

HEINLE'S
Newbury House
DICTIONARY
of American English
Fourth Edition

THOMSON
★
HEINLE

Australia • Canada • Mexico • Singapore • Spain • United Kingdom • United States



**Heinle's Newbury House Dictionary
of American English**
Fourth Edition

Chief Editor: *Philip M. Rideout*
Activity Guide Author: *Linda Lee*
Brief Writer's Handbook Author: *John Chapman*
Sr. Acquisitions Editor: *Sherrise Roehr*
Sr. Marketing Manager: *Charlotte Sturdy*
Director of Marketing: *Amy Mabley*
Production Editor: *Jeff Freeland*
Sr. Print Buyer: *Mary Beth Hennebury*

Development Editor: *Amy Lawler*
Project Manager: *Christine Wilson*
Illustrator: *Gary Undercuffler*
Cover Designer: *Ha Nguyen*
Text Designer: *Remo Cosentino*
Compositor: *Datapage Technologies, Inc.*
Printer: *Quebecor World*

Copyright © 2004 by Monroe Allen Publishers, Inc. Heinle enjoys an exclusive license with respect to the copyright and all the exclusive rights comprised in the copyright in the work and all revisions thereof.

All rights reserved. No part of this work covered by the copyright hereon may be reproduced or used in any form or by any means—graphic, electronic, or mechanical, including photocopying, recording, taping, Web distribution, or information storage and retrieval systems—without the written permission of the publisher.

Printed in the United States of America.
4 5 6—08 07 06 05 04

For more information contact
Sales Service
Heinle Publishing
25 Thomson Place, Boston, MA 02210 USA
Tel 877-633-3375
Fax 617-284-7844
<http://www.heinle.com>

For permission to use material from this text or product, submit a request online at www.thomsonrights.com. Any additional questions about permissions can be submitted by email to thomsonrights@thomson.com.

ISBNs: 0-8384-2657-3 (softcover with CD-ROM)
0-8837-7017-2 (hardcover)

**ASIA (INCLUDING JAPAN
AND INDIA)**
Thomson Learning
5 Shenton Way #01-01
UIC Building
Singapore 068808
Tel 65-6410-1200
Fax 65-6410-1208
info@thomsonlearning.com.sg
www.thomsonlearningasia.com

AUSTRALIA/NEW ZEALAND
Thomson Learning
102 Dodds Street
Southbank, Victoria
Australia 3006
Tel 03-9685-4111
Fax 03-9685-4199
Toll Free 1 800 654 831
www.thomsonlearning.com.au

CANADA
Thomson/Nelson
1120 Birchmount Road
Toronto, Ontario
Canada M1K 5G4
Tel 416-752-9100
Fax 416-752-9646
www.nelson.com

LATIN AMERICA
Thomson Learning
Séneca, 53
Colonia Polanco
11560 México D.F.
México
Tel 52-55-5281-2906
Fax 52-55-5281-2656
www.thomsonlearning.com.mx

SPAIN/PORTUGAL
Thomson/Paraninfo
Calle Magallanes, 25
28015 Madrid, Spain
Tel 34-91-446-3350
Fax 34-91-445-6218
www.paraninfo.com

**UK/EUROPE/MIDDLE
EAST/AFRICA**
Thomson Learning
High Holborn House
50/51 Bedford Row
London, WC1R 4LR
United Kingdom
Tel 44-207-067-2500
Fax 44-207-067-2600
www.thomsonlearning.co.uk

private /ˈpraɪvɪt/ *adj.* **1** secret, keeping personal matters exclusively to oneself: *Her sex life is private; no one else has the right to know about it.* **2** away from other people and their observation: *She had a private room at the hospital.* **3** owned by a person or business rather than a government: *The land is private property and no one is allowed to trespass on it.* **-adv.** **privately.**

—*n.* a soldier of the lowest rank in the army: *He was a private for six months, and then was promoted to corporal.*

private *adj.* **1** confidential, personal. *Ants.* shared | public. **2** personal | isolated. *Ants.* public, communal. **3** restricted, privately-owned. *Ant.* public.

private enterprise *n.frm.* business owned and conducted with private money, not by governmental agencies: *The automobile companies are examples of American private enterprise.*

private investigator *n.* a detective: *The film star hired a private investigator to find out who was following her.*

private parts *n.pl.* the sex organs, genitals

private school *n.* a school run by a private group, not by the government: *The Catholic church runs private schools throughout the USA.* *See:* coed, USAGE NOTE.

pri-va-tion /ˈpraɪˈveɪʃən/ *n.* [U] lack of the basic necessities of life, such as food, clothing, and shelter: *The homeless woman is suffering from privation.*

pri-vat-ize /ˈpraɪvəˈtaɪz/ *v.* [T] **-ized, -izing,** **-izes** to sell a business or service owned by the government to private owners: *England has privatized industries by selling them to private owners.* **-n.** [U] **privatization** /ˈpraɪvətəˈzeɪʃən/.

privi-lege /ˈprɪvəlɪdʒ, ˈprɪvɪlɪdʒ/ *n.* **1** a special right or benefit granted to a person: *As a top manager, she has the special privileges of a big office and a private bathroom.* **2** rights held by some but not all, because of their wealth and status in society: *For centuries the nobility led lives of privilege, free from having to work.* **3** something enjoyable that you are honored to have the chance to do: *It is a great privilege to accept this award.*

privi-leged /ˈprɪvəlɪdʒd, ˈprɪvɪlɪdʒd/ *adj.* **1** private, secret between individuals: *Discussions between a lawyer and client are privileged communications.* **2** having special rights or benefits: *Only the privileged few could afford to send their children to private schools.*

priv-y /ˈprɪvɪ/ *n.infrm.* **-ies** an outdoor toilet, (*syn.*) an outhouse: *Old farmhouses had privies behind them.*

—*adj.frm.* allowed to know s.t. secret: *I am not privy to what the President thinks.*

prix fixe /ˈpriːfiks/ *n.* (French for) a fixed price for a restaurant meal with two or three courses: *The prix fixe of \$35 included an appetizer, a main dish, and dessert.*

prize /praɪz/ *v.* [T] **prized, prizing, prizes** to appreciate s.t. greatly, cherish: *He prizes his new car above all his other possessions.*

—*n.* an award presented in recognition of winning a contest or lottery: *She won first prize of a college scholarship in a writing contest.*

—*adj.* outstanding, champion: *His prize roses bloom in June.*

prize *v.* to value, treasure.

—*n.* an honor, trophy.

prize-fight-er /ˈpraɪzˌfaɪtər/ *n.* a professional boxer who fights for money: *Prizefighters can become millionaires if they win often.* **-n.** [U]

prizefighting.

pro (1) /prəʊ/ *n.adj.infrm.* short for professional

pro (2) *prefix & adj.* for, in favor of: *The senator is pro-choice on the issue of abortion.*

prob-a-bil-i-ty /ˈprɒbəˈbɪləti/ *n.* **-ties** the likelihood, chance that s.t. will or did happen: *The probability that it will rain today is high.*

prob-a-ble /ˈprɒbəbəl/ *adj.* **1** likely to happen, having a good chance of occurring: *It is probable that it will snow tomorrow.* **2** reasonable to believe: *The probable cause of that accident was that the driver was drunk.*

probable **1** likely, feasible, expected

2 likely, apparent.

prob-a-bly /ˈprɒbəbli/ *adv.* likely, believably: *He was probably drunk and that caused him to drive off the road.*

probably in all likelihood, presumably.

pro-bate /ˈprəʊˌbeɪt/ *n.* [U] a legal procedure that proves the validity of a will: *When someone dies, their will can go through probate.*

—*v.* [T] **-bated, -bating, -bates** to go through pro-bate: *The old woman's will was probated in probate court.*

pro-ba-tion /ˈprəʊˌbeɪʃən/ *n.* [U] **1** a period of time in which a lawbreaker is allowed to go free under supervision: *The judge did not jail the young man, but put him on probation for a year.* **2** a period of testing the ability of a new employee or seeing if a student improves: *That company puts all new employees on a three-month probation.*

probe /prəʊb/ *n.* **1** an instrument used to explore inside s.t.: *A doctor used a probe to remove metal fragments from a wound.* **2** a space vehicle, special aircraft, or submarine: *Our space agency sent out a probe with cameras to explore the planet Mars.* **3** an inquiry,