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# The Merriam Webster Dictionary



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- senior high school** *n*: a school usu. including grades 10 to 12
- seniority** \sēn-<sup>1</sup>yōr-ə-tē\ *n* **1**: the quality or state of being senior **2**: a privileged status owing to length of continuous service
- senior master sergeant** *n*: a noncommissioned officer in the air force ranking next below a chief master sergeant
- seni-ti** \<sup>1</sup>se-nə-tē\ *n*, *pl* **seniti** — see *pa'anga* at **MONEY** table
- sen-na** \<sup>1</sup>se-nə\ *n* **1**: CASSIA **2**; *esp*: one used medicinally **2**: the dried leaflets or pods of a cassia used as a purgative
- sen-sa-tion** \sen-<sup>1</sup>sā-shən\ *n* **1**: awareness (as of noise or heat) or a mental process (as seeing or hearing) due to stimulation of a sense organ; *also*: an indefinite bodily feeling **2**: a condition of excitement; *also*: the thing that causes this condition
- sen-sa-tion-al** \shə-nəl\ *adj* **1**: of or relating to sensation or the senses **2**: arousing an intense and usu. superficial interest or emotional reaction — **sen-sa-tion-al-ly** *adv*
- sen-sa-tion-al-ism** \nə-li-zəm\ *n*: the use or effect of sensational subject matter or treatment — **sen-sa-tion-al-ist** \nə-list\ *adj* or *n* — **sen-sa-tion-al-istic** \sā-shə-nə-<sup>1</sup>lis-tik\ *adj*
- sen-sa-tion-al-ize** \nə-<sup>1</sup>liz\ *vb* -ized; -izing **1**: to present in a sensational manner
- sense** \sens\ *n* **1**: semantic content: MEANING **2**: the faculty of perceiving by means of sense organs; *also*: a bodily function or mechanism (as sight, hearing, or smell) basically involving a stimulus and a sense organ **3**: SENSATION, AWARENESS **4**: INTELLIGENCE, JUDGMENT **5**: OPINION (the ~ of the meeting) — **sense-less** *adj* — **sense-less-ly** *adv*
- sense** *vb* **sensed**; **sens-ing** **1**: to be or become aware of (~ danger); *also*: to perceive by the senses **2**: to detect (as radiation) automatically
- sense organ** *n*: a bodily structure (as an eye or ear) that receives stimuli (as heat or light) which excite nerve cells to send information to the brain
- sen-si-bil-i-ty** \sen-sə-<sup>1</sup>bi-lə-tē\ *n*, *pl* -ties: delicacy of feeling: SENSITIVITY
- sen-si-ble** \sen-sə-bəl\ *adj* **1**: capable of being perceived by the senses or the mind; *also*: capable of receiving sense impressions **2**: AWARE, CONSCIOUS **3**: REASONABLE, RATIONAL — **sen-si-bly** \-blē\ *adv*
- sen-si-tive** \sen-sə-tiv\ *adj* **1**: subject to excitation by or responsive to stimuli **2**: having power of feeling **3**: of such a nature as to be easily affected **4**: TOUCHY (a ~ issue) — **sen-si-tive-ness** *n* — **sen-si-tiv-i-ty** \sen-sə-<sup>1</sup>ti-və-tē\ *n*
- sensitive plant** *n*: any of several mimosas with leaves that fold or droop when touched
- sen-si-tize** \sen-sə-tiz\ *vb* -tized; -tizing: to make or become sensitive or hypersensitive — **sen-si-ti-za-tion** \sen-sə-tə-<sup>1</sup>zā-shən\ *n*
- sen-sor** \sen-<sup>1</sup>sōr, -sər\ *n*: a device that responds to a physical stimulus
- sen-so-ry** \sen-sə-rē\ *adj*: of or relating to sensation or the senses
- sen-su-al** \sen-shə-wəl\ *adj* **1**: relating to gratification of the senses **2**: devoted to the pleasures of the senses — **sen-su-al-ist** *n* — **sen-su-al-i-ty** \sen-shə-<sup>1</sup>wa-lə-tē\ *n* — **sen-su-al-ly** *adv*
- sen-su-ous** \sen-shə-wəs\ *adj* **1**: relating to the senses or to things that can be perceived by the senses **2**: VOLUPTUOUS — **sen-su-ous-ly** *adv* — **sen-su-ous-ness** *n*
- send** *past and past part* of SEND
- sen-te** \sen-tē\ *n*, *pl* **li-cen-te** or **li-sen-te** \li-<sup>1</sup>sen-tē\ — see *loti* at **MONEY** table
- sen-tence** \sent-ns, -nz\ *n* [ME, fr. MF, fr. L *sententia*, lit., feeling, opinion, fr. *sentire* to feel] **1**: the punishment set by a court **2**: a grammatically self-contained speech unit that expresses an assertion, a question, a command, a wish, or an exclamation
- sen-tence** *vb* **sen-tenced**; **sen-tenc-ing**: to impose a sentence on
- sen-ten-tious** \sen-<sup>1</sup>ten-chəs\ *adj*: using wise sayings or proverbs; *also*: using pompous language
- sen-tient** \sen-chənt, -chē-ənt\ *adj*: capable of feeling: having perception
- sen-ti-ment** \sen-tə-mənt\ *n* **1**: FEELING; *also*: thought and judgment influenced by feeling: emotional attitude **2**: OPINION, NOTION
- sen-ti-men-tal** \sen-tə-<sup>1</sup>ment-əl\ *adj* **1**: influenced by tender feelings **2**: affecting the emotions *syn* bathetic, maudlin, mawkish, mushy — **sen-ti-men-tal-ism** *n* — **sen-ti-men-tal-ist** *n* — **sen-ti-men-tal-i-ty** \-men-tə-lə-tē, -mənt\ *n* — **sen-ti-men-tal-ly** *adv*
- sen-ti-men-tal-ize** \-<sup>1</sup>ment-əl-īz\ *vb* -ized; -izing **1**: to indulge in sentiment **2**: to look upon or imbue with sentiment — **sen-ti-men-tal-i-za-tion** \-<sup>1</sup>ment-əl-ə-<sup>1</sup>zā-shən\ *n*
- sen-ti-mo** \sen-<sup>1</sup>tē-(ə)mō\ *n*, *pl* -mos — see *peso* at **MONEY** table
- sen-ti-nel** \sent-ən-əl\ *n* [MF *sentinelle*, fr. It *sentinella*, fr. *sentina* vigilance, fr. *sentire* to perceive, fr. L] **1**: one that watches or guards
- sen-try** \sen-trē\ *n*, *pl* **sentries**: SENTINEL, GUARD
- sep** *abbr* separate, separated
- Sep** *abbr* September
- SEP** *abbr* simplified employee pension
- sep-al** \sē-pəl, se-\ *n*: one of the modified leaves comprising a flower calyx
- sep-a-rable** \se-pə-rə-bəl\ *adj*: capable of being separated
- sep-a-rate** \se-pə-rāt\ *vb* -rat-ed; -rat-ing **1**: to set or keep apart: DISCONNECT, SEVER **2**: to keep apart by something intervening **3**: to cease to be together: PART
- sep-a-rate** \se-prət, -pə-rət\ *adj* **1**: not connected **2**: divided from each other **3**: SINGLE, PARTICULAR (the ~ pieces of the puzzle) — **sep-a-rate-ly** *adv*
- sep-a-rate** *n*: an article of dress designed to be worn interchangeably with others to form various combinations
- sep-a-ra-tion** \se-pə-<sup>1</sup>rā-shən\ *n* **1**: the act or process of separating: the state of being separated **2**: a point, line, means, or area of division **3**: a formal separating of a married couple by agreement but without divorce
- sep-a-rat-ist** \se-prə-tist, se-pə-<sup>1</sup>rā-\ *n*: an advocate of separation (as from a political body) — **sep-a-rat-ism** \se-prə-<sup>1</sup>ti-zəm\ *n*
- sep-a-ra-tive** \se-pə-<sup>1</sup>rā-tiv, se-prə-tiv\ *adj*: tending toward, causing, or expressing separation
- sep-a-ra-tor** \se-pə-<sup>1</sup>rā-tər\ *n*: one that separates; *esp*: a device for separating cream from milk
- sepia** \sē-pē-ə\ *n*: a brownish gray to dark brown color
- sep-sis** \sep-səs\ *n*, *pl* **sep-ses** \sep-<sup>1</sup>sēz\: a toxic condition due to spread of bacteria or their products in the body
- Sept** *abbr* September
- Septem-ber** \sep-tem-bər\ *n* [ME *Septembre*, fr. OF & OE, both fr. L *September* (seventh month), fr. *septem* seven]: the 9th month of the year having 30 days
- sep-tic** \sep-tik\ *adj* **1**: PUTREFACTIVE **2**: relating to or characteristic of sepsis
- sep-tic-e-mia** \sep-tə-<sup>1</sup>sē-mē-ə\ *n*: BLOOD POISONING
- septic tank** *n*: a tank in which sewage is disintegrated by bacteria
- sep-tu-a-ge-nar-i-an** \sep-<sup>1</sup>tū-ə-jə-<sup>1</sup>ner-ē-ən, -<sup>1</sup>tyū-\ *n*: a person whose age is in the seventies — **sep-tu-a-genarian** *adj*
- Sep-tu-a-gint** \sep-<sup>1</sup>tū-ə-jənt, -<sup>1</sup>tyū-\ *n*: a Greek version of the Old Testament prepared in the 3d and 2d centuries B.C. by Jewish scholars
- sep-tum** \sep-təm\ *n*, *pl* **sep-ta** \-tə\: a dividing wall or