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THIRD EDITION

THE AMERICAN HERITAGE® COLLEGE DICTIONARY

THIRD EDITION

n.ary



HOUGHTON MIFFLIN COMPANY

Boston • New York

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0-395-67161-2 (UPC)

Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data

The American heritage college dictionary. —3rd ed.
p. cm.

ISBN 0-395-66917-0 (plain edge). —ISBN 0-395-44638-4
(thumb edge). —ISBN 0-395-66918-9 (deluxe binding).

1. English language—Dictionaries. 2. Americanisms.
PE1628.A6227 1993

423—dc20

92-42124
CIP

Manufactured in the United States of America

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taking forceful measures to aid European Jews.

Pi·ute (pī'yoot') *n.* Var. of **Palute**.

piv·ot (piv'ət) *n.* 1. A short rod or shaft on which a related part rotates or swings. 2. A person or thing on which something depends or turns; the central or crucial factor. 3. The act of turning on or as if on a pivot. — *v.* -ot·ed, -ot·ing, -ots. — *tr.* 1. To mount on, attach by, or provide with a pivot or pivots. 2. To cause to rotate, revolve, or turn. — *intr.* To turn on or as if on a pivot. [Fr. < OFr.] — **piv'ot·a·ble** *adj.* 2. Being of vital importance; crucial. — **piv'ot·al·ly** *adv.*

pivot joint *n.* A joint in which a bone rotates around another.

pix¹ (piks) *n.* Pl. of **pic**.

pix² (piks) *n.* Eccles. Var. of **pyx**.

pix·el (pik'səl, -səl') *n.* Comp. Sci. The smallest image-forming unit of a video display. [PIX¹ + EL(EMENT).]

pix·i·lat·ed or **pix·il·lat·ed** (pik'sā-lā'tid) *adj.* 1. Behaving as if mentally unstable; eccentric. 2. Whimsical; prankish.

3. Slang. Intoxicated; drunk. [C. < PIXY.] — **pix'i·la'tion** *n.* **pix·y** or **pix·ie** (pik'sē) — *n., pl. -ies.* A fairylike or elfin creature, esp. one that is mischievous; a playful sprite. — *adj.* Playfully mischievous. [?] — **pix'y·ish** *adj.*

Pi·zar·ro (pī-zār'ō, pē-thār'ō, -sār') *n.* **Francisco.** 1475?–1541. Spanish explorer and conqueror of Peru (1531–33).

piz·za (pēt'sā) *n.* A baked pie of Italian origin consisting of a shallow breadlike crust covered with tomato sauce, cheese, and often other toppings. [Ital., pie, tart, pizza.]

piz·zazz or **piz·zaz** (pī-zāz') *n.* **Slang.** 1. Dazzling style; flamboyance; flair. 2. Vigorous spirit; energy or excitement. [?] **piz·ze·ri·a** (pēt'sā-rē'ā) *n.* A place where pizzas are made and sold. [Ital. < pizza, pie, pizza.]

piz·zi·ca·to (pī'zī-kā'tō) *Mus.* — *adj.* Played by plucking rather than bowing the strings. — *n., pl. -ti* (-tē). A pizzicato note or passage. [Ital., p. part. of pizzicare, to pluck < pizzare, to prick < pizzo, point.] — **piz'zi·ca'to** *adv.*

piz·zle (pīz'əl) *n.* 1. The penis of an animal, esp. a bull. 2. A whip made from a bull's penis. [Poss. < LGer. pēsel, dim. of MLGer. pese, penis, tendon.] **pk.** *abbr.* 1. Pack. 2. Park. 3. Peak. 4. Peck. **pkg.** *abbr.* Package. **pkt.** *abbr.* Packet. **PKU** *abbr.* Phenylketonuria. **pkwy** *abbr.* Parkway. **pkv** *abbr.* Parkway. **pl.** *abbr.* 1. Or Pl. Place. 2. Print. & Photography. Plate. 3. Plural.

plac·a·ble (plāk'ə-bəl, plā'kə-) *adj.* Easily calmed or pacified; tolerant. [ME, agreeable < OFr. < Lat. plācābilis < plācāre, to calm. See plāk-1*.] — **plac'a·bil'i·ty** *n.* — **plac'a·bly** *adv.*

plac·ard (plāk'ārd', -ārd) *n.* 1. A sign or notice for display in a public place. 2. A small card or plaque, such as a nameplate on a door. — *tr.v.* -ard·ed, -ard·ing, -ards. 1. To announce or advertise by means of placards. 2. To post placards on or in. 3. To display as a placard. [ME, official document < OFr. < plaquier, to plaster, piece together < MDu. placken, to patch.] — **plac'ard'er** *n.*

pla·cate (plā'kāt', plāk'āt') *tr.v.* -cat·ed, -cat·ing, -cates. To allay the anger of, esp. by making concessions; appease. See Syns at **pacify**. [Lat. plācāre, plācāt-, to calm. See plāk-1*.] — **pla'cat'er** *n.* — **pla·ca'tion** (plā-kā'shən) *n.* **plāk-1*.** — **pla'ca'tory** (-tōr'ē, -tōr'ē), **pla'ca'tive** (-kā'tiv) *adj.*

place (plās) *n.* 1.a. A bounded area; a portion of space. b. Room or space, esp. adequate space. 2.a. The given portion of space occupied by or allocated to a person or thing. b. A building or an area set aside for a specified purpose. 3.a. A dwelling; a house. b. A business establishment or office. c. A locality, such as a town or a city. 4. Often **Place**. A public square or street with houses in a town. 5.a. A space in which one person, such as a passenger, can sit or stand. b. A setting for one person at a table. 6. A position regarded as belonging to someone or something else; stead. 7. A particular point reached, as in a book. 8. A particular spot, as on the body. 9.a. The proper or designated role or function. b. The proper or customary position or order. c. A suitable setting or occasion. d. The appropriate right or duty. 10. Social station. 11. A particular situation or circumstance. 12. High rank or status. 13. A job, post, or position. 14. Relative position in a series; standing. 15. Games. Second position for betting purposes; as in a horserace. 16. The specified stage in a list of poses, as in an argument: *in the first place*. 17. Math. The position of a figure in a numeral or series. — *v.* **placed, plac'ing, plac'es.** — *tr.* 1. To put in or as if in a particular place or position; set. 2. To put in a specified particular place or position; set. 3. To put in a specified particular place or position; set. 4. To find ac-



Francisco Pizarro
c. 1760 painting by
an unknown artist



placard

ā pat oi boy
ā pay ou out
ār care oo took
ā father oo boot
ā pet ā cut
ē be ūr urge
ī plt th thin
ī ple th this
ī pier hw which
ō pot zh vision
ō pot