a dazzling career. . the beginning of an airport runway on which an aircraft is attempting to land. 2 the magnitude or intensity that must be exceeded for a certain reaction, phenomenon, result, or condition to occur or be manifested: nothing happens until the signal passes the threshold | [as modifier] a threshold level. 

the maximum level of radiation or a concentration of a substance considered to be acceptable or safe: their water would meet the safety threshold of 50 milligrams of nitrates per liter. 
Physiology & Psychology a limit below which a stimulus causes no reaction: everyone has a different pain threshold. a a level, rate, or amount at which something comes into effect: the tax threshold has risen to \$10,492 of adjusted gross income.

ORIGIN Old English therscold, threscold; related to German dialect Drischaufel; the first element is related to THRESH (in a Germanic sense 'tread'), but

throat

growing chiefly on sea cliffs and mountains.
Also called **SEA PINK**. ● *Armeria maritima*, family Plumbaginaceae.

- ORIGIN Middle English (in the sense 'prosperity, acquired wealth, success'): from Old Norse, from thrifa 'grasp, get hold of.' Compare with THRIVE.

thrift-less /'THriftlis/ ➤ adj. (of a person or their behavior) spending money in an extravagant and wasteful way.

- DERIVATIVÉS thrift·less·ly adv., thrift·less·ness n.

thrift shop (also thrift store) ▶ n. a store selling secondhand clothes and other household goods, typically to raise funds for a charitable institution.

thrift:y /"THriftē/ ▶ adj. (thriftier, thriftiest) 1 (of a person or their behavior) using money and other resources carefully and not wastefully.

2 chiefly archaic dialect (of livestock or plants) strong and healthy. ■ archaic prosperous.

- DERIVATIVES thrift.i.ly /-le/ adv., thrift.i.ness n.

thrill /THRIl/ ▶ n. a sudden feeling of excitement and pleasure: the thrill of jumping out of an airplane.
■ an experience that produces such a feeling. ■ a wave or nervous tremor of emotion or sensation: a thrill of excitement ran through her. ■ archaic a throb or pulsation. ■ Medicine a vibratory movement or resonance heard through a stethoscope.

▶ v. 1 [with obj.] cause (someone) to have a sudden feeling of excitement and pleasure: his kiss thrilled and excited her | I'm thrilled to death | they were thrilled to pieces | (as adj. thrilling) a thrilling adventure. ■ [no obj.] experience such feeling: thrill to the magic of the world's greatest guitarist.

2 [no obj.] (of an emotion or sensation) pass with a nervous tremor: the shock of alarm thrilled through her. ■ [iterary quiver or throb.]

- PHRASES **thrills and chills** the excitement of dangerous sports or entertainments, as experienced by spectators.

- DERIVATIVES thrill-ing-ly adv.

- ORIGIN Middle English (as a verb in the sense 'pierce or penetrate'): alteration of dialect thirl 'pierce, hore.'

thrill-er / 'THrilər/ ▶ n. a novel, play, or movie with an exciting plot, typically involving crime or espionage. ■ a very exciting contest or experience: a 17–14 overtime thriller against Tampa Bay.

thrips /THrips/ (also thrip) ➤ n. (pl. same) a minute black winged insect that sucks plant sap and can be a serious pest of ornamental and food plants when present in large numbers. ● Order Thysanoptera: many species.

 ORIGIN late 18th cent.: via Latin from Greek, literally 'woodworm.'

thrive /THrĪv/ ▶ v. (thrives, thriving; past throve /THrōv/ or thrived; past participle thriven /'THrīvan/ or thrived) [no obj.] (of a child, animal, or plant) grow or develop well or vigorously: the new baby thrived.

■ prosper; flourish: education groups thrive on organization | (as adi, thriving) a thriving economy.

 ORIGIN Middle English (originally in the sense 'grow, increase'): from Old Norse thrifask, reflexive of thrifa 'grasp, get hold of.' Compare with THRIFT.

thro' /THroo/ (or thro) ▶ prep., adv., & adj. literary spelling of THROUGH.

throat /THröt/ ▶ n. the passage that leads from the back of the mouth of a person or animal. ■ the front part of a person's or animal's neck, behind which the esophagus, trachea, and blood vessels serving the head are situated: a gold pendant gleamed at her throat. ■ literary a voice of a person or a songbird: from a hundred throats came the cry "Vive l'Empereur!" ■ a thing compared to a throat, esp. a narrow passage, entrance, or exit. ■ Sailing the forward upper corner of a quadrilateral fore-and-aft

PHRASES be at each other's throats (of people or organizations) quarrel or fight persistently. cut one's own throat bring about one's own downfall by one's actions. force (or shove or ram) something down someone's throat force ideas or material on a person's attention by repeatedly putting them forward. grab (or take) someone

t