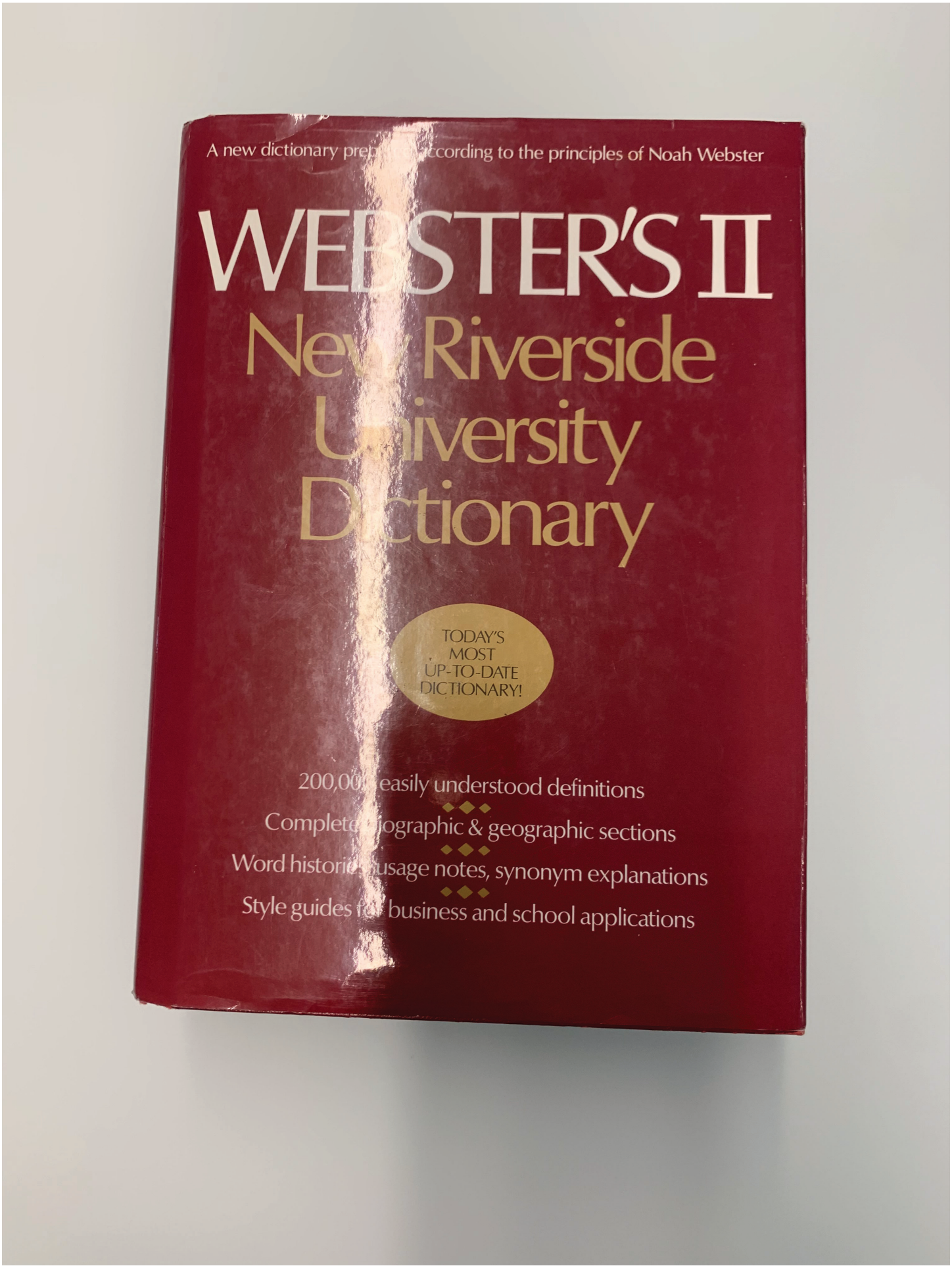
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Pro·ven·çal (prō′vən-säl′, prōv′ən-) *n.* The Romance language of Provence. —**Pro′ven·çal′** *adj.*

prov·en·der (prōv′ən-dər) *n.* [ME *provendre* < OFr. < Med. Lat. *probenda*, var. of *praebenda*. —see PREBEND.] **1.** Dry food, as hay, used as feed for livestock. **2.** Food or provisions.

pro·ve·nience (prə-vēn′yəns, -vē′nē-əns) *n.* [< Lat. *proveniens*, pr.part. of *provenire*, to originate. —see PROVENANCE.] An origin.

pro·ven·tric·u·lus (prō′vĕn-trĭk′yə-ləs) *n., pl.* **-li** (-lī′) [PRO-[2] + Lat. *ventriculus*, stomach, dim. of *venter*, belly.] **1.** A division of the stomach anterior to the gizzard in birds. **2.** A digestive division in insects and some worms similar to the proventriculus. **—pro′ven·tric′u·lar** (-lər) *adj.*

prov·erb (prŏv′ûrb′) *n.* [ME *proverbe* < OFr. < Lat. *proverbium* : *pro-*, forth + *verbum*, word.] **1.** A short, pithy, and much-used saying that expresses a well-known truth or fact. **2.** One accepted as a characteristic example. **3. Proverbs** (*sing. in number*). —See table at BIBLE.

pro·ver·bi·al (prə-vûr′bē-əl) *adj.* **1.** Of the nature of a proverb. **2.** Expressed in a proverb. **3.** Widely referred to <their *proverbial* finesse> **—pro·ver′bi·al·ly** *adv.*

pro·vide (prə-vīd′) *v.* **-vid·ed, -vid·ing, -vides.** [ME *provyden* < Lat. *providēre*, to prepare for : *pro-*, forward + *vidēre*, to see.] —*vt.* **1.** To furnish : supply. **2.** To make ready : PREPARE. **3.** To make available : AFFORD. **4.** To set down as a stipulation. —*vi.* **1.** To take measures in preparation. **2.** To supply means of subsistence. **3.** To make a stipulation or condition <The statute *provides* for stiff penalties for offenders.> **—pro·vid′er** *n.*

pro·vid·ed (prə-vī′dĭd) *conj.* On the condition : IF <will arrive Thursday *provided* the children are well>

prov·i·dence (prŏv′ĭ-dəns, -dĕns′) *n.* **1.** Care or preparation beforehand : FORESIGHT. **2.** Prudent management : ECONOMY. **3.** Divine direction <"Some sought the key to history in the working of . . . *providence*" —William Ebenstein> **4. Providence.** GOD 1a, b.

prov·i·dent (prŏv′ĭ-dənt, -dĕnt′) *adj.* [ME < Lat. *providens*, pr.part.of *providēre*, to provide for. —see PROVIDE.] **1.** Providing for future events or needs. **2.** Economical : frugal. **—prov′i·dent·ly** *adv.*

prov·i·den·tial (prŏv′ĭ-dĕn′shəl) *adj.* **1.** Of or caused by divine providence. **2.** Occurring as if through divine intervention : OPPORTUNE. **—prov′i·den′tial·ly** *adv.*

pro·vid·ing (prə-vī′dĭng) *conj.* On the condition : PROVIDED.

prov·ince (prŏv′ĭns) *n.* [ME *provynce* < OFr. *province* < Lat. *provincia*.] **1.** A territory governed as a political or administrative unit of a country or empire. **2. a.** A division of territory under the jurisdiction of an archbishop. **b.** A territorial unit of a religious order. **3. provinces.** Regions of a country located away from the capital or population center. **4.** An extensive area of knowledge, activity, or interest <the *province* of modern European history> **5.** The range of one's proper duties and functions : JURISDICTION. **6.** *Ecol.* A subdivision of a region. **7.** A country or region conquered by the Romans and administered by them as a self-contained unit.

pro·vin·cial (prə-vĭn′shəl) *adj.* **1.** Of or relating to a province. **2.** Of or typical of people from the provinces : UNSOPHISTICATED. **3.** Limited in perspective. —*n.* **1.** A native or inhabitant of the provinces. **2.** One with provincial ideas or habits. **3.** *Rom. Cath. Ch.* The superior of a province of a religious order. **—pro·vin′cial·ism, pro·vin′ci·al′i·ty** (-shē-ăl′ĭ-tē) *n.* **—pro·vin′cial·ly** *adv.*

pro·vin·cial·ize (prə-vĭn′shə-līz′) *vt.* **-ized, -iz·ing, -iz·es.** To make provincial. **—pro·vin′cial·i·za′tion** *n.*

proving ground *n.* A place for testing new devices, weapons, or theories.

pro·vi·sion (prə-vĭzh′ən) *n.* [ME < OFr., forethought < Lat. *provisio* < *providēre*, to foresee. —see PROVIDE.] **1.** An act of supplying or equipping. **2.** Something provided. **3.** A preparatory action or measure. **4. provisions.** A stock of supplies that are necessary, esp. food. **5.** A stipulation or qualification, esp. a clause in a document or agreement. —*vt.* **-sioned, -sion·ing, -sions.** To supply with provisions. **—pro·vi′sion·er** *n.*

pro·vi·sion·al (prə-vĭzh′ə-nəl) *also* **pro·vi·sion·ar·y** (-vĭzh′ə-nĕr′ē) *adj.* Provided temporarily, pending permanent arrangements <a *provisional* capital> **—pro·vi′sion·al·ly** *adv.*

pro·vi·so (prə-vī′zō) *n., pl.* **-sos** or **-soes.** [ME < Med. Lat. *proviso quod*, provided that.] A clause containing a qualification, condition, or restriction in a document.

pro·vi·so·ry (prə-vī′zə-rē) *adj.* Depending on a proviso : CONDITIONAL. **—pro·vi′so·ri·ly** *adv.*

pro·vi·ta·min (prō-vī′tə-mĭn) *n.* A substance converted to a vitamin within the body, as carotene into vitamin A.

Pro·vo (prō′vō) *n.* [Shortening and alteration of *provisional* (*wing*), name of the faction.] A member of the extremist faction of the Irish Republican Army.

pro·vo·ca·teur (prō-vŏk′ə-tûr′) *n.* [Fr.] An agent provocateur.

prov·o·ca·tion (prŏv′ə-kā′shən) *n.* [ME *provocacioun* < OFr. *provocation* < Lat. *provocatio* < *provocare*, to challenge. —see PROVOKE.] **1.** An act of provoking. **2.** Something that provokes.

pro·voc·a·tive (prə-vŏk′ə-tĭv) *adj.* Likely to provoke. —*n.* PROVOCATION 2. **—pro·voc′a·tive·ly** *adv.* **—pro·voc′a·tive·ness** *n.*

pro·voke (prə-vōk′) *vt.* **-voked, -vok·ing, -vokes.** [ME *provoken* < OFr. *provoker* < Lat. *provocare*, to challenge : *pro-*, forth + *vocare*, to call.] **1.** To cause anger, resentment, or deep feeling in. **2.** To to take action. **3.** To stir to action. **—pro·vok′ing·ly** *adv.*

☆ ***syns:*** PROVOKE, AROUSE, EXCITE, GALVANIZE, GOAD, INCITE, INFLAME, INSPIRE, INSTIGATE, KINDLE, MOTIVATE, ROUSE, SPUR, STIMULATE *v. core meaning* : to stir to action or <*provoked* a fight><carelessness that provoked anger>

pro·vok·ing (prə-vō′kĭng) *adj.* Vexatious. **—pro·vok′ing·ness** *n.*

pro·vo·lo·ne (prō′və-lō′nē) *n.* A smooth, hard, often cheese orig. from Italy.

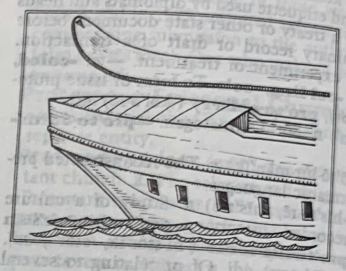
pro·vost (prō′vōst′, -vəst, prŏv′əst) *n.* [ME < OE profont and *provost*, both < Med. Lat. *propositus* < Lat. *praepositus*, superdent < p.part. of *praeponere*, to place over : *prae-*, before + to put.] **1.** The chief magistrate of certain Scottish cities. chief officer of some colleges. **3.** The highest official in certain giate churches or cathedrals. **4.** The keeper of a prison.

pro·vost court (prō′vō) *n.* A military court for the trial of offenses committed in occupied hostile territories.

pro·vost guard (prō′vō) *n.* A detail of troops doing police under a provost marshal.

pro·vost marshal (prō′vō) *n.* **1.** The head of a military unit. **2.** A naval officer responsible for prisoners facing court-

prow (prou) *n.* [OFr. *proue* < Lat. *prora* < Gk. *prōira*.] **1.** The ward part of a ship's hull : BOW. **2.** A projecting part similar figuration to the prow of a ship, as the forward end of a ski.



prow
Two types of prows (above) of a ski and (below) of a boat

prow·ess (prou′ĭs) *n.* [ME *prowesse* < OFr. *proesse* < *prou*, *prud*, brave. —see PROUD.] **1.** Superior skill or ability. **2.** strength, courage, or daring, esp. in battle.

prowl (proul) *v.* **prowled, prowl·ing, prowls.** [ME *prollen*] To roam through stealthily, as in searching for prey. —*vt.* furtively or with predatory purpose. **—prowl** *n.* **—prowl′er** *n.*

prowl car *n.* A squad car.

prox·i·mal (prŏk′sə-məl) *adj.* [< Lat. *proximus*, superl. of near.] **1.** Nearest : proximate. **2.** *Biol.* Near the central part of body or a point of attachment or origin <the proximal end of bone> **—prox′i·mal·ly** *adv.*

prox·i·mate (prŏk′sə-mĭt) *adj.* [Lat. *proximatus*, p.part. of *mare*, to come near < *proximus*, superl. of *propior*, near.] Closely related in space, time, or order. **2.** Approximate. **—prox′i·mate·ly** *adv.* **—prox′i·mate·ness** *n.*

prox·im·i·ty (prŏk-sĭm′ĭ-tē) *n.* [OFr. *proximité* < Lat. *proximus*, superl. of *propior*, near.] The state, quality, or fact of being near or next.

proximity fuze *n.* An electronic device for detonating a projectile as it nears a target, used in antiaircraft shells.

prox·i·mo (prŏk′sə-mō′) *adv.* [Lat. *proximo mense*, in the month.] *Archaic.* Of or in the following month.

prox·y (prŏk′sē) *n., pl.* **-ies.** [ME *proxcy* < Norman Fr. *procuracie* < Med. Lat. *procuratia* < Lat. *procurare*, to take care of. —see CURE.] **1.** An agent authorized to act for another. **2.** Authority for another. **3.** Written authorization to act in place of another.

prude (prōōd) *n.* [Fr., short for OFr. *preudefemme*, virtuous woman : *preu*, virtuous, proud + *de*, of (< Lat.) + *femme*, woman (< Lat. *femina*).] One who is overly anxious about being or seeming to be proper, modest, or righteous.

☆ ***syns:*** PRUDE, BLUENOSE, GOODY-GOODY, MRS. GRUNDY, OLD MAID, PRIG, PURITAN, VICTORIAN *n. core meaning* : a person who too much concerned with being proper, modest, or righteous <*prudes* who opposed dancing and card playing>

pru·dence (prōōd′ns) *n.* **1.** The state, quality, or fact of being prudent. **2.** Careful management : ECONOMY.

pru·dent (prōōd′nt) *adj.* [ME < OFr. < Lat. *prudens*, short for *videns*. —see PROVIDENT.] **1.** Using good judgment or common sense in handling practical matters. **2.** Careful with respect to one's own interests : PROVIDENT. **3.** Careful about one's conduct : CIRCUMSPECT. **—pru′dent·ly** *adv.*

pru·den·tial (prōō-dĕn′shəl) *adj.* **1.** Arising from or marked by prudence. **2.** Using prudence, good judgment, or common sense. **—pru·den′tial·ly** *adv.*

Patent Owner's Preliminary Response
Exhibit 2002, p. 3