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cal-cu-la-ble |'kælkjələbəl| ▶adj. able to be measured or assessed.

-DERIVATIVES **cal-cu-la-bil-i-ty** |'kælkjələ'biliti| n.; **cal-cu-la-bly** |-bly| adv.

cal-cu-late |'kælkjə,læt| ▶v. [trans.] 1 determine (the amount or number of something) mathematically: *Japanese land value was calculated at 2.5 times that of the United States* | [with clause] *he calculated that Texas would gain four new seats in the House of Representatives*.

■ determine by reasoning, experience, or common sense; reckon or judge: *I was bright enough to calculate that she had been on vacation*. ■ [intrans.] (**cal-cu-late on**) include as an essential element in one's plans: *he may have calculated on maximizing pressure for policy revision*.

2 (usu. **be calculated to do something**) intend (an action) to have a particular effect: *his last words were calculated to wound her*.

■ [with clause] suppose; believe.

-DERIVATIVES **cal-cu-la-tive** |-lətiv| adj.

-ORIGIN late Middle English: from late Latin *calcular-* 'counted,' from the verb *calculari*, from *calculus* 'a small pebble (as used on an abacus).'

cal-cu-lated |'kælkjə,lətid| ▶adj. (of an action) done with full awareness of the likely consequences: *a calculated decision*.

■ carefully planned or intended: *victims of vicious and calculated assaults*. ■ (of an amount or number) mathematically worked out or measured.

-DERIVATIVES **cal-cu-lated-ly** adv.

cal-cu-lating |'kælkjə,lətiŋ| ▶adj. acting in a scheming and ruthlessly determined way: *he was a coolly calculating, ruthless man*.

-DERIVATIVES **cal-cu-lating-ly** adv.

cal-cu-la-tion |'kælkjə,ləʃən| ▶n. a mathematical determination of the size or number of something: *finding ways of saving money involves complicated calculations* | *calculation of depreciation*.

■ (often **calculations**) an assessment of the risks, possibilities, or effects of a situation or course of action: *decisions are shaped by political calculations*.

-ORIGIN late Middle English: via Old French from late Latin *calculatio* (n-), from the verb *calculari* (see **CALCULATE**).

cal-cu-la-tor |'kælkjə,lə'tɔr| ▶n. something used for making mathematical calculations, in particular a small electronic device with a keyboard and a visual display.

cal-cu-lus |'kælkjələs| ▶n. 1 (pl. **calculuses**) (also **infinitesimal calculus**) the branch of mathematics that deals with the finding and properties of derivatives and integrals of functions, by methods originally based on the summation of infinitesimal differences. The two main types are **differential calculus** and **integral calculus**.

2 (pl. **calculuses**) Mathematics & Logic a particular method or system of calculation or reasoning.

3 (pl. **calculi** |-li; -lē|) Medicine a concretion of minerals formed within the body, esp. in the kidney or gall-bladder.

■ another term for **TARTAR**.

-ORIGIN mid 17th cent.: from Latin, literally 'small pebble (as used on an abacus).'

cal-cu-lus of vari-a-tions ▶n. a form of calculus applied to expressions or functions in which the law relating the quantities is liable to variation, esp. to find what relation between the variables makes an integral a maximum or a minimum.

Cal-cut-ta |kæl'kə'tə| a port and industrial center in eastern India, capital of the state of West Bengal, the second largest city in India; pop. 10,916,000. It is situated on the banks of the Hooghly River near the Bay of Bengal.

-DERIVATIVES **Cal-cut-tan** |-kə'tən| n. & adj.

Cal-de-cott |'kəldikət|, Randolph (1846-86), English graphic artist and watercolor painter. He is noted for his illustrations for children's books. A medal awarded annually for the illustration of US children's books is named for him.

Cal-der |'kəldər|, Alexander (1898-1976), US sculptor and painter. He was one of the first artists to introduce movement into sculpture, making mobiles incorporating abstract forms. His static sculptures are known as "stabiles."

cal-de-ra |kæl'derə; kōl-; -dirə| ▶n. a large volcanic crater, typically one formed by a major eruption leading to the collapse of the mouth of the volcano.

-ORIGIN late 17th cent.: from Spanish, from late Latin *caldaria* 'boiling pot.'

Cal-de-rón de la Bar-ca |kəldə'rɒn də lə 'bærkə|, Pedro (1600-81), Spanish playwright and poet. He wrote about 120 plays, more than 70 of them religious dramas.

cal-dron ▶n. variant spelling of **CAULDRON**.

Cald-well |'kəld,wel|, Erskine (Preston) (1903-87),

US novelist and short-story writer. Caldwell reproduced the dialect of the poor whites in his realistic, earthy, and popular novels. Notable works: *Tobacco Road* (1932) and *God's Little Acre* (1933).

Cald-well² a city in southwestern Idaho, west of Boise; pop. 25,967.

cal-èche |kə'lesh -læsh| (also **caleche** or **calash**) ▶n. historical 1 a light low-wheeled carriage with a removable folding hood.

2 Canadian a two-wheeled one-horse vehicle with a seat for the driver on the splashboard.

3 a woman's hooped silk hood.

-ORIGIN mid 17th cent.: French, from German *Kalesche*, from Polish *kolasa*, from *kolo* 'wheel.'

Cal-e-don-i-an |kəldə'nɒniən| ▶adj. 1 (chiefly in names or geographical terms) of or relating to Scotland or the Scottish Highlands: *the Caledonian Railway*.

2 Geology relating to or denoting a mountain-forming period (orogeny) in northwestern Europe and Greenland during the Early Paleozoic era, esp. the late Silurian.

▶n. 1 chiefly humorous poetic/literary a person from Scotland. 2 (the **Caledonian**) Geology the Caledonian orogeny.

-ORIGIN from *Caledonia*, the Latin name for northern Britain, + -AN.

Cal-e-don-i-an Canal a system of lochs and canals that cross Scotland from east to west.

cal-e-fa-cient |kəldə'fæʃənt| ▶n. Medicine, archaic a drug or other agent causing a sensation of warmth.

-ORIGIN mid 17th cent.: from Latin *calefacient-* 'making warm,' from the verb *calefacere*, from *calere* 'be warm' + *facere* 'make.'

cal-en-dar |'kæləndər| (abbr.: **cal.**) ▶n. a chart or series of pages showing the days, weeks, and months of a particular year, or giving particular seasonal information.

■ a datebook. ■ a system by which the beginning, length, and subdivisions of the year are fixed. See also **JEWISH CALENDAR**, **JULIAN CALENDAR**, **GREGORIAN CALENDAR**. ■ a timetable of special days or events of a specified kind or involving a specified group: *the college calendar*. ■ a list of people or events connected with particular dates, esp. canonized saints and cases for trial.

▶v. [trans.] enter (something) in a calendar or timetable.

-DERIVATIVES **cal-en-dric** |kə'lendrik| adj.; **cal-en-dri-cal** |kə'lendrikəl| adj.

-ORIGIN Middle English: from Old French *calendrier*, from Latin *calendarium* 'account book,' from *kalendae* (see **CALENDS**).

cal-en-dar month ▶n. see **MONTH**.

cal-en-dar year ▶n. see **YEAR** (sense 2).

cal-en-der |'kæləndər| ▶n. a machine in which cloth or paper is pressed by rollers to glaze or smooth it.

▶v. [trans.] press in such a machine.

-ORIGIN late 15th cent. (as a verb): from French *calendre* (noun), *calendrer* (verb), of unknown origin.

cal-ends |'kælənz; 'kə-| (also **kalends**) ▶plural n. the first day of the month in the ancient Roman calendar.

-ORIGIN Old English (denoting an appointed time): from Old French *calendes*, from Latin *kalendae*, *calendae* 'first day of the month' (when accounts were due and the order of days was proclaimed); related to Latin *calare* and Greek *kalein* 'call, proclaim.'

cal-en-du-la |kə'lenjələ| ▶n. a Mediterranean plant of a genus that includes the common (or pot) marigold. •Genus *Calendula*, family Compositae.

-ORIGIN modern Latin, diminutive of *calendae* (see **CALENDS**); perhaps because it flowers for most of the year.

cal-en-ture |'kælən,tʃʊər| ▶n. feverish delirium supposedly caused by the heat in the tropics.

-ORIGIN late 16th cent.: from French, from Spanish

calentura 'fever,' from *calentar* 'be hot,' based on Latin *calere* 'be warm.'

call¹ |kæl| ▶n. (pl. **calves** |kævz|) 1 a young bovine animal, esp. a domestic cow or bull in its first year.

■ the young of some other large mammals, such as elephants, rhinoceroses, large deer and antelopes, and whales. ■ short for **CALFSKIN**.

2 a floating piece of ice detached from an iceberg.

-PHRASES **in (or with) calf** (of a cow) pregnant. **kill the fatted calf** see **FAT**.

-DERIVATIVES **calf-like** |-lik| adj.

-ORIGIN Old English *calf*, of Germanic origin; related to Dutch *kalf* and German *Kalb*.

call² ▶n. (pl. **calves** |kævz|) the fleshy part at the back of a person's leg below the knee.

-ORIGIN Middle English: from Old Norse *kálfi*, of unknown origin.

calf-skin |'kælf,skɪn| ▶n. leather made from the hide or skin of a calf, used chiefly in bookbinding and shoemaking.

Cal-gary |'kælgəri| a city in southern Alberta, in southwestern Canada; pop. 710,680.

Cal-houn |kæl'houn|, John Caldwell (1782-1850) US politician. A South Carolina Democrat, he served as US vice president 1825-32 and in the US Senate 1832-43, 1845-50. He was noted as a champion of states' rights and of slavery.

Cal-il |'kæli| an industrial city in western Colombia; pop. 1,624,400.

cal-i-ber |'kælibər| (Brit. **calibre**) (abbr.: **cal.**) ▶n. 1 the quality of someone's character or the level of someone's ability: *they could ill afford to lose a man of his caliber*.

■ the standard reached by something: *educational facilities of a very high caliber*.

2 the internal diameter or bore of a gun barrel: [in combination] *a .22 caliber repeater rifle*.

■ the diameter of a bullet, shell, or rocket. ■ the diameter of a body of circular section, such as a tube, blood vessel, or fiber.

-DERIVATIVES **cal-i-bered** adj. [also in combination].

-ORIGIN mid 16th cent. (in the sense 'social standing or importance'): from French *calibre*, from Italian *calibro*, perhaps from Arabic *kālib* 'mold,' based on Greek *kalapous* 'shoemaker's last.'

cal-i-brate |'kæli,breɪt| ▶v. [trans.] (often **be calibrated**) mark (a gauge or instrument) with a standard scale of readings.

■ correlate the readings of (an instrument) with those of a standard in order to check the instrument's accuracy. ■ adjust (experimental results) to take external factors into account or to allow comparison with other data.

-DERIVATIVES **cal-i-brator** |-brə'tɔr| n.

-ORIGIN mid 19th cent.: from **CALIBER** + -ATE³.

cal-i-bra-tion |kæli'bræʃən| ▶n. the action or process of calibrating an instrument or experimental readings: *the measuring devices require calibration* | *calibrations in the field of electronic measurements*.

■ each of a set of graduations on an instrument.

cal-i-che |kə'lesi| ▶n. a mineral deposit of gravel, sand, and nitrates, found esp. in dry areas of South America.

■ an area of calcium carbonate formed in the soils of semiarid regions.

-ORIGIN mid 19th cent.: from Latin American Spanish.

cal-i-co |'kæli,kō| ▶n. (pl. **-oes** or **-os**) Brit. a type of cotton cloth, typically plain white or unbleached: [as adj.] *a calico dress*.

■ printed cotton fabric.

▶adj. (of an animal, typically a cat) multicolored or mottled.

-ORIGIN mid 16th cent. (originally also *calicut*): alteration of **CALICUT**, where the fabric originated.

Cal-i-cut |'kælikət| a seaport in the state of Kerala in southwestern India, on the Malabar Coast; pop. 420,000. Also called **KOZHIKODE**.

Calif. ▶abbr. **California**.

Cal-i-for-nia |kæli'fɔrniə| a state in the western US, on the coast of the Pacific Ocean; pop. 33,871,648; capital, Sacramento; statehood, Sept. 9, 1850 (31). Formerly part of Mexico, it was ceded to the US in 1847, having briefly been an independent republic. Large numbers of settlers were attracted to California in the 19th century, esp. during the gold rushes of the 1840s; it is now the most populous state.

-DERIVATIVES **Cal-i-for-nian** adj. & n.

Cal-i-for-nia ▶n. an arm of the Pacific Ocean that separates the Baja California peninsula from mainland Mexico.

Cal-i-for-nia Current a cold ocean current of the eastern Pacific Ocean that flows south along the western coast of North America.

Cal-i-for-nia pop-py ▶n. an annual poppy native to



Alexander Calder