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Random House Webster's College Dictionary
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enarthrosis (en'arθrō'sis), *n.*, *pl.* -ses (-sēz). BALL-AND-SOCKET JOINT (def. 1). [1625-35; < NL < GK]

enatē (ē'nā'tē), *n.* 1. a person related on one's mother's side. —*adj.* 2. Also, **enatēlic** (ē'nā'tē'lik), related on one's mother's side. [1660-70; < L *enātus*, ptp. of *enāscī* to spring forth = ē + *nāscī* to be born]
enation (ē'nā'shən), *n.* a small outgrowth of plant tissue, usu. on a leaf, caused by virus infection. [1835-45; < L *enāt(us)* sprouted]
en bloc (ən blōk'), *adv.* *adj.* French. as a whole; all together.

en- 1. enclosed, 2. enclosure.
en- (en kāj'), *v.t.*, **-caged**, **-caging**, to confine in or as if in a cage; coop up. [1585-95]

en- (en kām'p'), *v.t.*, *v.i.* to lodge or settle in a camp. [1540-50]
en- (en kām'p'ment), *n.* 1. an act or instance of encamping; lodgment in a camp. 2. the place or quarters occupied in camping; camp. [1590-1600]

en- (en kās'p'), *v.*, **-lated**, **-lat-ing**, —*v.t.* 1. to place in or as if in a capsule. 2. to summarize or condense. —*v.i.* 3. to become encapsulated. [1860-65] —**en-** (en kās'p'la'tion), *n.*

en- (en kās'p'), *v.t.*, **-cased**, **-casing**, to enclose in or as if in a case. [1625-35] —**en-** (en kās'p'ment), *n.*

en- (en kō'st'ik), *adj.* 1. painted with wax colors fixed with heat, or with any process in which colors are burned in. —*n.* 2. a work of art produced by an encaustic process. [1560-60; < L *encausticus* < Gk *enkauistikos* lit., for burning in (cf. *enkaite* to paint in this manner, lit., to burn in). See **en-**, **CAUSTIC** —**en-** (en kō'st'ik-ly), *adv.*

-ence, a noun suffix equivalent to **-ANCE**, corresponding to the suffix -ent in adjectives: *abstinence*; *contingence*; *dependence*; *difference*. [ME < OF < L *-entia* = *ent-* + *-ia* -y]

en- (en kō'st'ik), *adj.* 1. pregnant; with child. [1590-1600; < MF < L *incincta*, perh. lit. "ungirded"]

en- (en kō'st'ik), *adj.* 1. a ring of fortifications enclosing a place. 2. the place enclosed. [1700-10; < F, *enclosure*, *enceinte* < L *incincta*, fem. of *incinctus*, ptp. of *incingere* to surround]

en- (en kō'st'ik), *adj.* 1. inflammation of the substance of the brain. 2. sleeping sickness (def. 2). [1835-45] —**en-** (en kō'st'ik-ly), *adv.*

encephalo-, a combining form meaning "brain": *encephalograph*. [comb. form of Gk *enkephalos*. See **ENCEPHALON**]

en- (en kō'st'ik), *adj.* 1. an x-ray of the brain, usu. involving replacement of some cerebrospinal fluid by air or other gas that circulates to the brain's ventricular spaces and acts as a contrast medium. [1925-30]

en- (en kō'st'ik), *adj.* 1. an electroencephalograph. [1930-35] —**en-** (en kō'st'ik-ly), *adv.*

en- (en kō'st'ik), *adj.* 1. an inflammation of the brain and spinal cord. [1905-10] —**en-** (en kō'st'ik-ly), *adv.*

en- (en kō'st'ik), *adj.* 1. the brain. [1735-45; < NL, alter. (on for -os) of Gk *enkephalos* (adj.) within the head, as masc. n., brain] —**en-** (en kō'st'ik-ly), *adv.*

en- (en kō'st'ik), *adj.* 1. a disease of the brain. [1865-70]

en- (en kō'st'ik), *adj.* 1. to bind with or as if with chains; fetter: *enchained by ignorance and superstition*. 2. to hold fast, as the attention. [1350-1400; < OF] —**en-** (en kō'st'ik-ly), *adv.*

en- (en kō'st'ik), *adj.* 1. to subject to magical influence; place under a spell; bewitch. 2. to delight utterly; captivate. 3. to impart a magic quality or effect to. [1325-75; ME < AF, MF *enchanter* < L *incantāre* to put a spell on; see **INCANTATION**]

en- (en kō'st'ik), *adj.* 1. one that enchants, esp. a sorcerer.

en- (en kō'st'ik), *adj.* 1. charming; captivating. [1545-55] —**en-** (en kō'st'ik-ly), *adv.*

en- (en kō'st'ik), *adj.* 1. the act or art of enchanting. 2. the state of being enchanted. 3. something that enchants. [1250-1300; ME < AF, OF < L]

en- (en kō'st'ik), *adj.* 1. a woman who practices magic; sorceress. 2. an irresistibly charming woman.

en- (en kō'st'ik), *adj.* 1. to place (gems) in an ornamental setting. 2. to decorate with inlay, embossing, or engraving. [1425-75; late ME < MF *enchasser* to case in] —**en-** (en kō'st'ik-ly), *adv.*

en- (en kō'st'ik), *adj.* 1. a tortilla rolled around a filling, as of meat or cheese, covered usu. with a chili-flavored sauce, and baked. [1885-90; < AmerSp, fem. of Sp *enchilado*, ptp. of *enchilar* to spice with chili; see **ENCHILADA**]

en- (en kō'st'ik), *adj.* 1. a handbook. [1535-45; < LL < Gk *encheiridion* = *en-* + *cheir* hand]

en- (en kō'st'ik), *adj.* 1. to convert (a message) into cipher. [1570-80] —**en-** (en kō'st'ik-ly), *adv.*

en- (en kō'st'ik), *adj.* 1. to form a circle around; surround; encompass. 2. to make a circling movement around; make a circuit of. [1350-1400] —**en-** (en kō'st'ik-ly), *adv.*

en- (en kō'st'ik), *adj.* 1. enclosed. 2. enclosure.

en- (en kō'st'ik), *adj.* 1. to hold in or as if in a clasp or embrace. [1590-1600]

en- (en kō'st'ik), *adj.* 1. a country or a portion of a country surrounded by foreign territory. 2. any small, distinct area or group enclosed or isolated within a larger one. —*v.t.* 3. to make an enclave of. [1865-70; < F, MF, *n.* der. of *en-*

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en- (en kō'st'ik), *adj.* 1. (of a word) closely connected in pronunciation with the preceding word and not having an independent accent or phonological status. —*n.* 2. An enclitic word, as the form of *are* in *we're*. [1650-60; < LL *encliticus* < Gk *enklitikós* < *enklitōs*, *v.* *adv.* of *enklīnein* to cause to lean on (*en-* + *klīnein* to LEAN)]

en- (en kō'st'ik), *adj.* 1. to close in on all sides; shut in. 2. to surround, as with a fence: *to enclose land*. 3. to insert in the same envelope, package, etc.: *to enclose a check*. 4. to contain or hold. [1275-1325] —**en-** (en kō'st'ik-ly), *adv.*

en- (en kō'st'ik), *adj.* 1. something that encloses, as a fence or wall. 2. an enclosed area, esp. a tract of land surrounded by a fence. 3. something enclosed or included, as within a letter. 4. an act or instance of enclosing; the state of being enclosed. [1530-40]

en- (en kō'st'ik), *adj.* 1. to convert (information, a message, etc.) into code. [1930-35] —**en-** (en kō'st'ik-ly), *adv.*

en- (en kō'st'ik), *adj.* 1. a person who utters or writes an encomium; eulogist. [1600-10; < GK] —**en-** (en kō'st'ik-ly), *adv.*

en- (en kō'st'ik), *adj.* 1. a usual expression of high praise; eulogy. [1580-90; < L < Gk *enkōmion* = *en-* + *kōmion* (a revel + *-ion* n. suffix)]

en- (en kō'st'ik), *adj.* 1. to form a circle about. 2. to enclose. 3. to include comprehensively. 4. to bring about. [1545-55] —**en-** (en kō'st'ik-ly), *adv.*

en- (en kō'st'ik), *adj.* 1. to come upon or meet with, esp. unexpectedly. 2. to meet with or contend against (difficulties, opposition, etc.). 3. to meet (a person, military force, etc.) in conflict. —*v.t.* 4. to meet, esp. unexpectedly or in conflict. —*n.* 5. a meeting with a person or thing, esp. a casual, unexpected, or brief meeting. 6. a meeting of people or groups that are in conflict; combat; battle. [1250-1300; ME < AF *encouter*; OF < VL *incontrāre* = *in-* + *contrāre*, der. of *contrā* against; see **CONTRACT**]

en- (en kō'st'ik), *adj.* 1. a group of people who meet, usu. with a trained leader, to increase self-awareness and social sensitivity, and to change behavior. [1965-70]

en- (en kō'st'ik), *adj.* 1. to inspire with courage, spirit, or confidence. 2. to stimulate by guidance, approval, etc. 3. to promote; foster. [1400-50; late ME *encourager* < AF, MF *encourager* (fem.) = *en-* + *courager*, *n.* = *en-* + *courager*, *v.* *adv.*]

en- (en kō'st'ik), *adj.* 1. the act of encouraging or state of being encouraged. 2. one that encourages. [1560-70]

en- (en kō'st'ik), *adj.* 1. to advance beyond established or proper limits; make gradual inroads. 2. to trespass upon the property, domain, or rights of another; esp. gradually or stealthily. [1275-1325; ME < AF *encrocher*, OF *encrocher* to catch hold of, seize = *en-* + *crochier*, *v.* der. of *croch* hook < Gmc] —**en-** (en kō'st'ik-ly), *adv.*

en- (en kō'st'ik), *adj.* 1. to encipher or encode. [1940-45; *en-* + *-crypt* (extracted from *cryptic*, *cryptography*, etc.); on the model of *en-*]

en- (en kō'st'ik), *adj.* 1. to impede or hinder; hamper. 2. to block up or fill with superfluous or obstructive things. 3. to weigh down; burden. 4. to burden with obligations, debt, etc. [1300-50; ME < AF, MF *encomber* = *en-* + *combrer*, *v.* der. of *combre* dam, weir; Gaulish **combers* confluence, bringing together]

en- (en kō'st'ik), *adj.* 1. something that encumbers; a burden or hindrance. 2. a child or other dependent. 3. *Law*. a claim on property, as a mortgage. [1275-1325; ME < MF]

en- (en kō'st'ik), *adj.* 1. one holding an encumbrance.

-ency, a noun suffix, equivalent to **-ENCE**: *consistency*; *dependency*; *exigency*. [*ENCE* + *-y*]

ency- or **encyc-** or **encycl-**, *encyclopedia*.

en- (en kō'st'ik), *adj.* 1. a letter addressed by the pope to all the bishops of the church. 2. (of a letter) intended for wide or general circulation; general. [1610-20; < LL *encyclicus* (< Gk *enkyklios*)]

en- (en kō'st'ik), *adj.* 1. a book or set of books containing articles on various topics, usu. in alphabetical arrangement, covering all branches of knowledge or all aspects of one subject. [1525-35; < NL < Gk *enkykliopaidia*, a misreading of *enkyklios paidia* circular (i.e., well-rounded) education]

en- (en kō'st'ik), *adj.* 1. pertaining to or of the nature of an encyclopedia; relating to all branches of knowledge. 2. embracing a wide variety of information; comprehensive. [1815-25] —**en-** (en kō'st'ik-ly), *adv.*

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in-gre-dient (in grē'dē ənt), *n.* 1. something that enters as an element into a mixture: the *ingredients* of a cake. 2. a constituent element of anything: the *ingredients* of political success. [1425-75; late ME < L *ingredi* to go or step into, commence = *in-* *in-* + *gradī* to go, step] —*Syn.* See ELEMENT.

ingress (in'grɛs), *n.* 1. the act of going in or entering. 2. the right to enter. 3. a means or place of entering. [1400-50; late ME < L *ingressus* a going in, commencing] —*in-gress-ion* (in grɛsh'ən), *n.*

ingres-sive (in grɛs'iv), *adj.* 1. of or pertaining to ingress. 2. (of a speech sound) produced with air being taken into the mouth, as some clicks. [1640-50] —*in-gres-sive-ly*, *adv.* —*in-gres-sive-ness*, *n.*

in-group/ or in'group/, *n.* a group of people sharing similar interests, attitudes, etc., and usu. considering those outside the group as inferior or alien. Compare out-group. [1905-10]

in-grow-ing (in'grō'ing), *adj.* growing within or inward.

in-grown (in'grōn'), *adj.* 1. having grown into the flesh: an *ingrown* toenail. 2. grown within or inward. [1660-70]

in-growth (in'grōth'), *n.* 1. growth inward. 2. something formed by growth inward. [1865-70]

in-gui-nal (in'gwā nəl), *adj.* of, pertaining to, or situated in the groin. [1675-85; < L *inguinalis*, der. of *inguin-*, s. of *inguen* swelling in the groin]

in-gulf (in'gulf'), *v.t.* ENGULF.

in-gur-gi-tate (in'gūr'ji tā't), *v.*, *-tated*, *-tat-ing*. —*v.t.* 1. to swallow greedily or in great quantity, as food. 2. to engulf; swallow up. —*i.* 3. to drink or eat greedily; guzzle; swill. [1560-70; < L *ingurgitare* to fill, flood, drench with a stream of liquid] —*in-gur-gi-ta-tion*, *n.*

in-hab-it (in hab'it), *v.t.* 1. to live or dwell in (a place), as people or animals. 2. to exist or be situated within; dwell in: *Weird notions in-habit his mind.* [1325-75; ME < MF < L *inhabitare* = *in-* *in-* + *habitare* to dwell] —*in-hab-ita-ble*, *adj.* —*in-hab-iter*, *n.*

in-hab-ita-ble (in hab'itə bəl), *adj.* a person or animal that inhabits a place, esp. as a permanent resident. [1400-50; late ME < L]

in-hab-ited (in hab'it id), *adj.* having inhabitants.

in-hal-ant (in hāl'ant), *n.* a volatile medicine or other substance that is inhaled for the effect of its vapor. [1815-1825]

in-hala-tion (in'hā lā'shən), *n.* 1. an act or instance of inhaling. 2. an inhalant. [1615-25]

in-hala-tor (in'hā lā'tər), *n.* 1. an apparatus used to help inhale air, anesthetics, medicinal vapors, etc. 2. an apparatus for giving artificial respiration; respirator. [1925-30, Amer.]

in-hale (in hāl'), *v.*, *-haled*, *-hal-ing*. —*v.t.* 1. to breathe in; draw in by breathing: to *inhale* air. 2. *Informal.* to eat or drink rapidly or greedily. —*v.i.* 3. to breathe in. 4. to draw the smoke of cigarettes, cigars, etc., into the lungs. [1715-25; *in-* + (EX)HALE]

in-hal-er (in hāl'ər), *n.* 1. INHALATOR (def. 1). 2. a person who inhales.

in-har-mo-ni-ous (in'hār mō'nē əs), *adj.* 1. not harmonious; discordant. 2. not congenial or compatible; disagreeable. [1705-15]

in-har-mo'nious-ly, *adv.* —*in-har-mo'nious-ness*, *n.*

in-haul (in'hōl') also *in'hawl/er*, *n.* a line for hauling in a sail, spar, etc., for storage after use. [1855-60]

in-her-e (in her'), *v.t.*, *-hered*, *-her-ing*. to be inherent. [1580-90; < L *inherere* to remain attached = *in-* *in-* + *haerere* to stick]

in-her-ence (in her'əns, -her'), *n.* the state or fact of inhering or being inherent. [1570-80; < ML]

in-her-en-cy (in her'ən sē, -her'), *n.*, *pl.* *-cies*. 1. INHERENCE. 2. something inherent. [1595-1605; < ML]

in-her-ent (in her'ant, -her'), *adj.* existing in someone or something as a permanent and inseparable element, quality, or attribute; innate. [1570-80; < L] —*in-her-ent-ly*, *adv.* —*Syn.* See ESSENTIAL.

in-her-it (in her'it), *v.t.* 1. to take or receive (property, a right, a title, etc.) by succession or will, as an heir. 2. to receive as if by succession from predecessors. 3. to receive (a genetic character) by the action of hereditary factors. 4. to succeed (a person) as heir. 5. transmission of hereditary factors. 6. to come into possession of: to *inherit* a sister's old clothes. —*i.* 6. to have succession as heir. [1275-1325; ME < MF < LL *inherēdītāre* to make heir]

in-her-it-a-ble (in her'it ə bəl), *adj.* 1. capable of being inherited. 2. capable of inheriting; qualified to inherit. [1375-1425; late ME < AF]

in-her-it-ance (in her'it əns), *n.* 1. something that is or may be inherited; property passing at the owner's death to the heir or those entitled to succeed; legacy. 2. the genetic quality or characteristic, reparent to offspring. 3. something, as a quality or characteristic, received from progenitors or predecessors. 4. the act or fact of inheriting. 5. birthright; heritage. [1375-1425; ME *inheritance* < AF]

in-her-it-ance tax/, *n.* a tax levied on the value of property bequeathed to an heir. Also called *death tax*; *Brit.*, *death duty*. [1835]

in-her-itor (in her'itər), *n.* a person who inherits; heir.

in-her-itor-ic (in her'itər iks) also *in-her-itor-ic* (-itris), *n.* *Law.* a woman who inherits; heiress. [1475-85] —*Usage.* See *TRUX*, *ESS*.

in-hib-in (in hib'in), *n.* a male hormone that acts on the pituitary gland to limit the secretion of FSH. [1980-85; *in-* + *hibere* to hold, restrain]

in-hib-it (in hib'it), *v.t.* 1. to restrain, hinder, arrest, or check (an action, impulse, etc.). 2. to prohibit; forbid. 3. to suppress or restrain from free expression, as of socially unacceptable behavior. [1425-75; late ME < L *inhibere* to restrain = *in-* *in-* + *habere* to have, hold]

—*in-hib-ita-ble*, *adj.* —*in-hib-ito-ry*, *in-hib-itive*, *adj.*

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in-hi-bi-tion (in'hī bish'ən, in'hī-), *n.* 1. the act of inhibiting. 2. the state of being inhibited. 3. something that inhibits; constraint. 4. a. the conscious or unconscious restraint or suppression of behavior, impulses, etc., often due to guilt or fear produced by past punishment. b. the blocking or holding back of one psychological process by another. 5. a. a restraining, arresting, or checking of the action of an organ or cell. b. the reduction of a reflex or other activity as the result of an antagonistic stimulation. [1350-1400; ME < L]

in-hib-itor or in-hib-iter (in hib'itər), *n.* 1. one that inhibits. 2. a substance that slows or stops a chemical reaction. [1865-70]

in-hold-ing (in'hōl'ding), *n.* a tract of land under private ownership within a national park. [1970-75; Amer.] —*in-hold'er*, *n.*

in-ho-mo-gene-i-ty (in hō'mə jə nē'itē, -hōm'ə-), *n.*, *pl.* *-ties*. 1. lack of homogeneity. 2. something that is not homogeneous. [1895-1900] —*in-ho-mo-gene-ous* (-jē'nē əs), *adj.*

in-hos-pi-ta-ble (in hos'pī tə bəl, in'hō spit'ə-), *adj.* 1. not hospitable; unfriendly. 2. (of a region, climate, etc.) not offering shelter, favorable conditions, etc.; barren: an *inhospitable rocky coast*. [1560-70; < MF < ML] —*in-hos-pi-ta-ble-ness*, *n.* —*in-hos-pi-ta-bly*, *adv.*

in-hos-pi-tal-i-ty (in hos'pī tāl'itē, in hos'-), *n.* lack of hospitality; inhospitable treatment of visitors or guests. [1560-70; < L]

in-house (*adj.* in'hous'; *adv.* -hous'), *adj.*, *adv.* within, conducted within, or utilizing an organization's own staff or resources rather than external facilities: *an ad created in-house*. [1955-60]

in-hu-man (in hyū'mən; often -yoo'), *adj.* 1. lacking sympathy, pity, warmth, compassion, or the like; cruel; brutal; unfeeling: *an in-human master*. 2. not suited for human beings: *inhuman conditions*. 3. not human: *inhuman forms*. [1475-85; late ME *inhuman* < MF < L *inhumanus*. See *in-* *in-*, *HUMAN*] —*in-hu-man-ly*, *adv.*

in-hu-mane (in hyū'mān; often -yoo'), *adj.* not humane; lacking humanity, kindness, compassion, etc. —*in-hu-mane-ly*, *adv.*

in-hu-man-i-ty (in hyū'mān'itē; often -yoo'), *n.*, *pl.* *-ties*. 1. the state or quality of being inhuman or inhumanous; cruelty. 2. an inhuman or inhumane act. [1470-80; < L]

in-hume (in hyū'mōm; often -yoom'), *v.t.*, *-humed*, *-hum-ing*. to bury; inter. [1610-20; < ML *inhumare* = L *in-* *in-* + *humare* to inter]

in-im-i-cal (in im'fī kəl), *adj.* 1. adverse in tendency or effect; unfavorable; harmful: *conditions inimical to health*. 2. unfriendly; hostile: *a cold, inimical gaze*. [1635-45; < L *inimicus* unfriendly, hostile] —*in-im-i-cally*, *adv.* —*in-im-i-cal-ness*, *in-im-i-cal'i-ty*, *n.*

in-im-ita-ble (in im'it ə bəl), *adj.* incapable of being imitated or copied; surpassing imitation; matchless. [1525-35; < *inimitabilis*]

in-im-ita-bil-i-ty, *in-im-ita-ble-ness*, *n.* —*in-im-ita-bly*, *adv.*

in-ion (in'ē ən), *n.* the bulging part of the human occipital bone at the back of the skull. [1805-15; < NL < Gk *inion* nape of the neck]

in-iq-ui-tous (in nik'wi təs), *adj.* characterized by iniquity; wicked; sinful. [1720-30] —*in-iq-ui-tous-ly*, *adv.* —*in-iq-ui-tous-ness*, *n.*

in-iq-ui-ty (in nik'wi tē), *n.*, *pl.* *-ties*. 1. gross injustice or wickedness. 2. a violation of right or duty; wicked act; sin. [1300-50; ME < L *iniquitas* unevenness, unfairness = *iniquus* uneven (in- *in-* + *iquus*, comb. form of *aequus* even, equal) + *-itās* -ity]

in-it-, *initial*.

in-i-tial (in nish'əl), *adj.*, *n.*, *v.*, *-tialled*, *-tial-ing* (or *esp. Brit.* *-tialled*, *-tial-ing*). —*adj.* 1. of, pertaining to, or occurring at the beginning; first: *the initial step in a process*. —*n.* 2. an initial letter, as of a word. 3. the first letter of a proper name. 4. a large, often ornamental letter used at the beginning of a chapter or other division of a book or manuscript. —*v.* 5. to mark or sign with an initial or the initials of one's name, esp. as a token of approval. [1520-30; < L *initialis*, der. of *initium* beginning, der. of *inire* to enter, begin = *in-* *in-* + *ire* to go] —*in-i-tial-ly*, *adv.* —*in-i-tial-y*, *adv.*

in-i-tial-ism (in nish'ə liz'əm), *n.* an abbreviation or acronym formed from the initial letters of a group of words. [1895-1900]

in-i-tial-ize (in nish'ə liz'), *v.t.*, *-ized*, *-iz-ing*. 1. to set (variables, counters, switches, etc.) to their starting values at the beginning of a computer program or subprogram. 2. to prepare (a computer, printer, etc.) for reuse by clearing previous data from memory. 3. to format (a disk). [1955-60] —*in-i-tial-i-za-tion*, *n.*

in-i-ti-ate (in nish'ē it'), *v.t.*, *-it-ed*, *-it-ing*. —*v.t.* 1. to begin, set going, or originate: to *initiate* major social reforms. 2. to introduce into the knowledge of some art or subject. 3. to admit into the membership of an organization or group, esp. by formal or secret rites. —*adj.* 4. initiated; begun. 5. admitted into an organization or group. 6. introduced to the knowledge of a subject. —*n.* 7. a person who has been initiated. [1595-1605; < L *initiatō*, *pp. of* *initiare*, *v.* der. of *initium*; see INITIAL] —*in-i-ti-a-tor*, *n.* —*Syn.* See *begin*.

in-i-ti-a-tion (in nish'ē it'shən), *n.* 1. formal admission into an organization or group. 2. the ceremonies or rites of admission. 3. the act of initiating. 4. the fact of being initiated. [1575-85; < L]

in-i-ti-a-tive (in nish'ē it'iv, in nish'ə-), *n.* 1. an introductory act or step; leading action: to *take the initiative in making friends*. 2. readiness and ability in initiating action; enterprise: to *take initiative*. 3. one's personal, responsible decision: to *act on one's own initiative*. 4. a procedure by which a specified number of voters may propose a statute, constitutional amendment, or ordinance, and compel a popular vote on its adoption. b. the general right or ability to present a new bill or measure, as in a legislature. —*adj.* 5. of or pertaining to initiation; introductory. [1785-95] —*in-i-ti-a-tive-ly*, *adv.*

in-i-ti-a-to-ry (in nish'ē it'ōrē, -it'ōrē), *adj.* 1. introductory; initial. 2. serving to initiate. [1605-15] —*in-i-ti-a-to-ri-ly*, *adv.*

investigation, esp. by a legislative committee, of suspected illegal activity. **8. SPACE PROBE.** **9. a. DNA PROBE.** **b.** any labeled or otherwise identifiable substance that is used to detect or isolate another substance in a biological system or specimen. [1955-65; < ML *proba* examination, LL: test, der. of L *probare* (see *prove*)] — **PROBER**, *n.*

prob-ity (prō'bī-ti, prō'bī-), *n.* integrity and uprightness; honesty. [1505-15; < L *probitas* = *prob(us)* upright + *-itas* -ity]

problem (prō'b-ləm), *n.* **1.** any question or matter involving doubt, uncertainty, or difficulty. **2.** a question proposed for solution or discussion. **3. Math.** a statement requiring a solution, usu. by means of a mathematical operation or geometric construction. — **ADJ.** **4.** difficult to train or guide; unruly: *a problem child. **5. Literature.** dealing with difficult choices: *a problem play.* — **IDIOM.** **6. no problem,** (used as a conventional reply to a request or to an expression of gratitude): "Thanks a lot." "No problem." [1350-1400; ME *probleme* < L *problema* < GK *problēma* orig., obstacle = *problēin* to throw or lay before (*pro-* + *ballēin* to throw) + *-ma* *n.* suffix of result]*

prob-lem-a-tic (prō'b-lə-mat'ik), *adj.* **also** **prob-lem-a-t'ic-al**, *adj.* of the nature of a problem; doubtful; uncertain; questionable. [1600-10]

pro-bo-no or **pro-bo-no** (prō'bō'nō), *adj.* done or donated without charge; free: *pro bono legal services.* [1720-30; < L: for (the) good, rightly, morally]

pro-bos-cid-e-an or **pro-bos-cid-i-an** (prō'bōs'idē-ən, -bō-, prō'bōs'idē-ən), *adj.* **1.** belonging or pertaining to the Proboscidea, an order of massive tusked mammals with a flexible trunk and columnar legs, comprising the elephant and the now extinct mammoth and mastodon. — **IT.** **2.** a proboscidean animal. [1825-35; < NL *Proboscidea* (L) (*probo-* (*s.* of *proboscis* *proboscis*) + *-e-an*, neut. pl. of *-eus* (*-ous*) + *-an*)]

pro-bos-cis (prō'bōs'is, -kīs), *n.* **pl.** **-bos-cis-es, -bos-cid-es** (-bōs'idēz), *n.* the trunk of an elephant. **2.** any long flexible snout, as of the tapir. **3.** the elongate, protruding process on the head of certain insects or worms, used for feeding or for sensing food. **4. Facetious.** the human nose, esp. when large. [1570-80; < L < GK *proboskīs* elephant's trunk = *pro-* + *bōsk(ein)* to feed + *-is* (*s.* *-idē*) *n.* suffix]

pro-, *1.* procedure. **2.** proceedings. **3.** process. **4.** proctor.

pro-caïne (prō'kän-, prō'kän-), *n.* a compound, C₁₇H₂₁N₂O₄, used chiefly as a local and spinal anesthetic. [1915-20; *pro-* + (co)CAINE]

pro-cam-bi-um (prō'kam'bē-əm), *n.* the meristem from which vascular bundles are developed. [1870-75; < NL *pro-cam-bival*, *adj.*]

pro-car-y-o-lyte (prō'kar'ē-ōl-, ē-əl), *n.* PROKARYOTE. [1960-65; *pro-* + *car-yo* + *-lyte* (*-ic*), *adj.*]

pro-ce-dural (prō'sē-dŭ-əl), *adj.* **1.** of or pertaining to a procedure or procedures. — **IT.** **2. POLICE PROCEDURAL.** [1885-90] — **pro-ce-dur-ally**, *adv.*

pro-ced-ure (prō'sē-jŭ-ər), *n.* **1.** the act or manner of proceeding in any action or process; conduct. **2.** a particular course or mode of action. **3.** any given mode of conducting legal, parliamentary, or similar business. [1605-15; < F *procédure*. See *process*, -ure]

pro-ceed (v. *prō'sēd*; *n.* *prō'sēd*), *v. i.* **1.** to move or go forward or onward, esp. after stopping. **2.** to carry on or continue any action or process. **3.** to go on to do something. **4.** to continue one's discourse. **5.** to initiate a legal action (often fol. by *against*). **6.** to be carried on, as an action or process. **7.** to go or come forth; issue (often fol. by *from*). **8.** to arise, originate, or result (usu. fol. by *from*). — **IT.** **proceeds**, *n.* something that results or accrues. **10.** the total amount of profit derived from a sale or other transaction. [1350-1400; ME < L *procedere*. See *pro-*, *cede*] — **pro-ceed-er**, *n.*

pro-ceed-ing (prō'sē-ding), *n.* **1.** a particular action, or course or manner of action. **2. proceedings**, a series of activities or events; happenings. **3. proceedings**, a record of the business discussed at a meeting of an academic society or other formal group. **4. proceedings**, legal action, esp. as carried on in a court of law. **5.** the act of a person or thing that proceeds. [1375-1425]

pro-cess (prō'sēs; *esp. Brit. prō'sēs*), *n.* **pl.** **pro-cess-es** (prō'sēs-ēz, -sēz; *esp. Brit. prō'sēs-ēz, prō'sā-*), *v. i.* **1.** a systematic series of actions directed to some end: *a process for homogenizing milk.* **2.** a continuous action, operation, or series of changes taking place in a definite manner: *the process of decay.* **3. Law.** **a.** the summons, mandate, or writ by which a defendant is brought before court for litigation. **b.** the whole course of the proceedings in an action at law. **4.** photomechanical or photoengraving methods collectively. **5. Anat.** **a.** natural outgrowth, projection, or appendage: *a process of a bone.* **b.** the action of going forward or on. **7.** the condition of being carried on. **8.** course or lapse, as of time. **9. conk** (def. 1, 2). — **IT.** **10.** to treat or prepare by some particular process, as in manufacturing. **11.** to handle (persons, papers, etc.) according to a routine procedure. **12.** to institute a legal process against. **13.** to serve a process or summons on. **14. conk** (def. 3). — **ADJ.** **15.** prepared or modified by a special process. **16.** noting, pertaining to, or involving photomechanical or photoengraving methods: *a process print.* **17.** of or pertaining to hair that has been conked. **18.** created by or used in process cinematography. [1300-50; ME *proces* (*n.*) (< OF < L *processus* forward movement, advance *pro-*; var. *s.* of *procedere* to move forward (*pro-* + *cedere* to yield; see *cede*) + *-tus* suffix of *v.* action; cf.

cession] — **Pronunciation.** process, an early 14th-century French borrowing, has a regularly formed plural that adds *-es* to the singular and has traditionally been pronounced (-iz). Recent years have seen the increasing popularity of an (-ēz) pronunciation, perhaps by mistaken analogy with such plurals as *theses* and *hypotheses*. This newer pronunciation is common among younger educated speakers.

pro-cess cinematography, *n.* cinematography in which the foreground action is superimposed on or combined with a simulated or separately filmed background.

pro-cessed cheese or **pro-cessed cheese**, *n.* a mass-produced product made of one or more types of cheese that have been heated and blended with flavorings and emulsifiers. [1915-20]

pro-cession (prō'sesh-ən), *n.* **1.** the act of moving along or proceeding in orderly succession or in a formal and ceremonious manner. **2.** a line or body of persons, vehicles, etc., moving along in such a manner. **3.** the act of coming forth from a source. — **IT.** **4.** to go in procession. [bef. 1150; early ME (< OF < LL *processio* a religious procession. See *process*, -TION)]

pro-ces-sion-al (prō'sesh-ə-nl), *adj.* **1.** of or pertaining to a procession. **2.** of the nature of a procession. **3.** used in processions. **4.** sung or played during a procession, as a hymn. — **IT.** **5.** a piece of music, as a hymn or slow march, suitable for accompanying a procession. **6.** a book containing hymns, litanies, etc., for use in religious processions. [1400-50; late ME (< ML) — *pro-ces-sion-ally*, *adv.*]

pro-cess-er or **pro-cess-ess** (prō'sēs-ər; *esp. Brit. prō'sēs-*), *n.* **1.** a person or thing that processes. **2.** a computer. [1905-10]

pro-cess print-ing, *n.* a method of printing almost any color by using a limited number of separate color plates, as yellow, magenta, cyan, and black, in combination. [1930-35]

pro-cess serv-er, *n.* a person who serves subpoenas or other legal documents, esp. those requiring appearance in court. [1605-15]

pro-cēs-ver-bal (prō'sā-ver'bal; *Fr. prō'sē ver'bal*), *n.* **pl.** **-baux** (-bō'), a report of proceedings, as of an assembly. [1625-35; < F; see *process*, *VERBAL*]

pro-choice or **pro-choice** (prō'chois'), *adj.* supporting or advocating the right to legalized abortion. Compare *PRO-LIFE*. [1970-75] — **pro-choic-er**, *n.*

pro-claim (prō'klām-, prā-), *v. t.* **1.** to announce or declare officially or formally. **2.** to announce or declare in an open or ostentatious way. **3.** to indicate or make known publicly or openly. **4.** to extol or praise publicly. **5.** to denounce or prohibit publicly. — **IT.** **6.** to make a proclamation. [1350-1400; ME < L *proclāmare* to cry out. See *pro-*, *CLAIM*] — **pro-claim-er**, *n.* — **Syn.** See *ANNOUNCE*.

pro-cla-ma-tion (prō'kla-mā'shən), *n.* **1.** something that is proclaimed; a public and official announcement. **2.** the act of proclaiming.

pro-clitic (prō'kli-tik), *adj.* **1.** (of a word) closely connected in pronunciation with the following word and not having an independent accent or phonological status. — **IT.** **2.** a proclitic word. [1840-50; < NL *procliticus*]

pro-cliv-ity (prō'kli-vi-tē), *n.* **pl.** **-ties.** natural or habitual inclination or tendency; propensity; predisposition. [1585-95; < L *proclivitas* downward slope, tendency = *proclivus* (i) sloping downward, inclined (*pro-* + *-clivus*, *adj.* der. of *clivus* slope) + *-itas* -ity]

Pro-cne (prō'knē), *n.* (in Greek myth) the sister of Philomela and wife of Tereus; while fleeing her enraged husband, she was transformed by the gods into a nightingale (or a swallow, in later versions).

pro-con-sul (prō'kon'sŭl), *n.* **1.** an official, usu. a former consul, acting as governor or military commander of an ancient Roman province, with powers similar to those of a consul. **2.** any appointed administrator over a dependency or an occupied area. [1350-1400; ME < L *proconsul*; see *pro-*, *CONSUL*] — **pro-con-sul-ar**, *adj.*

pro-con-sulate (prō'kon'sŭ-lit) *also* **pro-con-sul-ship**, *n.* the office or term of office of a proconsul. [1650-60; < L]

pro-crast-i-nate (prō'kras'tā-nāt-, prā-), *v.* **-nat-ed, -nat-ing.** — **IT.** **1.** to defer action; delay: *to procrastinate until an opportunity is lost.* — **IT.** **2.** to put off till another day or time; defer; delay. [1580-90; < L *procrastinatus*, *pp.* of *procrastinare* to put off until tomorrow] — **pro-crast-i-na-tion**, *n.* — **pro-crast-i-na-tor**, *n.*

pro-cre-ant (prō'krē-ant), *adj.* **1.** procreating or generating. **2.** pertaining to procreation. [1650-60; < L]

pro-cre-ate (prō'krē-āt-, v., -at-ed, -at-ing), *v.* **1.** to beget or generate (offspring). **2.** to produce; bring into being. — **IT.** **3.** to beget offspring. [1530-40; < L *procreatus*, *pp.* of *procreare* to breed. See *pro-*, *CREATE*] — **pro-cre-a-tion**, *n.* — **pro-cre-a-tive**, *adj.* — **pro-cre-a-tor**, *n.*

Pro-crus-te-an (prō'krus'tē-ən), *adj.* **1.** pertaining to or suggestive of Procrustes. **2.** (often L.C.) tending to produce conformity by violent or arbitrary means. [1840-50]

Pro-crus-tes (prō'krus'tēz), *n.* (in Greek myth) a robber who stretched or amputated the limbs of travelers to make them conform to the length of his bed.

pro-cryp-tic (prō'krip'tik), *adj.* serving to conceal an animal from predators. [1890-95; *pro*(re)active + *cryptic*]

pro-ab-o-il-tion, *adj.*
pro-a-bor-tion, *adj.*
pro-A-mer-i-can, *adj.*, *n.*
pro-an-nex-a-tion, *adj.*
pro-ar-bit-ra-tion, *adj.*

pro-au-to-ma-tion, *adj.*
pro-Bi-bli-cal, *adj.*
pro-Bol/she-vik, *adj.*, *n.*
pro-bus-i-ness, *adj.*
pro-cap-i-tal-ist, *n.*, *adj.*

pro-Cath-o-lic, *adj.*, *n.*
pro-Cath-o-li-cism, *n.*
pro-church, *adj.*
pro-cler-i-cal, *adj.*
pro-com-mun-ism, *n.*, *adj.*

pro-con-muni-st, *adj.*, *n.*
pro-Con-fed-er-ate, *adj.*
pro-con-ser-va-tion, *adj.*
pro-Dar-win-i-an, *adj.*
pro-dem-o-crat-ic, *adj.*

prompt to propagule

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prompt (prompt), *adj.*, **prompter**, **prompt-est**, 1. done, performed, delivered, etc., at once or without delay: a *prompt reply*. 2. quick to act or respond. 3. punctual. —*adv.* 4. to induce (someone) to action. 5. to occasion or inspire (an act). 6. to assist (a speaker or performer) by suggesting something to be said, offering a missed cue, etc. —*n.* 7. a. a limit of time given for payment for merchandise purchased. b. the contract setting the time limit. 8. the act of prompting. 9. something serving to suggest or remind. 10. a symbol or message on a computer screen requesting more information or indicating readiness to accept instructions. [1300-50; (v) ME < ML *promptare* to incite, L. to distribute, freq. *promere* to bring out = *pro-* *pro-* + (*emere* to take, buy; (*adj.*) late ME < L *promptus* ready, prompt, orig. ptp. of *promere*) — *promptly*, *adv.* — *promptness*, *n.*

prompt-book (prompt/'bōk'), *n.* a copy of the script of a play, containing cues and notes, used by the prompter, stage manager, etc.

prompter (prompt/'tər), *n.* 1. a person or thing that prompts. 2. a person situated offstage who supplies missed cues, forgotten lines, etc., during a performance. 3. an electronic or mechanical device, as a TelePrompter, for prompting a speaker or performer. [1400-50]

promptitude (prompt/'tūd', -t'yoōd'), *n.* promptness. [1400-50; late ME < L]

prom-ul-ga-tion (prom'ul-gā't, -prul'mul/gāt), *v.t.*, **-gated**, **-gating**, 1. to put into operation (a law, decree of a court, etc.) by formal proclamation. 2. to set forth or teach publicly (a creed, doctrine, etc.). [1520-30; < L *promulgatus*, ptp. of *promulgare* to make known] — *prom-ul-ga-tion*, *n.* — *prom-ul-ga-tor*, *n.*

pron, 1. pronominal. 2. pronoun. 3. pronunciation.

pro-na-tion (prō nā'shən), *n.* 1. rotation of the hand or forearm so as to bring the palm downward or rearward. 2. an everting motion of the foot so as to turn the sole outward. 3. the position assumed as the result of this rotation. [1660-70; (< F) < ML or NL *prōnātiō* = LL *prōnāre* to throw on one's face, der. of LL *prōnus* bending down, *prōne* + L *-tū* -tion) — *prō-nate*, *v.t.*, *v.i.*, **-nated**, **-nating**.

pro-na-tor (prō'nā'tər, prō'nā't'), *n.* any of several muscles that permit pronation of the hand, forelimb, or foot. [1720-30]

prone (prōn), *adj.* 1. having a natural tendency toward something; disposed; liable: *prone to anger*. 2. with the front or ventral part downward; lying face down. 3. lying flat; prostrate. 4. having a downward direction or slope. [1350-1400; < L *pronus* leaning forward, inclined downward, disposed] — *prone-ly*, *adv.* — *prone-ness*, *n.*

pro-neph-ros (prō nē'fros, -rās), *n.*, pl. -roi (-rōi), -ra (-rā), an excretory organ of vertebrate embryos, which in some primitive fishes develops into a functional kidney. [1875-80; < NL < Gk *pro-* *pro-* + *nephros* kidney] — *pro-nephric*, *adj.*

prong (prōng, prōng), *n.* 1. one of the pointed tips of a fork. 2. any pointed, projecting part, as of an antler. 3. a subdivision; fork. —*adv.* 4. to pierce or stab with or as if with a prong. [1400-50 late ME *pronge*, *prange* pain, affliction, pointed instrument]

prong-horn (prōng'hōrn, prōng'-), *n.*, pl. -horns, (*esp. collectively*) -horn, a fleet, antelope-like ruminant, *Antilocapra americana*, of the plains of W North America. Also called *prong'horn* antelope. [1805]

pro-nomi-nal (prō nom'fā nl), *adj.* 1. pertaining to, derived from, functioning as, or resembling a pronoun: *My in my book* is a pronominal adjective. —*n.* 2. a pronominal word or expression. [1635-45; < LL *prōnominālis*. See *PRONOUN*, -AL] — *pro-nomi-nally*, *adv.*

pro-noun (prō'noun'), *n.* any of a small class of words used as replacements or substitutes for nouns and noun phrases, usu. referring to persons or things mentioned in or understood from the context and having very general reference, as *I*, *you*, *he*, *she*, *them*, *this*, *who*, *what*. *Abbrev.* *pron.* [1520-30; < MF *pronon* < L *prōnomen* (s. *PRONOMIN*)]

pro-nounce (prō nouns'), *v.*, **-nounced**, **-nouncing**. —*adv.* 1. to enunciate or articulate (sounds, words, sentences, etc.). 2. to utter or articulate in the accepted or correct manner: *I can't pronounce this unfamiliar word*. 3. to declare (a person or thing) to be as specified: *She pronounced it the best book she had ever read*. 4. to utter or deliver formally or solemnly: to *pronounce sentence*. 5. to announce authoritatively or officially. 6. to indicate the pronunciation of (words) by providing a phonetic transcription. —*adv.* 7. to pronounce words, phrases, etc. 8. to make an authoritative statement (often fol. by *on*). [1300-50; ME < MF *pronancier* < L *prōnāntiāre* to proclaim, announce, recite, utter] — *pro-nounce-able*, *adj.* — *pro-nounce-er*, *n.* — *pro-nounced* (prō nouns't), *adj.* 1. strongly or clearly apparent. 2. decided; unequivocal: *pronounced views*. [1570-80] — *pro-nounce-ed-ly* (-noun/sid lē, -noun/sid lē), *adv.* — *pro-nounce-ed-ness*, *n.*

pro-nounce-ment (prō nouns'ment), *n.* 1. a formal or authoritative statement. 2. an opinion or decision. 3. act of pronouncing. [1585-95]

prom-to (pron'tō), *adv.* promptly; quickly. [1840-50, Amer.; < Sp. quick, quickly < L *promptus* prompt]

pro-nu-cle-us (prō nū'klē as, -nū'klē'), *n.*, pl. -cle-i (-klē'ī), the haploid nucleus of either the sperm or ovum that unites with the opposite-sex nucleus during fertilization. [1875-80]

pro-nun-ci-a-men-to (prō nun'sē ā men'tō, -shē ā'), *n.*, pl. -tos, a proclamation; manifesto; edict. [1825-35; < Sp *pronunciamento* < L *prōnūntiāre* to proclaim (see *PRONOUNCE*) + -mentum -ment]

pro-nun-ci-a-tion (prō nun'sē ā'shən), *n.* 1. the act, manner, or result of producing the sounds of speech, including articulation, stress, and intonation. 2. a way of pronouncing a word, syllable, etc., that is accepted or considered correct. 3. the conventional patterns of treatment of the sounds of a language: the *pronunciation* of French. 4. a

phonetic transcription of a given word, sound, etc. [1400-50; late ME *pronunciacion* < L *prōnūntiātiō* delivery (of a speech) — *prōnūntiā* (re) to announce, utter, (see *PRONOUNCE*) + *-tiō* -tion] — *pro-nun/cia-tion-al*, *adj.*

proof (prōōf), *n.* 1. evidence sufficient to establish a thing as true or believable. 2. anything serving as such evidence. 3. the act of testing or trying anything; test; trial: to *put a thing to the proof*. 4. the establishment of the truth of anything; demonstration. 5. (in judicial proceedings) evidence that seems to substantiate or corroborate a charge or allegation. 6. an arithmetical operation serving to check the correctness of a calculation. 7. *Math.*, *Logic*, a sequence of steps, statements, or demonstrations that leads to a valid conclusion. 8. a test to determine the quality, durability, etc., of materials used in manufacture. 9. the strength of an alcoholic liquor, esp. with reference to the standard whereby 100 proof signifies an alcoholic content of 50 percent. 10. *Photog.* a trial print from a negative. 11. *Print.* a. a trial impression, as of composed type, taken to correct errors and make alterations. b. one of a number of early and superior impressions taken before the printing of the ordinary issue. 12. one of a limited number of coins of a new issue struck from polished dies on a blank having a polished or matte surface. 13. the state of having been tested. —*adj.* 14. able to withstand; impenetrable, impervious, or invulnerable: *proof against attack*; *proof against leakage*. 15. used for testing or proving; serving as proof. 16. of standard strength, as an alcoholic liquor. 17. of tested or proven strength or quality: *proof armor*. —*adv.* 18. to examine for flaws, errors, etc.; check against a standard. 19. *Print.* prove (def. 7). 20. *Prove*, 21. to treat or coat for the purpose of rendering resistant to deterioration, damage, etc. (often used in combination). 22. a. to combine (yeast) with warm water so that a bubbling action occurs. b. to cause (bread dough, etc.) to rise by adding baker's yeast. —*v.i.* 23. (of yeast) to bubble or foam when mixed with warm water, milk, etc. [1175-1225; ME *prove*, *prooff*, *alder*, (by assoc. with the vowel of *prove*) of *proove*, *pre* < MF *proove*, *proove* < LL *proba* a test, *n.* der. of L *probare* to approve of, examine, prove]

proof, a combining form of *proof*, with the meaning "resistant, impervious to" that specified by the initial element: *childproof*; *waterproof*.

proof-read (prōōf/'rēd'), *v.*, **-read** (-rēd'), **-reading**. —*v.t.* 1. to read (printers' proofs, copy, etc.) in order to detect and mark errors to be corrected. —*v.i.* 2. to read printers' proofs, copy, etc., to detect errors esp. as an employee of a newspaper or publishing house. [1930-35] — *proof/read-er*, *n.*

proof' spirit', *n.* an alcoholic liquor containing one half of its volume of alcohol of a specific gravity of 7939 at 60° F. [1735-45]

prop' (prop), *v.*, **propped**, **propping**, *n.* —*v.t.* 1. to support, or prevent from falling, with or as if with a prop (often fol. by *up*). 2. to rest (a thing) against a support: *He propped the ladder against the wall*. 3. to support or sustain (often fol. by *up*). —*n.* 4. a stick, rod, pole, beam, or other rigid support. 5. a person or thing serving as a support or stay. [1400-50; late ME *proppe* (n.); c. MD *proppe* bottle stopper]

prop' (prop), *n.* **PROPERTY** (def. 7). [1910-15; by shortening]

prop' (prop), *n.* a propeller. [1910-15; by shortening]

prop', 1. properly. 2. property. 3. proposition. 4. proprietary. 5. proprietor.

pro-pae-deu-tic (prō'pī dōō'tik, -dyōō'tē'), *adj.* Also, *pro-pae-deu-ti-cal*. 1. pertaining to or of the nature of preliminary instruction. —*n.* 2. a propaedeutic subject or study. [1830-40; *prop-* < Gk *paidēutikos* pertaining to teaching = *paidēu* (ein) to teach]

prop-a-gan-da (prō'pā gān'dā), *n.* 1. information or ideas methodically spread to promote in the public mind a cause, movement, nation, etc. 2. the deliberate spreading of such information or ideas. 3. the particular doctrines or principles propagated by an organization or movement. 4. a. (*cap.*) a committee of cardinals, established in 1622 by Pope Gregory XV, having supervision over foreign missions and the training of priests for these missions. [1710-20; < NL, short for *congregatio de propagandā fide* congregation for propagating the faith]

prop-a-gan-dize (prō'pā gān'dīz), *v.*, **-dized**, **-dizing**. —*v.t.* 1. to propagate or publicize (principles, dogma, etc.) by means of propaganda. 2. to subject to propaganda. —*v.i.* 3. to carry on or disseminate propaganda. [1835-45] — *prop-a-gan-dism*, *n.* — *prop-a-gan-dist*, *n.*, *adj.* — *prop-a-gan-dis-tic*, *adj.*

prop-a-gate (prō'pā gāt'), *v.*, **-gated**, **-gating**. —*v.t.* 1. to cause (an organism) to multiply by any process of natural reproduction from the parent stock. 2. to reproduce (itself, its kind, etc.), as an organism does. 3. to transmit (hereditary features or elements) to or through offspring. 4. to spread (a report, doctrine, practice, etc.) from person to person; disseminate. 5. to cause to increase in number or amount. —*v.i.* 6. to multiply by any process of natural reproduction, as organisms breed. 7. (of electromagnetic waves, compression waves, etc.) to travel through space or a physical medium. [1560-70; < L *propagāre*, ptp. of *propagāre* to reproduce (a plant) by cuttings, propagate, enlarge, *v.* der. of *propagāre* sown, slip = *pro-* *pro-* + *pagāre*, der. of *pagāre* to fasten] — *prop-a-ga-tion*, *n.* — *prop-a-ga-tion-al*, *adj.* — *prop-a-ga-tive*, *adj.* — *prop-a-ga-tor*, *n.*

prop-a-gule (prō'pā gūōl') also *prop-a-gu-lum* (prō'pā gū'lam), *n.* a structure, as a plant cutting, that is used for propagation. [1855-60; < NL *propagulum*, der. of L *propagō* shoot, runner; see *PROPAGATE*, -ULE]