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Comoros



compact disk

compass
Directional compass

usu. at a reduced rate, rather than in individual payments.
4. *Math. & Logic.* To satisfy or engage in a commutative operation. — *tr.* 1. To substitute (one thing for another); exchange. 2. To change (a penalty, debt, or payment) to a less severe one. — *n.* An act or instance of commuting. [ME *commuten*, to transform < Lat. *commūtāre*: *com-*, *com-* + *mutāre*, to change; see *mut-*.]
com-mut-er (kō-myōō'tar) *n.* One that travels regularly from one place to another, as from suburb to city and back.
Co-mo (kō'mō). A resort city of N Italy near the Swiss border at the SW end of Lake Como. Pop. 95,183.
Com-o-rin (kōm'ar-in), Cape. A cape at the southernmost point of India projecting into the Indian Ocean.
Com-o-ros (kōm'arōz'). A country coextensive with the Comoro Islands in the Indian Ocean off SE Africa. The islands declared their independence from France in 1975, although Mayotte, the largest of the group, voted to retain its status as a French territory. Cap. Moroni. Pop. 346,992.
co-mose (kō'mōs') *adj.* Bot. Having a coma; comate.
comp¹ (kōmp) *intr.v.* **comped**, **comp-ing**, **comps**. *Mus.* To play a jazz accompaniment. [Short for *accompany*.]
comp² (kōmp) *n.* *Informal.* Something, such as a theater ticket or a book, given free of charge. [Short for *complementary*.]
comp. abbr. 1. Companion. 2. Comparative. 3. Compensation. 4.2. Compilation; compiler. b. Compiled. 5. Complete. 6. Composite; composer. 7. Composite; composition. compositor. 8. Compound. 9. Comprising.
com-pact¹ (kām-pākt', kōm-, kōm'pākt') *adj.* 1. Closely and firmly united or packed together; dense. 2. Occupying little space compared with others of its type. 3. Brief and to the point; concise. 4. Marked by or having a short, solid physique. — *v.* (kām-pākt') **-pact-ed**, **-pact-ing**, **-pacts**. — *tr.* 1. To press or join firmly together. 2.a. To make by pressing or joining together; compose. b. To consolidate; combine. — *intr.* To be capable of being pressed tightly together or to become so pressed: *garbage that compacts easily*. — *n.* (kām'pākt'). 1. A small case containing a mirror, pressed powder, and a powder puff. 2. An automobile that is bigger in size than a subcompact but smaller than an intermediate. [ME < Lat. *compactus*, p.part. of *compingere*, to put together: *com-*, *com-* + *pangere*, to fasten; see *pag-*.] — **com-pact-ly** *adv.* — **com-pact-ness** *n.*
com-pact² (kōm'pākt') *n.* An agreement or a covenant. [Lat. *compactum*, neut. p.part. of *compacti*, to agree: *com-*, *com-* + *pacisci*, to agree; see *pact-*.]
com-pact disk (kōm'pākt') or **compact disc** *n.* A small optical disk on which matter such as data or music is encoded.
com-pac-tion (kām-pākt'shən) *n.* The process of compacting or the state of being compacted.
com-pac-tor or **com-pact-er** (kām-pākt'tar, kōm'pākt'-) *n.* An apparatus that compresses refuse into relatively small packs for handy disposal.
com-pan-ion¹ (kām-pān'yan) *n.* 1. A person who accompanies or associates with another; a comrade. 2. A person employed to assist, live with, or travel with another. 3. One of a pair or set of things; a mate. — *tr.v.* **-ioned**, **-ion-ing**, **-ions**. To be a companion to; accompany. [ME *compaignyon* < OFr. *compaignon* < VLat. **compānio*, *compānion*: Lat. *com-*, *com-* + Lat. *pānis*, bread; see *pā-*.]
com-pan-ion² (kām-pān'yan) *n.* Naut. A companionway.
com-pan-ion-a-ble (kām-pān'ya-nā-bəl) *adj.* 1. Having the qualities of a good companion; friendly. 2. Suggestive of companionship. — **com-pan-ion-a-bly** *adv.*
com-pan-ion-ate (kām-pān'ya-nit) *adj.* 1. Having the qualities of a companion. 2. Harmonious; suitable.
companionate marriage *n.* A marriage in which the partners agree to have no children, may divorce by mutual consent, and are not then responsible for the other's financial welfare.
com-pan-ion-ship (kām-pān'yan-ship) *n.* The relationship of companions; fellowship.
com-pan-ion-way (kām-pān'yan-wā') *n.* Naut. A staircase leading from a deck to the cabins or area below. [< *companion*, prob. alteration of obsolete Du. *kompanje* < OFr. *compagne*, storeroom < Ital. (*camera della*) *compagna*, pantry < VLat. **compānia*, things eaten with bread: Lat. *com-*, *com-* + Lat. *pānis*, bread; see *COMPANION*.]
com-pa-ny (kūm'pā-nē) *n., pl. -nies*. 1. A group of persons. 2.a. One's companions or associates. b. A guest or guests. c. The state of friendly companionship. 3.a. A business enterprise; a firm. b. A partner or partners not specifically named in a firm's title. 4. A troupe of dramatic or musical performers. 5.a. A subdivision of a military regiment or battalion that constitutes the lowest administrative unit, made up of at least two platoons. b. A unit of firefighters. 6. A ship's crew and officers. See Usage Note at *collective noun*. — *tr.v.* **-nied**, **-ny-ing**, **-nies**. To accompany or associate with. [ME *compainie* < OFr. *compaignie* < VLat. **compānia* < **compānio*, companion. See *COMPANION*.]
com-pa-ny-grade officer (kūm'pā-nē-grād') *n.* A commissioned officer having the rank of second lieutenant, first lieutenant, or captain in the U.S. Army, Air Force, or Marine Corps.

compar. *abbr.* Comparative.

com-pa-ra-ble (kōm'par-ə-bəl) *adj.* 1. Admitting of comparison with another or others. 2. Similar or equivalent. — **com-pa-ra-bil-i-ty**. **com-pa-ra-ble-ness** *n.* — **com-pa-ra-bly** *adv.*

comparable worth *n.* A theory holding that jobs held chiefly by women should pay the same as jobs held chiefly by men if the jobs are similar.

com-par-a-tist (kām-pār'ə-tist) *n.* A person who employs the comparative method. [Fr. *comparatiste* < *comparative*, comparative < *comparer*, to compare. See *COMPARE*.]

com-par-a-tive (kām-pār'ə-tiv) *adj.* 1. Relating to, based on, or involving comparison. 2. Estimated by comparison; relative. 3. *Gram.* Of, relating to, or being the intermediate degree of comparison of adjectives, as *better* or *more wonderful*, or adverbs, as *more softly*. 4. *Ling.* a. Of or relating to the synchronic typological comparison of languages. b. Of or relating to the comparison of languages descended from a common ancestor. — *n.* *Gram.* 1. The comparative degree. 2. An adjective or adverb expressing the comparative degree. — **com-par-a-tive-ly** *adv.*

comparative method *n.* *Ling.* 1. Comparison of languages with the goal of establishing their descent from a common ancestor. 2. Comparison of phonemes, morphemes, words, or syntactic constructions in genetically related languages with the goal of reconstructing the sound system, grammar, or lexicon of the protolanguage.

com-pa-ra-tor (kōm'pār-ə'tar, kām-pār'ə-) *n.* Any of various instruments for comparing a measured property of an object, such as its shape, color, or brightness, with a standard.

com-pare (kām-pār') *v.* **-pared**, **-par-ing**, **-pares**. — *tr.* 1. To consider or describe as similar, equal, or analogous; liken. 2. To examine in order to note the similarities or differences of. 3. *Gram.* To form the positive, comparative, or superlative degree of (an adjective or adverb). — *intr.* 1. To be worthy of comparison; bear comparison. 2. To draw comparisons. — *n.* Comparison. — *idiom.* **compare notes**. To exchange ideas, views, or opinions. [ME *comparen* < OFr. *comparer* < Lat. *comparāre* < *compār*, equal: *com-*, *com-* + *pār*, equal; see *para-*.] — **com-par'er** *n.*

Usage Note: Compare usually takes the preposition *to* when it refers to the activity of describing the resemblances between unlike things: *He compared her to a summer day*. It takes *with* when it refers to the act of examining two like things in order to discern their similarities or differences: *The police compared the forged signature with the original*. When *compare* is used to mean "to liken (one) with another," *with* is traditionally considered the correct form: *That little bauble is not to be compared with (not to) this enormous jewel*. But *to* is frequently used in this context and is not incorrect.

com-par-i-son (kām-pār'i-sən) *n.* 1.a. The act of comparing or the process of being compared. b. A statement or estimate of similarities and differences. 2. The quality of being similar or equivalent; likeness: *no comparison between the two books*. 3. *Gram.* The modification or inflection of an adjective or adverb to denote the positive, comparative, and superlative degrees. [ME *comparisoun* < OFr. *comparaison* < Lat. *comparātiō*, *comparātiō*: < *comparātus*, p.part. of *comparāre*, to compare. See *COMPARE*.]

com-part (kām-pārt') *tr.v.* **-part-ed**, **-part-ing**, **-parts**. To divide into parts. [Obsolete Fr. *compartir* < Ital. *compartire* < LLat. *compartiri*, to share: Lat. *com-*, *com-* + Lat. *partiri*, to divide (< *pars*, part, a part; see *para-*).]

com-part-ment (kām-pārt'mənt) *n.* 1. One of the parts or spaces into which an area is subdivided. 2. A separate room, section, or chamber. — *tr.v.* **-ment-ed**, **-ment-ing**, **-ments**. To compartmentalize. — **com-part-ment'al** (kōm'pārt-mənt'əl) *adj.*

com-part-men-tal-ize (kōm'pārt-mənt'əl-ī-z', kām-pārt'-) *tr.v.* **-ized**, **-iz-ing**, **-izes**. To separate into distinct parts, categories, or compartments. — **com-part-men'tal-i-za-tion** (-ī-zā'shən) *n.*

com-pass (kūm'pas, kōm'-) *n.* 1.a. A device used to determine geographic direction, usu. consisting of a magnetic needle or needles free to pivot until aligned with the magnetic field of Earth. b. Another device, such as a radio compass, used for determining geographic direction. 2. A device for describing circles or circular arcs and for taking measurements, consisting of a pair of rigid, end-hinged legs, one of which is equipped with a marker that pivots around the other sharp-pointed leg. 3.a. An enclosing line or boundary; a circumference. See *Syns* at *circumference*. b. A restricted space or area. c. Range or scope, as of understanding. — *tr.v.* **-passed**, **-pass-ing**, **-pass-es**. 1. To make a circuit of; circle. 2. To surround; encircle. 3. To understand; comprehend. 4. To succeed in carrying out; accomplish. See *Syns* at *reach*. 5. To scheme; plot. — *adj.* 1. Forming a curved configuration. 2. Semicircular. Used of bow windows. [ME *compass*, circle, compass < OFr. < *compasser*, to measure < VLat. **compassare*, to pace off: Lat. *com-*, *com-* + Lat. *passus*, step; see *pace-*.] — **com-pass-a-ble** *adj.*

compass card *n.* A freely pivoting circular disk carrying the

ā pat oi boy
ā pay ou out
ār care oo took
ā father oo boot
ē pet ū cut
ē be ūr urge
ī pit th thin
ī pie th this
īr pier hw which
ō pot zh vision
ō toe ā about
ō paw item

Stress marks:

ˈ (primary);
ˌ (secondary), as in
dictionary (dīk'sha-nēr'ē)