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Page 2023 - 1

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refund v. /ri-fund/ pay a sum of money back to someone. • n. /ree-fund/ a repayment of a sum of money.
 ■ **refundable** adj.
 – ORIGIN Latin *refundere* 'pour back'.
refurbish v. redecorate and improve a building or room.
 ■ **refurbishment** n.
refuse¹ /ri-fyooz/ v. (*refuses, refusing, refused*) 1 state that you are unwilling to do something. 2 state that you are unwilling to give or accept something offered or requested.
 ■ **refusal** n.
refuse² /ref-yooss/ n. matter thrown away as worthless.
 – ORIGIN perh. from Old French *refusé* 'refused'.
refute /ri-fyoot/ v. (*refutes, refuting, refuted*) prove a statement or person to be wrong.
 ■ **refutable** adj. **refutation** n.
 – ORIGIN Latin *refutare* 'repel, rebut'.
regain v. 1 get something back after losing possession or control of it. 2 get back to a place.
regal adj. relating to or fit for a monarch, especially in being magnificent or dignified.
 ■ **regality** n. **regally** adv.
regale v. (*regales, regaling, regaled*) 1 entertain someone with conversation. 2 supply someone generously with food or drink.
regalia /ri-gay-li-uh/ n. 1 objects such as the crown and sceptre, symbolizing royalty and used at coronations or other state occasions. 2 the distinctive clothing and objects of an order, rank, or office, worn at formal occasions.
 – ORIGIN Latin, 'royal privileges'.
regard v. 1 think of someone or something in a particular way. 2 look steadily at.
 • n. 1 concern or care: *she rescued him without regard for herself.* 2 high opinion; respect. 3 a steady look. 4 (*regards*) best wishes.
 □ as *regards* concerning. with (or in) *regard* to as concerning.
 – ORIGIN Old French *regarder* 'to watch'.
regarding prep. about; concerning.
regardless adv. 1 (*regardless of*) without concern for. 2 despite what is happening: *they were determined to carry on regardless.*
regatta n. a sporting event consisting of a series of boat or yacht races.
 – ORIGIN Italian, 'a fight or contest'.
regency /ree-juhn-si/ n. (pl. *regencies*) 1 a period of government by a regent. 2 (*the Regency*) the period when George, Prince of Wales, acted as regent in Britain (1811–20).
 • adj. (*Regency*) in the neoclassical style of British architecture or furniture popular during the late 18th and early 19th centuries.
regenerate /ri-jen-uh-rayt/ v. (*regenerates, regenerating, regenerated*) 1 bring new life or strength to. 2 grow new tissue.
 ■ **regeneration** n. **regenerative** adj.
regent n. a person appointed to rule a state because the king or queen is too young or unfit to rule, or is absent. • adj. [after a noun]

acting as regent: *Prince Regent*.
 – ORIGIN Latin, 'ruling'.
reggae /reg-gay/ n. a style of popular music with a strong beat, originating in Jamaica.
 – ORIGIN perh. from Jamaican English *rege-rege* 'quarrel'.
regicide /rej-i-syd/ n. 1 the killing of a king. 2 a person who kills a king.
 – ORIGIN Latin *rex* 'king'.
regime /ray-zheem/ n. 1 a government, especially one that strictly controls a state. 2 an ordered way of doing something; a system.
regimen /rej-i-muhn/ n. a course of medical treatment, diet, or exercise that you follow to improve your health.
 – ORIGIN Latin *regere* 'to rule'.
regiment n. /rej-i-muhnt/ 1 a permanent unit of an army. 2 a large number of people or things. • v. /rej-i-ment/ organize people or things according to a strict system.
 ■ **regimental** adj. **regimentation** n.
 – ORIGIN Latin *regimentum* 'rule'.
Regina /ri-ji-nuh/ n. the reigning queen (used following a name or in the titles of lawsuits, e.g. *Regina v. Jones*, the Crown versus Jones).
region n. 1 an area of a country or the world having particular characteristics: *the equatorial regions.* 2 an administrative district of a city or country. 3 (*the regions*) the parts of a country outside the capital or centre of government. 4 a part of the body.
 □ in the *region* of approximately: *sales in the region of 30 million.*
 ■ **regional** adj. **regionally** adv.
 – ORIGIN Latin, 'direction, district'.
regionalism n. loyalty to your own region in cultural and political terms, rather than to central government.
 ■ **regionalist** n. & adj.
register n. 1 an official list or record. 2 a particular part of the range of a person's voice or a musical instrument. 3 the level and style of a piece of writing or speech, varying according to the situation in which it is used. 4 a sliding device controlling a set of organ pipes, or a set of organ pipes controlled by such a device. 5 (in electronic devices) a location in a store of data. • v. (*registers, registering, registered*) 1 enter someone or something in an official list or record. 2 put your name on an official list or record. 3 express an opinion or emotion. 4 become aware of something: *he had not even registered her presence.* 5 (of a measuring instrument) record or show a reading automatically.
registered post n. Brit. a postal service in which the sender can claim compensation if the item sent is damaged, late, or lost.
register office n. (in the UK) a local government building where civil marriages are performed and births, marriages, and deaths are recorded.
registrar /rej-i-strar, rej-i-strar/ n. 1 an official responsible for keeping official records. 2 the chief administrative officer in a university. 3 Brit. a hospital doctor who is training to be a specialist.

registration n. 1 the action of registering. 2 (also *registration number*) Brit. the series of letters and figures identifying a motor vehicle and shown on a number plate.
registry n. (pl. *registries*) a place where official records are kept.
registry office n. (in non-official use) a register office.
Regius professor /ree-juhss/ n. (in the UK) the holder of a university professorship founded or appointed by a king or queen.
 – ORIGIN Latin *regius* 'royal'.
regress /ri-gress/ v. return to an earlier or less advanced state.
 ■ **regression** n.
regressive adj. 1 returning to an earlier or less advanced state. 2 (of a tax) taking a proportionally greater amount from people on lower incomes.
regret v. (*regrets, regretting, regretted*) feel or express sorrow or disappointment about something you have done or that you should have done. • n. a feeling of such sorrow or disappointment.
 – ORIGIN Old French *regreter* 'lament the dead'.
regretful adj. feeling or showing regret.
regretfully adv. 1 in a regretful way. 2 it is regrettable that.
regrettable adj. giving rise to regret; undesirable.
 ■ **regrettably** adv.
regroup v. form into organized groups again after being attacked or defeated.
regular adj. 1 following or arranged in a pattern, especially with the same space between one thing and the next: *the association holds regular meetings.* 2 done or happening frequently. 3 doing the same thing often: *regular worshippers.* 4 following or controlled by an accepted standard. 5 usual. 6 Grammar (of a word) following the normal pattern of inflection. 7 belonging to the permanent professional armed forces of a country. 8 (of a geometrical figure) having all sides and all angles equal. 9 informal, dated absolute; complete: *this place is a regular fisherman's paradise.* • n. a regular customer, soldier, etc.
 ■ **regularity** n. (pl. *regularities*). **regularly** adv.
 – ORIGIN Latin *regula* 'rule'.
regularize (or *regularise*) v. (*regularizes, regularizing, regularized*) 1 make something regular. 2 make a temporary situation legal or official.
regulate v. (*regulates, regulating, regulated*) 1 control the rate or speed of a machine or process. 2 control something by means of rules.
 ■ **regulator** n.
regulation n. 1 a rule made by an authority. 2 the action of regulating. • adj. informal conforming to rules or conventions.
regulatory /reg-yuh-luh-tri, reg-yuh-lay-tuh-ri/ adj. acting to regulate something: *a regulatory authority.*
regulo /reg-yuh-loh/ n. Brit. trademark used before a number to indicate a temperature setting in a gas oven.

regurgitate /ri-ger-ji-tayt/ v. (*regurgitates, regurgitating, regurgitated*) 1 bring swallowed food up again to the mouth. 2 repeat information without understanding it.
 ■ **regurgitation** n.
rehabilitate v. (*rehabilitates, rehabilitating, rehabilitated*) 1 prepare someone who has been ill or in prison to resume normal life by training and therapy. 2 restore the reputation of someone previously out of favour.
 ■ **rehabilitation** n.
rehash v. /ree-hash/ reuse old ideas or material with no great change or improvement.
 • n. /ree-hash/ a reuse of old ideas or material.
rehearsal n. 1 a trial performance of a play or other work for later public performance. 2 the action of rehearsing.
rehearse v. (*rehearses, rehearsing, rehearsed*) 1 practise a play, piece of music, etc. for later public performance. 2 state points that have been made before.
reheat v. heat again.
rehouse v. (*rehouses, rehousing, rehoused*) provide someone with new housing.
rehydrate v. (*rehydrates, rehydrating, rehydrated*) cause something to absorb moisture after dehydration.
 ■ **rehydration** n.
reign v. 1 rule as king or queen. 2 be the dominant quality or aspect: *confusion reigned in the city.* 3 (as adj. *reigning*) currently holding a particular title in sport. • n. 1 the period of rule of a king or queen. 2 the period during which someone or something is best or most important.
reimburse /ree-im-berss/ v. (*reimburses, reimbursing, reimbursed*) repay money to a person who has spent or lost it.
 ■ **reimbursement** n.
 – ORIGIN Latin *imbursare* 'put in a purse'.
rein n. 1 a long, narrow strap attached to a horse's bit, used as one of a pair to control the horse. 2 (*reins*) the power to direct and control: *a new chairperson is taking over the reins.* • v. 1 control a horse by pulling on its reins. 2 (*rein someone/thing in/back*) restrain someone or something.
 □ (a) *free rein* freedom of action.
 □ The phrase *a free rein*, which comes from the meaning of allowing a horse to move freely without being controlled by reins, is often misinterpreted and wrongly spelled as *a free reign*.

reincarnate /ree-in-kar-nayt/ v. (*be reincarnated*) be born again in another body.
reincarnation n. 1 the rebirth of a soul in a new body. 2 a person in whom a soul is believed to have been born again.
reindeer n. (pl. *reindeer or reindeers*) a deer with large branching antlers, found in cold northern regions.
reinforce v. (*reinforces, reinforcing, reinforced*) 1 strengthen or support an object. 2 make a feeling, idea, etc. stronger or more intense. 3 strengthen a military force with additional personnel or equipment.