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see *ab-* + *-luere*, to wash; see *leu(a)-* in App.] —*ab-lu'tion-ar'y* (-shə-nēr'ē) *adj.*

**ABM** *abbr.* antiballistic missile

**abn** *abbr.* airborne

**Ab-na•ki** (āb-nā'kē, āb-) *n.* Variant of *Abenaki*.

**ab-ne•gate** (āb'nī-gāt') *tr.v.* -gat•ed, -gat•ing, -gates 1. To give up (rights or a claim, for example); renounce. 2. To deny (something) to oneself. [Lat. *abnegāre*, *abnegāt-*, to refuse; *ab-*, away; see *ab-* + *negāre*, to deny; see *ne* in App.] —*ab-ne•ga'tor n.*

**ab-ne•ga•tion** (āb'nī-gā'shən) *n.* Self-denial.

**ab-nor•mal** (āb-nōr'məl) *adj.* Not typical, usual, or regular; not normal; deviant. [Alteration (influenced by *ab-*) of obsolete *anormal* < Med.Lat. *anormalis*, blend of LLat. *abnormis* (Lat. *ab-*, away from; see *ab-* + Lat. *norma*, rule; see *gnō-* in App.) and *anomalis*; see *ANOMALOUS*.] —*ab-nor'mal•ly adv.*

**ab-nor•mal-i•ty** (āb'nōr-māl'ī-tē) *n., pl. -ties* 1. The condition of not being normal. 2. A phenomenon or occurrence that is not normal.

**abnormal psychology** *n.* The study of mental disorders, maladaptive behaviors, and certain mental phenomena such as dreams and hypnosis.

**Ab•o** or **ab•o** (āb'ō) *n., pl. -os* *Offensive Slang* Used as a disparaging term for an Australian Aborigine.

**a•board** (ə-bōrd', ə-bōrd') *adv.* 1. On board a passenger vehicle. 2. At the side; alongside. 3. In or into a group, organization, or business. 4. *Baseball* On base. ♦ *prep.* On board of; on; in. [ME *aboard*: *a-*, on; see *a-* + *bord*, ship (< OE *bord*).]

**a•bode** (ə-bōd') *v.* A past tense and past participle of *abide*. ♦ *n.* 1. A dwelling place; a home. 2. The act of abiding; a sojourn. [ME *abod*, home < *abiden*, to wait. See *ABIDE*.]

**ab•ohm** (ā-bōm') *n.* The centimeter-gram-second electromagnetic unit of resistance, equal to one billionth of an ohm.

**a•boil** (ə-boil') *adv. & adj.* 1. At a boil; boiling. 2. In an excited or tumultuous state.

**a•bol•ish** (ə-bōl'ish) *tr.v.* -ished, -ish•ing, -ish•es 1. To do away with; annul. 2. To destroy completely. [ME *abolissen* < OFr. *abolir*, *aboliss-* < Lat. *abolere*.] —*a•bol'ish•a•ble adj.* —*a•bol'ish•er n.* —*a•bol'ish•ment n.*

**ab•o•li•tion** (āb'ō-lī'sh'ən) *n.* 1. The act of doing away with or the state of being done away with; annulment. 2. Abolishment of slavery. [Lat. *abolitio*, *abolitio* < *abolitus*, p. part. of *abolere*, to abolish.] —*ab'ō•li'tion•ar'y* (-līsh'ō-nēr'ē) *adj.*

**ab•o•li•tion•ism** (āb'ō-lī'sh'ō-nīz'əm) *n.* Advocacy of the abolition of slavery. —*ab'ō•li'tion•ist n.*

**ab•o•ma•sum** (āb'ō-mā'səm) *n., pl. -sa* (-sə) The fourth division of the stomach in ruminant animals, in which digestion takes place. —*ab'ō•ma'sal* (-səl) *adj.*

**A•bomb** (ā'bɒm') *n.* See *atom bomb* 1.

**a•bom•i•na•ble** (ə-bōm'ə-nə-bəl) *adj.* 1. Unequivocally detestable; loathsome. 2. Thoroughly unpleasant or disagreeable. [ME *abominabile* < OFr. < Lat. *abominābilis* < *abomināri*, to abhor. See *ABOMINATE*.] —*a•bom'i•na•bly adv.*

**abominable snowman** *n.* A hairy humanlike animal reportedly inhabiting the high Himalaya Mountains.

**a•bom•i•nate** (ə-bōm'ə-nāt') *tr.v.* -nat•ed, -nat•ing, -nates To detest thoroughly; abhor. [Lat. *abomināri*, *abomināt-*, to deprecate as a bad omen; *ab-*, away; see *ab-* + *omen*, omen.] —*a•bom'i•na'tor n.*

**a•bom•i•na•tion** (ə-bōm'ə-nā'shən) *n.* 1. Abhorrence; disgust. 2. A cause of abhorrence or disgust.

**ab•o•ral** (ā-bōr'əl, ā-bōr'ē-) *adj.* Located opposite to or away from the mouth. —*ab'ō•ral•ly adv.*

**ab•o•rig•i•nal** (āb'ō-rīj'ə-nəl) *adj.* 1. Having existed in a region from the beginning. 2a. Of or relating to aborigines. b. often *Aboriginal* Of or relating to the indigenous peoples of Australia. ♦ *n.* also *Aboriginal* An aborigine. —*ab'ō•rig'i•nal•ly adv.*

**ab•o•rig•i•ne** (āb'ō-rīj'ə-nē) *n.* 1a. A member of the indigenous or earliest known population of a region. b. often *Aborigine* A member of any of the indigenous peoples of Australia. 2. *aborigines* The flora and fauna native to a geographic area. [*<* Lat. *aboriginēs*, original inhabitants; *ab-*, from; see *ab-* + *orig-*, ablative of *origō*, beginning; see *ORIGIN*.]

**a•bore•ning** (ə-bōr'ning) *adv.* While coming into being or being created. ♦ *adj.* Coming into being or being created.

**a•bort** (ə-bōrt') *v.* **a•bort•ed**, **a•bort•ing**, **a•borts** —*intr.* 1. To give birth prematurely or before term; miscarry. 2. To cease growth before full development or maturation. 3. To terminate an operation or procedure before completion. —*tr.* 1a. To cause to terminate (a pregnancy) prematurely, esp. before the fetus is viable. b. To cause the expulsion of (an embryo or fetus) before it is viable. c. To give premature birth to (an embryo or fetus). 2. To interfere with the development of; conclude prematurely: *abort plans for a corporate takeover*. 3. To terminate before completion: *abort a takeoff*. 4. To stop the progress of (a disease, for example). ♦ *n.* 1. The act of terminating an operation or proce-

**a•bor•ti•fa•cient** (ə-bōr'tə-fā'shənt) *adj.* Causing abortion. ♦ *n.* A substance or device used to induce abortion.

**a•bor•tion** (ə-bōr'shən) *n.* 1a. Induced termination of pregnancy, involving expulsion and destruction of the embryo or fetus, esp. before it is capable of survival. b. A procedure that results in such termination. 2. A miscarriage. 3. Cessation of normal growth, esp. of a body part, prior to full development or maturation. 4. An aborted organism. 5. Something malformed or incompletely developed; a monstrosity.

**a•bor•tion•ist** (ə-bōr'shə-nīst) *n.* One who performs abortions.

**a•bor•tive** (ə-bōr'tiv) *adj.* 1. Failing to accomplish an intended objective; fruitless. 2. *Biology* Partially or imperfectly developed. 3. Causing or meant to cause abortion; abortifacient. —*a•bor'tive•ly adv.* —*a•bor'tive•ness n.*

**ABO system** (ā'bē-ō') *n.* A classification system for human blood that identifies four major blood types, A, B, AB, and O, based on the presence or absence of two antigens, A and B, on red blood cells.

**a•bound** (ə-bound') *intr.v.* **a•bound•ed**, **a•bound•ing**, **a•bounds** 1. To be great in number or amount. 2. To be fully supplied or filled. See *Syns* at *teem* 1. [ME *abunden* < OFr. *abunder* < Lat. *abundāre*, to overflow; *ab-*, away; see *ab-* + *undāre*, to flow (< *unda*, wave; see *wed-* in App.)]

**a•bout** (ə-bout') *adv.* 1. Approximately; nearly: *about an hour*. 2. Almost: *The job is about done*. 3. To a reversed position or direction. 4. In no particular direction: *wandering about*. 5. All around; on every side: *look about for help*. 6. In the area or vicinity; near: *spoke to spectators standing about*. 7. In succession; one after another: *Turn about is fair play*. 8a. On the verge of doing something. Used with the infinitive: *The chorus is about to sing*. b. Used to show determination or intention in negative constructions with an infinitive: *I am not about to concede the point*. ♦ *prep.* 1. On all sides of; surrounding. 2. In the vicinity of; around: *explored the streams about the estate*. 3. Almost the same as; close to; near. 4a. In reference to; relating to; concerned with: *a book about snakes*. b. In the act or process of: *While you're about it, please clean your room*. 5. In the possession or innate character of: *Keep your wits about you*. ♦ *adj.* 1. Moving here and there; astir: *The patient is up and about*. 2. Being in evidence or existence: *Rumors are about concerning his resignation*. [ME < OE *onbūtan*: *on-*, in (< *on*) + *būtan*, outside; see *ud-* in App.]

**a•bout•face** (ə-bout'fās') *n.* 1a. The act of pivoting to face in the opposite direction from the original. b. A military command to turn clockwise 180°. 2. A total change of attitude or viewpoint. —*a•bout'face' v.*

**a•bove** (ə-būv') *adv.* 1. On high; overhead: *the clouds above*. 2. In heaven; heavenward. 3a. Upstairs: *in the dining room above*. b. To a degree that is over zero: *15° above*. 4. In or to a higher place. 5. In an earlier part of a given text. 6. In or to a higher rank or position: *the ranks of major and above*. ♦ *prep.* 1. Over or higher than. 2. Superior to in rank, position, or number; greater than: *put principles above expediency*. 3. Beyond the level or reach of: *heard above the music*. 4. In preference to. 5. Too honorable to bend to: *above petty intrigue*. 6. More than: *above normal temperature*. 7. Upstream of: *a dam positioned above the town*. 8. North of: *Utah is above Arizona*. ♦ *n.* 1. An earlier part of a given text. 2. The person or persons already referred to in a text. ♦ *adj.* Appearing earlier in the same text: *the above interpretation*. —*idiom: above all* Over and above all other considerations. [ME *aboven* < OE *abūfan*: *a-*, on; see *a-* + *būfan*, above; see *upo* in App.]

**a•bove•board** (ə-būv'bōrd', -bōrd') *adv. & adj.* Without deceit or trickery; straightforward in manner. [Orig. a gambling term referring to the fact that a gambler could not engage in trickery when the hands were above the gaming table.]

**a•bove•ground** (ə-būv'graund') *adj.* 1. Situated on or above the surface of the ground. 2. Operating or existing within the establishment; conventional: *published in the aboveground press*. —*a•bove'ground' adv.*

**a•bove•men•tioned** (ə-būv'mēn'shənd) *adj.* Mentioned previously. ♦ *n.* The one or ones mentioned previously.

**ab o•vo** (āb ō'vō) *adv.* From the beginning. [Lat. *ab ovō*: *ab*, from + *ovō*, ablative of *ovum*, egg.]

**Abp.** *abbr.* archbishop

**ab•ra•ca•dab•ra** (āb'rə-kə-dāb'rə) *n.* 1. A magical charm or incantation having the power to ward off disease or disaster. 2. Foolish or unintelligible talk. [LLat., magical formula.]

**a•brad•ant** (ə-brād'nt) *n.* An abrasive. ♦ *adj.* Abrasive.

**a•brade** (ə-brād') *tr.v.* **a•brad•ed**, **a•brad•ing**, **a•brades** 1. To wear down or rub away by friction; erode. 2. To make weary through constant irritation; wear down spiritually. [Lat. *abrādere*, to scrape off; *ab-*, away; see *ab-* + *rādere*, to scrape.] —*a•brad'a•ble adj.*

**A•bra•ham** (ā'brā-hām') In the Bible, the first patriarch and progenitor of the Hebrew people.

**a•bra•sion** (ə-brā'shən) *n.* 1. The process of wearing down or rubbing away by means of friction. 2a. A scraped or worn area. b.

