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apart | Apia

ment < *aparejar*, to prepare < Vulgar Latin **appariculare*; see APPAREL.]

a-part (ə-*pärt*) *adv.* **1a.** At a distance in place, position, or time; *railings spaced two feet apart; born three years apart.* **b.** Away from another or others; *grew apart over the years; decided to live apart.* **2.** In or into parts or pieces; *split apart.* **3.** One from another; *I can't tell the twins apart.* **4.** Aside or in reserve, as for a separate use or purpose; *funds set apart for the project.* **5.** As a distinct item or entity; *Quality sets it apart.* **6.** So as to except or exclude from consideration; *aside: All joking apart, I think you're wrong.* **7.** *adj.* Set apart; isolated. Used after a noun or in the predicate: *a people who have existed over the centuries as a world apart.* [Middle English < Old French *a part*: *a*, to (< Latin *ad*; see AD-) + *part*, side (< Latin *pars*, part; see PART).] —**a-part/ness** *n.*

apart from *prep.* With the exception of; besides: *Apert from a few scratches, the car was undamaged.*

a-part-heid (ə-*pärt*'hīt', -hāt') *n.* **1.** An official policy of racial segregation formerly practiced in the Republic of South Africa, involving political, legal, and economic discrimination against nonwhites. **2.** A policy or practice of separating or segregating groups. **3.** The condition of being separated from others; segregation. [Afrikaans: Dutch *apart*, separate (< French *à part*, apart; see PART) + Dutch *-heid*, -hood.]

a-part-ment (ə-*pärt*'mēt) *n.* **1.** A room or suite of rooms designed as a residence and generally located in a building occupied by more than one household. **2.** An apartment building: *a row of high-rise apartments.* **3.** A room. **4.** *apartments* Chiefly British A suite of rooms within a larger building set aside for a particular purpose or person. [French *appartement* < Italian *appartamento* < *appartare*, to separate < *a parte*, apart: *a*, to (< Latin *ad*; see AD-) + *parte*, side (< Latin *pars*, part; see PART).]

apartment building *n.* A building divided into apartments. Also called *apartment house*.

a-pas-tron (ə-*päs*'trän) *n.* The point at which an object is farthest away from the center of mass of the star it is orbiting. [AP(ə)- + Greek *astron*, star (probably on the model of APHELION); see *ster-* in App. I.]

ap-a-tet-ic (ə-*pä*'tēt'ik) *adj.* Zoology Relating to or characterized by coloration serving as natural camouflage. [Greek *apatētikos*, deceptive < *apatēs*, deceiver < *apatein*, to cheat < *apatē*, deceit.]

ap-a-thet-ic (ə-*pä*'thēt'ik) *also* **ap-a-thet-i-cal** (-i-kəl) *adj.* **1.** Feeling or showing a lack of interest or concern; indifferent. **2.** Feeling or showing little or no emotion; unresponsive. [< APATHY, on the model of PATHETIC.] —**ap-a-thet-i-cal-ly** *adv.*

ap-a-thy (ə-*pä*'thē) *n.* **1.** Lack of interest or concern, especially regarding matters of general importance or appeal; indifference. **2.** Lack of emotion or feeling; impassiveness. [Latin *apathia* < Greek *apatheia* < *apatēs*, without feeling: *a-*, without; see A- + *pathos*, feeling; see *kēnt(h)* in App. I.]

ap-a-tite (ə-*pä*'tīt') *n.* **1.** Any of a group of natural, variously colored calcium phosphate minerals containing fluorine, chlorine, or hydroxyl. These compounds form hexagonal crystals and are components of bones and teeth, are a source of phosphorus for plants, and are used in the manufacture of fertilizers. **2.** See *fluorapatite*. [< Greek *apatē*, deceit (from its often being mistaken for other minerals).]

ap-at-o-saur-us (ə-*pät*'ə-sör'əs) *or* **a-pat-o-saur** (ə-*pät*'ə-sör') *n.* A very large herbivorous sauropod dinosaur of the genus *Apatosaurus* of the Jurassic Period, having a long neck and tail and a small head. [New Latin *Apatosaurus*, unreal lizard, genus name: Greek *apatē*, untruth, lie + Greek *sauros*, lizard.]

APB *abbr.* all points bulletin

APC *abbr.* armored personnel carrier

ape (āp) *n.* **1.** Any of various tailless Old World primates of the superfamily Hominoidea, including the gibbons, orangutans, gorillas, chimpanzees, and humans. **2.** Any of various members of this superfamily bearing fur and usually living in the wild, especially orangutans, gorillas, and chimpanzees, in contrast to humans. Not in scientific use. **3.** A tailed primate such as a monkey. Not in scientific use. **4.** A mimic or imitator. **5.** Informal A clumsy or boorish person. **6.** *tr.v.* **aped, ap-ing, apes** To imitate or mimic, especially in a thoughtless or inept way. See *Synonyms at imitate*. —**idiom:** *go ape* Informal To become wildly excited or angry; *went ape at the party; went ape when she saw the parking ticket.* [Middle English < Old English *apa*.] —**ap'er** *n.*

a-peak (ə-*pēk*) *adv. & adj.* Nautical In a vertical or almost vertical position or direction; *rowers holding their oars apeak.* [Alteration of *apike*, probably < French *à pic*: *à*, to (< Old French *a* < Latin *ad*; see AD-) + *pic*, peak (< Old French).]

A-pe-l-es (ə-*pēl*'ēz) *fl.* fourth century B.C., Greek painter whose works, none of which survives, are described in ancient writings.

ape-man (āp'män') *n.* **1.** Any of various extinct primates considered to be close relatives or ancestors of modern humans and having some characteristics of nonhuman apes. Not in scientific use. **2.** A brawny or crude man.

Ap-en-nines (āp'ə-nīnz') A mountain system extending about 1,200 km (745 mi) from northwest Italy south to the Strait of Messina. The highest peak is Mount Corno, rising to 2,912 m (9,554 ft).

a-per-çu (ā-*pēr*'sū') *n., pl. -çus* (-sū') **1.** A discerning perception; an insight: *"Her schmoosy but magisterial aperçus inspired widespread emulation among the young"* (Roy Blount, Jr.). **2.** A short outline or summary; a synopsis. [French < past participle of *apercevoir*, to perceive: *a-*, to (< Latin *ad*; see AD-) + *percevoir*, to perceive (< Old French *perceivre*; see PERCEIVE).]

a-pe-ri-ent (ə-*pēr*'ē-ent) *adj.* Gently stimulating evacuation of the bowels; laxative. **6.** *n.* A mild laxative. [Latin *aperiens*, *aperient*, present participle of *aperire*, to open; see *wer-* in App. I.] —**a-pe-ri-ent** *n.*

a-pe-ri-od-ic (ā-*pēr*'ē-ōd'ik) *adj.* Occurring without periodicity; ir-

regular. —**a-pe-ri-od-i-cal-ly** *adv.* —**a-pe-ri-od-i-ci-ty** (-ə-dis'i-tē) *n.*

a-pē-ri-tif (ā-*pēr*'i-tēf') *n.* An alcoholic drink taken as an appetizer before a meal. [French < Old French *aperitif*, purgative < Medieval Latin *aperitivus* < Late Latin *aperitivus* < Latin *aperire*, past participle of *aperire*, to open; see *wer-* in App. I.]

ap-er-ture (āp'ər-'char) *n.* **1.** An opening, such as a hole, gap, or slit. **2a.** A usually adjustable opening in an optical instrument, such as a camera or telescope, that limits the amount of light passing through a lens or onto a mirror. **b.** The diameter of such an opening, often expressed as an f-number. **c.** The diameter of the objective of a telescope. [Middle English < Latin *apertūra* < *aperire*, past participle of *aperire*, to open; see *wer-* in App. I.] —**ap-er-tur'al** *adj.*

ape-shit (āp'shit') *adj.* Vulgar Slang **1.** Extremely angry; furious. **2.** Wildly excited or enthusiastic. [Probably from the throwing of excrement by chimpanzees and other primates as an expression of annoyance or aggression.]

a-pet-al-ous (ā-*pēt*'l-əs) *adj.* Having no petals: *an apetalous floret.* —**a-pet'al-y** (ā-*pēt*'l-ē) *n.*

ap-er-ix (āp'ēks) *n., pl. ap-er-es or a-pi-ces* (ā-*pī*'sēz', ā-*pī*-) **1.** The highest point; the vertex: *the apex of a triangle; the apex of a hill.* **2.** The highest level or degree that is attained. See *Synonyms at summit*. **3.** The usually pointed end of an object; the tip: *the apex of a leaf.* [Latin.]

Ap-gar score (āp'gär) *n.* A system of assessing the general physical condition of a newborn infant based on a rating of 0, 1, or 2 for five criteria: heart rate, respiration, muscle tone, skin color, and response to stimuli. The five scores are added together, with a perfect score being 10. [After Virginia Apgar (1909–1974), American physician.]

a-phaer-e-sis or a-pher-e-sis (ə-*fēr*'i-sis) *n., pl. -ses* (-sēz') The loss of one or more sounds from the beginning of a word, as in *copter* from *helicopter*. [Late Latin < Greek *aphaerēsis* < *aphairein*, to take away: *apo-*, *apo-* + *hairein*, to take.] —**aph-ae-ret-ic** (ā-*fā*'rēt'ik) *adj.*

a-pha-gi-a (ə-*fā*'jē-ə, -jə) *n.* Loss of the ability to swallow.

aph-a-nite (āf'a-nīt') *n.* A dense, homogeneous rock with constituents so fine that they cannot be seen by the naked eye. [< Greek *aphanēs*, unseen: *a-*, not; see A- + *phainesthai*, *phainō*, to appear, passive of *phainō*, to show; see *phainō* in App. I.] —**aph-a-nit-ic** (-nīt'ik) *adj.*

a-pha-sia (ə-*fā*'zē-ə) *n.* Partial or total loss of the ability to articulate ideas or comprehend spoken or written language, resulting from damage to the brain from injury or disease. [Greek < *aphatos*, speechless: *a-*, not; see A- + *phatos*, spoken, speakable (< *phainō*, to speak; see -PHASIA).] —**a-pha-si-ac** (-zē-āk') *n.* —**a-pha-sic** (-zē-āk', -sīk) *adj. & n.*

a-pher-li-on (ə-*fēr*'lē-ən, ā-*pēr*'lē-ən) *n., pl. -li-a* (-lē-ə) The point on the orbit of a celestial body that is farthest from the sun. [< New Latin *aphelium*: Greek *apo-*, *apo-* + Greek *hēlios*, sun; see *sawel* in App. I.]

a-pher-e-sis (ə-*fēr*'i-sis) *n.* **1.** Linguistics Variant of *aphaerēsis*. **2.** *aph-er-e-sis* (ā-*fēr*'ē-sis) *Medicine* A procedure in which blood is drawn from a donor and separated into its components, some of which are retained, such as plasma or platelets, and the remainder returned by transfusion to the donor. Also called *hemapheresis*.

aph-e-sis (āf'i-sis) *n., pl. -ses* (-sēz') The loss of an initial, usually unstressed vowel from a word, as in *cute* from *acute*. [Greek, a release < *aphienai*, *aphē-*, to let go: *apo-*, *apo-* + *hienai*, to send; see *DIESIS*.] —**aph-et-ic** (ə-*fēt*'ik) *adj.* —**aph-et-i-cal-ly** *adv.*

aphid (āf'id, āf'id) *n.* Any of various small, soft-bodied insects of the superfamily Aphidoidea that feed by sucking sap from plants and that can reproduce asexually. Also called *plant louse*. [New Latin *Aphis*, *Aphid*, type genus.] —**a-phid-i-an** (ə-*fīd*'ē-ən) *adj. & n.*

aphid lion *n.* Any of various insect larvae, especially those of lacewings, that feed on aphids.

a-phis (āf'is, āf'is) *n., pl. a-phi-des* (ā-*fī*'dēz', ā-*fī*-) An aphid, especially one of the genus *Aphis*. [New Latin *Aphis*, genus name.]

a-pho-ni-a (ā-*fō*'nē-ə) *n.* Loss of the voice resulting from disease, injury to the vocal cords, or various psychological causes, such as hysteria. [New Latin *aphonia* < Greek *aphōnía*, speechlessness < *aphōnos*, voiceless: *a-*, without; see A- + *phōnē*, voice; see *bhā-* in App. I.] —**a-pho-nic** (ā-*fō*'nīk, ā-*fō*'nīk) *adj.*

aph-o-rism (ā-*fō*'rīz'əm) *n.* **1.** A tersely phrased statement of a truth or opinion; an adage. See *Synonyms at saying*. **2.** A brief statement of a scientific principle. [French *aphorisme* < Old French < Late Latin *aphorismus* < Greek *aphorismos* < *aphorizein*, to delimit, define: *apo-*, *apo-* + *horizein*, to delimit, define; see *HORIZON*.] —**aph-o-ris-tic** (-rīst'ik) *adj.* —**aph-o-ris-ti-cal-ly** *adv.*

aph-o-rize (ā-*fō*'rīz') *tr.v.* **-rized, -rizing, -rizes** To express oneself in or as if in aphorisms.

a-pho-tic (ā-*fō*'tik) *adj.* **1.** Having no light. **2.** Of or relating to the region of a body of water that is not reached by sunlight and in which photosynthesis is unable to occur.

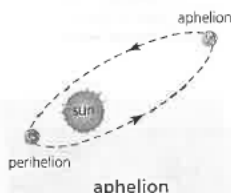
aph-ro-di-si-ac (ā-*fā*'rō-dē'zē-āk', -dīz'ē-) *adj.* Arousing or intensifying sexual desire. **6.** *n.* Something, such as a drug or food, having such an effect. [Greek *aphrodisiaks* < *aphrodisia*, sexual pleasures < *Aphroditiē*, Aphrodite.] —**aph-ro-di-si-a-cal** (-dī-zī'fī-kəl) *adj.*

Aph-ro-di-te (ā-*fā*'rō-dī'tē) *n.* Greek Mythology The goddess of love and beauty. Also called *Cytherea*. [Greek *Aphrodītē*, of Phoenician origin; see *tr* in App. I.]

a-phy-l-lous (ā-*fīl*'əs) *adj.* Bearing no leaves; leafless. [< New Latin *aphyllus* < Greek *aphyllos*: *a-*, without; see A- + *phyllos*, leaf; see -PHYLLOUS.] —**a-phyll-y** (ā-*fīl*'ē) *n.*

API *abbr.* **1.** application programming interface **2.** Asian and Pacific Islander

A-pi-a (ə-*pē*'ə, ā-*pē*'ə) The capital of Samoa, on the northern coast of Upolu island in the southern Pacific Ocean.



aphid
vetch aphids
Megoura viciae