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source. **ex-pe-di-ence**
adv. [ME f. L. *expedire*:

s of; hasten (an action,
ckly. **ex-pe-dite** n.
as EX-¹, *pes pedis* foot)]
voyage for a particular
h, or war. 2 the person-
ness; speed. **ex-pe-**
(as *EXPEDITE*)
r used in an expedition,

done with speed and
ce. **ex-pe-ditiously**
[ous]
ften foll. by *from*) 1 de-
volvement in (a school,
om its container, etc.).
ex-pel-lable adj. **ex-pel-**
[ME f. L. *expellere* *expuls-*

ney, time, etc.). [ME f.
]
y be sacrificed or dis-
not regarded as worth
nificant. 3 not normal-
ably adv.

cess or an instance of
of money) expended.
rge of expenditure, f.
pendere]
nt of money. 2 (usu. in
job, etc. (*will pay your*
this (*offered me \$40 per*
uch expense (*the house*
if so as to cause loss or
OF *expense* f. LL *expen-*
EXPEND]
s expenses payable by

2 making a high charge.
ses). **ex-pen-sive-ly**

ctual observation of or
s. 2 knowledge or skill
as affecting one (*an un-*
ceing so affected (*learn-*
sf; undergo. 2 feel or be
ence-able adj. [ME f.

had much experience.
river).
ving or based on expe-
n-tial-ist n. **ex-per-i-en-**

hy that treats all knowl-

procedure adopted on
hypothesis, etc., or to
test or trial of. **ex-p-**
nt. **ex-per-i-men-ta-**
riment or L *experimen-*

on or making use of ex-
used in experiments.
etc) experiment; tenta-
on on authority or con-
men-tal-ist n. **ex-per-i-**
[ME f. med.L. *experi-*

by at, in) having spec-
or resulting from this
(often foll. by at, in) a
ex-pert-ly adv. **ex-pert-**
experiri: see EXPERIENCE]
ledge, or judgment. [F

rt opinion. 2 tr. give an

r (wrongdoing). 2 make
al/ adj. **ex-pi-a-to-ry**
ex-pi-a-tor n. [L. *expiare*

ut. 2 the end of the va-
o (as *EXPIRE*)
s, validity, etc.) come to

an end. 2 intr. (of a document, authorization, etc.) cease to be val-
id; become void. 3 intr. (of a person) die. 4 tr. (usu. foll. by *from*;
also *absol.*) exhale (air, etc.) from the lungs. **ex-pi-a-to-ry** adj.
(in sense 4). [ME f. OF *expier* f. L. *expirare* (as EX-¹, *spirare* breathe)]

ex-pi-ry /ikspire/ n. 1 expiration. 2 death.

ex-plain /iksplain/ v. tr. 1 make clear or intelligible with detailed
information, etc. (also *absol.*: let me explain). 2 (foll. by *that* + clause)
say by way of explanation. 3 account for (one's conduct, etc.). **ex-**
plain away minimize the significance of (a difficulty or mistake) by
explanation. **explain oneself** 1 make one's meaning clear. 2 give an
account of one's motives or conduct. **ex-plain-a-ble** adj. **ex-plain-**
er n. [L. *explanare* (as EX-¹, *planus* flat, assim. to PLAIN¹)]

ex-plan-a-tion /eksplanayshn/ n. 1 the act or an instance of ex-
plaining. 2 a statement or circumstance that explains something.
3 a declaration made with a view to mutual understanding or rec-
onciliation. [ME f. L. *explanatio* (as EXPLAIN)]

ex-plan-a-to-ry /eksplanatwree/ adj. serving or intended to serve to
explain. **ex-plan-a-to-ry-ly** adv. [LL *explanatorius* (as EXPLAIN)]

ex-plant /eksplant/ v. & n. Biol. **v. tr.** transfer (living cells, tissues,
or organs) from animals or plants to a nutrient medium. **n.** a piece
of explanted tissue, etc. **ex-plan-tation** n. [mod.L. *explantare* (as
EX-¹, *plantare* PLANT)]

ex-pletive /ekspletiv/ n. & adj. **n.** 1 an oath, swearword, or other
expression, used in an exclamation. 2 a word used to fill out a sen-
tence, etc., esp. in verse. **adj.** serving to fill out (esp. a sentence,
line of verse, etc.).

WORD HISTORY expletive

Late Middle English (as an adjective): from late Latin *expletivus*,
from *explere* 'fill out', from *ex-* 'out' + *plere* 'fill'. The general noun
sense 'word used merely to fill out a sentence' (early 17th cen-
tury) was applied specifically to an oath or swear word in the ear-
ly 19th century.

ex-pli-ca-ble /eksplikəbəl, iksplik- / adj. that can be explained.

ex-pli-cate /eksplikayt/ v. tr. 1 develop the meaning or implication of
(an idea, principle, etc.). 2 make clear; explain (esp. a literary text).

ex-pli-ca-tion /-kayshn/ n. **ex-pli-ca-tive** /eksplikaytiv,
iksplikativ/ adj. **ex-pli-ca-tor** n. **ex-pli-ca-to-ry** /eksplikatwree,
iksplik- / adj. [L. *explicare* *explicat-* unfold (as EX-¹, *plicare* *plicat-* or
plicat- fold)]

ex-plic-it /iksplicit/ adj. 1 expressly stated, leaving nothing merely
implied; stated in detail. 2 (of knowledge, a notion, etc.) definite;
clear. 3 (of a person, book, etc.) expressing views unreservedly;
outspoken. **ex-plic-it-ly** adv. **ex-plic-it-ness** n. [F *explicite* or L
explicitus (as EXPLICATE)]

► See note at IMPLICIT.

ex-plode /iksplod/ v. 1 a intr. (of gas, gunpowder, a bomb, a boiler,
etc.) expand suddenly with a loud noise owing to a release of inter-
nal energy. **b tr.** cause (a bomb, etc.) to explode. 2 intr. give vent
suddenly to emotion, esp. anger. 3 intr. (of a population, etc.) in-
crease suddenly or rapidly. 4 tr. show (a theory, etc.) to be false or
baseless. 5 tr. (as **exploded** adj.) (of a drawing, etc.) showing the
components of a mechanism as if separated by an explosion but
in the normal relative positions. **ex-plod-er** n. [earliest in sense
4: L. *explodere* hiss off the stage (as EX-¹, *plodere* *plos-* = *plaudere* clap)]

ex-ploit n. & v. **n.** /eksplɔɪt/ a bold or daring feat. **v. tr.** /iksplɔɪt/
1 make use of (a resource, etc.); derive benefit from. 2 usu. *derog.*
utilize or take advantage of (esp. a person) for one's own ends.
ex-ploit-a-ble adj. **ex-ploit-a-tion** n. **ex-ploit-a-tive** /iksplɔɪtativ/
adj. **ex-ploit-er** n. **ex-ploit-er** n. [ME f. OF *exploit*, *exploiter* ult. f.
L. *explicare*: see EXPLICATE]

ex-plora-tion /eksplorayshn/ n. 1 an act or instance of exploring.
2 the process of exploring. **ex-plora-tion-al** adj.

ex-plor-a-to-ry /eksplawratwree/ adj. 1 (of discussion, etc.) prelim-
inary; serving to establish procedure, etc. 2 of or concerning ex-
ploration or investigation (*exploratory surgery*).

ex-plore /iksplawr/ v. tr. 1 travel extensively through (a country, etc.)
in order to learn or discover about it. 2 inquire into; investigate
thoroughly. 3 *Surgery* examine (a part of the body) in detail. **ex-**
plora-tive /-rətiv/ adj. [F *explorer* f. L. *explorare*]

ex-plor-er /iksplawrɪ/ n. a traveler into undiscovered or uninvesti-
gated territory, esp. to get scientific information.

ex-plo-sion /ikspləʒhən/ n. 1 the act or an instance of exploding. 2 a
loud noise caused by something exploding. 3 a sudden outburst
of noise. **b** a sudden outbreak of feeling, esp. anger. 4 a rapid or
sudden increase, esp. of population. [L. *explosio* scornful rejection
(as EXPLODE)]

ex-plo-sive /ekspləʃiv/ adj. & n. **adj.** 1 able or tending or likely to
explode. 2 likely to cause a violent outburst, etc.; (of a situation,
etc.) dangerously tense. **n.** an explosive substance. **ex-plo-sive-**
ly adv. **ex-plo-sive-ness** n.

ex-po /eks-pō/ n. (also **Ex-po**) (*pl.* -pos) a large international exhibi-
tion. [abbr. of EXPOSITION]

ex-po-nent /ikspənənt/ n. & adj. **n.** 1 a person who favors or pro-
motes an idea, etc. 2 a representative or practitioner of an activity,

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expiry ~ expression

profession, etc. 3 a person who explains or interprets something.
4 an executant (of music, etc.). 5 a type or representative. 6 *Math.*
a raised symbol or expression beside a numeral indicating how
many times it is to be multiplied by itself (e.g., $2^3 = 2 \times 2 \times 2$).
adj. that sets forth or interprets. [L. *exponere* (as EX-¹, *ponere* pos-
it- put)]

ex-po-nen-tial /eksponénshəl/ adj. 1 *Math.* of or indicated by a
mathematical exponent. 2 (of an increase, etc.) more and more
rapid. **ex-po-nen-tial-ly** adv. [F *exponentiel* (as EXPONENT)]

ex-po-nen-tial function n. *Math.* a function that increases as a
quantity raised to a power determined by the variable on which
the function depends.

ex-po-nen-tial growth n. *Biol.* a form of population growth in which
the rate of growth is related to the number of individuals present.

ex-port v. & n. **v. tr.** /ekspawrt, eks- / send out (goods or services)
esp. for sale in another country. **n.** /ekspawrt/ 1 the process of ex-
porting. 2 a an exported article or service. **b** (in *pl.*) an amount ex-
ported (*exports exceeded \$50 billion*). 3 (*attrib.*) suitable for export,
esp. of better quality. **ex-port-a-ble** adj. **ex-port-a-bil-ity** n. **ex-**
por-ta-tion n. **ex-port-er** n. [L. *exportare* (as EX-¹, *portare* carry)]

ex-pose /ikspəʊz/ v. tr. 1 leave uncovered or unprotected, esp. from
the weather. 2 (foll. by *to*) a cause to be liable to or in danger of
(*was exposed to great danger*). **b** lay open to the action or influence
of; introduce to (*exposed to bad influences, exposed to Hemingway at*
a young age). 3 (as **exposed** adj.) **a** (foll. by *to*) open to; unpro-
tected from (*exposed to the east*). **b** vulnerable; risky. 4 *Photog.* subject
(film) to light, esp. by operation of a camera. 5 reveal the identity
or fact of (esp. a person or thing disapproved of or guilty of crime,
etc.). 6 disclose; make public. 7 exhibit; display. 8 put up for sale.
ex-pose oneself display one's body, esp. the genitals, publicly and
indecently. **ex-poser** n. [ME f. OF *exposer* after L. *exponere*: see
EXPONENT, POSE¹]

ex-po-sé /ekspəzay/ n. (also **ex-pose**) 1 an orderly statement of facts.
2 the act or an instance of revealing something discreditable. [F,
past part. of *exposer* (as EXPOSE)]

ex-po-si-tion /ekspəzishn/ n. 1 an explanatory statement or ac-
count. 2 an explanation or commentary; an interpretative article
or treatise. 3 *Mus.* the part of a movement, esp. in sonata form, in
which the principal themes are first presented. 4 a large public ex-
hibition. 5 *archaic* exposure. **ex-po-si-tion-al** adj. **ex-posi-tive**
/-pəzitiv/ adj. [ME f. OF *exposition*, or L. *expositio* (as EXPONENT)]
ex-posi-tor /ikspəzɪtɔr/ n. an expounder or interpreter. **ex-pos-**
ito-ry adj.

ex post fac-to /eks pöst fäktə/ adj. & adv. with retrospective action
or force. [L. *ex postfacto* in the light of subsequent events]

ex-pos-tu-late /ikspəʃchəlayt/ v. intr. (often foll. by *with* a person)
make a protest; remonstrate earnestly. **ex-pos-tu-la-tion**
/-ləyshn/ n. **ex-pos-tu-la-to-ry** /-lətəwree/ adj. [L. *expostulare* *expos-*
tulat- (as EX-¹, *postulare* demand)]

ex-po-sure /ikspəʒhər/ n. 1 (foll. by *to*) the act or condition of ex-
posing or being exposed (to air, cold, danger, etc.). 2 the condi-
tion of being exposed to the elements, esp. in severe conditions
(*died from exposure*). 3 the revelation of an identity or fact, esp. when
concealed or likely to find disapproval. 4 *Photog.* a the action of ex-
posing film, etc., to the light. **b** the duration of this action. **c** the
area of film, etc., affected by it. 5 an aspect or outlook (*has a fine*
southern exposure). 6 experience, esp. of a specified kind of work.
[EXPOSE after enclosure, etc.]

ex-po-sure me-ter n. *Photog.* a device for measuring the strength of
the light to determine the correct duration of exposure.

ex-pound /ikspəʊnd/ v. tr. 1 set out in detail (a doctrine, etc.). 2 ex-
plain or interpret (a literary or doctrinal work). **ex-pound-er** n.
[ME f. OF *espondre* (as EXPONENT)]

ex-press /iksprɛs/ v. tr. 1 represent or make known (thought, feel-
ings, etc.) in words or by gestures, conduct, etc. 2 *refl.* say what one
thinks or means. 3 *esp. Math.* represent by symbols. 4 squeeze out
(liquid or air). **ex-press-er** n. **ex-press-i-ble** adj. [ME f. OF *ex-*
presser f. Rmc (as EX-¹, PRESS¹)]

ex-press /iksprɛs/ adj., adv., n., & v. **adj.** 1 operating at high speed.
2 also /eksprɛs/ a definitely stated, not merely implied. **b** *archaic*
(of a likeness) exact. 3 a done, made, or sent for a special purpose.
b (of messages or goods) delivered by a special messenger or serv-
ice. **adv.** 1 at high speed. 2 by express messenger or train. **n.** 1
a an express train or messenger. **b** an express rifle. 2 a company
undertaking the transport of packages, etc. **v. tr.** send by express
messenger or delivery. **ex-press-ly** adv. (in senses 2 and 3a of
adj.) [ME f. OF *expres* f. L. *expressus* distinctly shown, past part. of
exprimere (as EX-¹, *primere* press)]

ex-pres-sion /iksprɛshən/ n. 1 the act or an instance of expressing.
2 a word or phrase expressed. **b** manner or means of expressing
in language; wording; diction. 3 *Math.* a collection of symbols
expressing a quantity. 4 a person's facial appearance or intonation

See page xx for the Key to Pronunciation.