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per-fer-vid (\(pə\-'fər-vəd, 'pər-\) *adj* [NL *perfervidus*, fr. L *per-* thoroughly + *fervidus* fervid] (1856) : marked by overwrought or exaggerated emotion : excessively fervent *syn* see IMPASSIONED

per-fid-i-ous (\(pə\-'fī-dē-əs) *adj* (1572) : of, relating to, or characterized by perfidy *syn* see FAITHLESS — **per-fid-i-ous-ly** *adv* — **per-fid-i-ous-ness** *n*

per-fi-dy (\(pər-'fā-dē) *n*, *pl* -dies [L *perfidia*, fr. *perfidus* faithless, fr. *per-* detrimental to + *fides* faith — more at **PER-**, **FAITH**] (1592) 1 : the quality or state of being faithless or disloyal : TREACHERY 2 : an act or an instance of disloyalty

per-fluo-ro-carbon (\(pər-'flōr-ə-'kär-bən, -'flūr-\) *n* (1947) : any of various hydrocarbon derivatives in which all hydrogen atoms have been replaced with fluorine and that include blood substitutes used in emulsified form

per-fo-li-ate (\(pər-'fō-lē-ət, 'pər-\) *adj* [NL *perfoliata*, an herb having leaves pierced by the stem, fr. L *per* through + *foliata*, fem. of *foliatus* foliate] (1687) : having the basal part naturally united around the stem <a ~ leaf of a honeysuckle>

per-fo-rate (\(pər-'fā-rāt) *vb* -rat-ed; -rat-ing [L *perforatus*, pp. of *perforare* to bore through, fr. *per-* through + *forare* to bore — more at **BORE**] (1538) 1 : to make a hole through <an ulcer ~s the duodenal wall>; *esp* : to make a line of holes in to facilitate separation 2 : to pass through or into by or as if by making a hole ~ *vi* : to penetrate, a surface — **per-fo-rate** (\(pər-'fā-rāt, -'fā-rāt) *adj* — **per-fo-ra-tor** (\(pər-'fā-rā-tər) *n*

perforated *adj* (1578) 1 : having a hole or perforations; *esp* : having a specified number of perforations in 20 millimeters <the stamps are ~ 10> 2 : characterized by perforation <a ~ ulcer>

per-fo-ra-tion (\(pər-'fā-rā-shən) *n* (15c) 1 : the act or process of perforating 2 a : a hole or pattern made by or as if by piercing or boring b : one of the series of holes (as between rows of postage stamps) in a sheet that serve as an aid in separation

per-force (\(pər-'fōrs) *adv* [ME *par force*, fr. AF, by force] (14c) 1 *obs* : by physical coercion 2 : by force of circumstances

per-form (\(pə(r)-'fōrm) *vb* [ME, fr. AF *parformer*, alter. of *performer*, *parfurnir*, fr. *par-*, *per-* thoroughly (fr. L *per-*) + *furnir* to complete — more at **FURNISH**] (14c) 1 : to adhere to the terms of : FULFILL <~ a contract> 2 : CARRY OUT, DO 3 a : to do in a formal manner or according to prescribed ritual b : to give a rendition of : PRESENT ~ *vi* 1 : to carry out an action or pattern of behavior : ACT, FUNCTION 2 : to give a performance : PLAY — **per-form-a-bil-i-ty** (\(fər-mə-'bī-lə-tē) *n* — **per-form-a-ble** (\(fər-mə-'bəl) *adj* — **per-form-er** (\(fər-mər) *n* *syn* PERFORM, EXECUTE, DISCHARGE, ACCOMPLISH, ACHIEVE, EFFECT, FULFILL mean to carry out or into effect. PERFORM implies action that follows established patterns or procedures or fulfills agreed-upon requirements and often connotes special skill <performed gymnastics>. EXECUTE stresses the carrying out of what exists in plan or in intent <executed the hit-and-run>. DISCHARGE implies execution and completion of appointed duties or tasks <discharged his duties>. ACCOMPLISH stresses the successful completion of a process rather than the means of carrying it out <accomplished everything they set out to do>. ACHIEVE adds to ACCOMPLISH the implication of conquered difficulties <achieve greatness>. EFFECT adds to ACHIEVE an emphasis on the inherent force in the agent capable of surmounting obstacles <effected sweeping reforms>. FULFILL implies a complete realization of ends or possibilities <fulfilled their ambitions>.

per-for-mance (\(pə(r)-'fōr-mən(t)s) *n* (15c) 1 a : the execution of an action b : something accomplished : DEED, FEAT 2 : the fulfillment of a claim, promise, or request : IMPLEMENTATION 3 a : the action of representing a character in a play b : a public presentation or exhibition <a benefit ~> 4 a : the ability to perform : EFFICIENCY b : the manner in which a mechanism performs <engine ~> 5 : the manner of reacting to stimuli : BEHAVIOR 6 : the linguistic behavior of an individual : PAROLE; *also* : the ability to speak a certain language — compare COMPETENCE 3

performance art *n* (1971) : a nontraditional art form often with political or topical themes that typically features a live presentation to an audience or onlookers (as on a street) and draws on such arts as acting, poetry, music, dance, or painting — **performance artist** *n*

per-for-ma-tive (\(fər-mə-'tīv) *adj* (1955) : being or relating to an expression that serves to effect a transaction or that constitutes the performance of the specified act by virtue of its utterance <~ verbs such as *promise* and *congratulate*> — compare **CONSTATIVE** — **per-forma-tive** *n*

per-for-ma-to-ry (\(mə-'tōr-ē) *adj* (1949) : PERFORMATIVE; *also* : of or relating to performance

performing *adj* (1889) : of, relating to, or constituting an art (as drama) that involves public performance <the ~ arts>

per-fume (\(pər-'fyūm, 'pər-\) *n* [MF *perfum*, prob. fr. Old Occitan, fr. *perfumar* to perfume, fr. *per-* thoroughly (fr. L) + *fumar* to smoke, fr. L *fumare*, fr. *fumus* smoke — more at **FUME**] (1533) 1 : the scent of something sweet-smelling 2 : a substance that emits a pleasant odor; *esp* : a fluid preparation of natural essences (as from plants or animals) or synthetics and a fixative used for scenting *syn* see FRAGRANCE

per-fume (\(pər-'fyūm, 'pər-\) *vt* **per-fumed**; **per-fum-ing** (1531) : to fill or imbue with an odor

per-fum-er (\(pə(r)-'fyū-mər, 'pər-\) *n* (ca. 1580) : one that makes or sells perfumes

per-fum-ery (\(pə(r)-'fyū-mə-rē, -'fyūm-rē) *n*, *pl* -er-ies (1800) 1 a : the art or process of making perfume b : the products made by a perfumer 2 : an establishment where perfumes are made

per-func-to-ry (\(pər-'fən(k)-t(ə)-rē) *adj* [LL *perfunctorius*, fr. L *perfungi* to accomplish, get through with, fr. *per-* through + *fungi* to perform — more at **PER-**, **FUNCTION**] (1593) 1 : characterized by routine or superficiality : MECHANICAL <a ~ smile> 2 : lacking in interest or enthusiasm — **per-func-to-ri-ly** (\(t(ə)-rē-lē) *adv* — **per-func-to-ri-ness** (\(t(ə)-rē-nəs) *n*

per-fus-ate (\(pər-'fyū-zāt, -zət) *n* (1915) : a fluid (as a solution pumped through the heart) that is perfused

per-fuse (\(pər-'fyūz) *vt* **per-fused**; **per-fus-ing** [ME, fr. L *perfusus*, pp. of *perfundere* to pour over, fr. *per-* through + *fundere* to pour — more at **FOUND**] (15c) 1 : SUFFUSE 2 a : to cause to flow or spread : DIFFUSE b : to force a fluid through (an organ or tissue) *esp*. by way of the blood vessels — **per-fu-sion** (\(fyū-zhən) *n*

per-fu-sion-ist (\(pər-'fyū-zhə-nist) *n* (1964) : a certified technician responsible for extracorporeal oxygenation of the open-heart surgery and for the operation and maintenance of the ment (as a heart-lung machine) controlling it

per-go-la (\(pər-'gō-lə, 'pər-'gō-\) *n* [It, fr. L *pergula*] (1675) TRELLIS 2 : a structure usu. consisting of parallel columns supporting an open roof of girders and cross rafters

per-haps (\(pər-'həps, 'prəps) *adv* [per + hap] (1528) : possibly : MAYBE

perhaps *n* (1534) : something open to doubt or conjecture

peri (\(pī-'rē) *n* [Pers *peri* fairy, genius, fr. MPers *parikā* sorcerer] (ca. 1780) 1 : a supernatural being in lore descended from fallen angels and excluded from penance is accomplished 2 : a beautiful and graceful form

peri- prefix [L, fr. Gk, around, in excess, fr. *peri-*; akin to *pass* through — more at **FARE**] 1 : all around : about : near <perihelion> 3 : enclosing : surrounding

peri-anth (\(pər-'ē-an(t)th) *n* [NL *perianthium*, fr. *perianth* flower — more at **ANTHOLOGY**] (ca. 1806) : the floral part of the calyx and corolla *esp*. when the two whorls are fused

peri-apt (\(pər-'ē-apt) *n* [MF or Gk; MF *periapte*, fr. Gk *periaptē* to fasten around (oneself), fr. *peri-* + *haptē* to grasp] : AMULET

peri-car-di-al (\(pər-'kär-dē-əl) *adj* (1654) : of, relating to the pericardium; *also* : situated around the heart

peri-car-di-tis (\(kär-'dī-təs) *n* [NL] (ca. 1783) : inflammation of the pericardium

peri-car-di-um (\(pər-'kär-dē-əm) *n*, *pl* -dia (\(dē-ə) [ME, fr. *perikardion*, neut. of *perikardios* around the heart, fr. *peri-* heart — more at **HEART**] (15c) 1 : the conical sac of serous membrane that encloses the heart and the roots of the great blood vessels 2 : a cavity or space that contains the heart of an animal and in arthropods is a part of the hemocoel

peri-carp (\(pər-'kärp) *n* [NL *pericarpium*, fr. Gk *perikarion* + *-karpion* -carp] (1759) : the ripened and variously shaped part of a plant ovary — see **ENDOCARP** illustration

peri-chon-dri-um (\(pər-'ē-kän-drē-əm) *n*, *pl* -dria (\(drē-ə) + Gk *chondros* grain, cartilage] (1741) : the membrane of connective tissue that invests cartilage except at joints — **peri-chon-dral** *adj*

peri-cle-o-pe (\(pə-'rī-kə-pē) *n* [LL, fr. Gk *perikopē* section, fr. *peri-* act of cutting, fr. *koptein* to cut — more at **CAPON**] (1658) : from a book; *specif* : LECTURE 1

peri-cra-ni-um (\(pər-'krä-nē-əm) *n*, *pl* -nia (\(nē-ə) [ME, fr. ML, fr. Gk *perikranion*, neut. of *perikranios* around the head — more at **CRANIUM**] (15c) : the external part of the skull — **peri-cra-ni-al** *adj*

peri-cy-cle (\(pər-'sī-kəl) *n* [F *pericycle*, fr. Gk *perikyklōs* + *kyklos* circle — more at **WHEEL**] (ca. 1892) : a thin, enchymatous or sclerenchymatous cells that surrounds most vascular plants — **peri-cy-clic** (\(pər-'sī-klik, -'sī-) *adj*

peri-derm (\(pər-'ə-dərm) *n* [NL *peridermis*, fr. *peri-* + *derm* : an outer layer of tissue; *esp* : a cortical protective layer of stems that typically consists of phellem, phellogen, and phelloderm] (1874) : the outermost layer of a plant stem

peri-dle-um (\(pə-'rī-dē-əm) *n*, *pl* -ria (\(dē-ə) [NL, fr. dim. of *pēra* leather bag] (ca. 1823) : the outer envelope of a phore of many fungi

peri-dot (\(pər-'dāt, -dō(t)) *n* [F *péridot*, fr. OF *peridot*] : deep yellowish-green transparent variety of olivine used in jewelry

peri-do-tic (\(pər-'dā-tik, -dō-) *adj*

peri-do-tite (\(pə-'rī-dā-'tīt) *n* [F *péridotite*, fr. *péridot*] (1874) : group of granular igneous rocks composed of ferromagnesian minerals and *esp*. olivine — **peri-do-tit-ic** (\(pə-'rī-dā-'tī-tik) *adj*

peri-gee (\(pər-'ə-'jē) *n* [MF, fr. NL *perigeum*, fr. Gk *perigeos* of perigeos near the earth, fr. *peri-* + *gē* earth] (1594) : the orbit of an object (as a satellite) orbiting the earth that is nearest to the center of the earth; *also* : the point nearest a planet or a satellite (moon) reached by an object orbiting it — compare **APOGEE** — **peri-geal** (\(pər-'ə-'jē-əl) *adj*

peri-gyn-ous (\(pə-'rī-jə-nəs) *adj* [NL *perigynus*, fr. *peri-* + *gynous*] (1807) : borne on a ring or cup of the receptacle of a pistil <~ petals>; *also* : having perigynous stamens and flowers — **peri-gyn-ous** *n*

peri-he-li-on (\(pər-'hēl-yən) *n*, *pl* -he-lia (\(hēl-yə) [NL, fr. *hēlios* sun — more at **SOLAR**] (1666) : the point in the path of a body (as a planet) that is nearest to the sun — compare **APHELION** — **peri-he-lial** (\(hēl-yəl) *adj*

peri-kar-y-on (\(kär-'rē-ən, -ən) *n*, *pl* -kar-ya (\(ē-ə) [NL, fr. *karyon* nut, kernel — more at **CAREEN**] (1897) : CELL, NUCLEUS — **peri-kar-yal** (\(ē-ə) *adj*

peri-il (\(pər-'əl, 'pər-\) *n* [ME, fr. AF, fr. L *periculum* — more at **PERIL**] (13c) 1 : exposure to the risk of being injured, destroyed, or lost : DANGER <fire put the city in ~> 2 : something that causes or lessens the ~s of the streets

peril *vb* -iled *also* -illed; -il-ing *also* -il-ling (1567) : to expose to peril

peri-lil-la (\(pə-'rī-lə) *n* [NL] (1900) : any of a genus (*Perillil-la*) of mints that have a bilabiate fruiting calyx and rugose nutlets

per-il-ous (\(pər-'ə-las, 'pər-\) *adj* (14c) : full of or involving danger : DANGEROUS — **per-il-ous-ly** *adv* — **per-il-ous-ness** *n*

peri-lune (\(pər-'əlün) *n* [*peri-* + L *luna* moon — more at **PERI-**] (1960) : the point in the path of a body orbiting the moon that is nearest to the center of the moon — compare **APOLUNE**

peri-lymph (\(līm(p)-f) *n* [ISV] (ca. 1839) : the fluid between the branched and bony labyrinths of the ear

peri-men-o-pause (\(pər-'ē-me-nə-pōz, -'mē-\) *n* (1962) : the period around the onset of menopause that is often marked by physical signs (as hot flashes and menstrual irregularity) — **peri-men-o-pausal** (\(pər-'ē-me-nə-pō-zəl, -'mē-\) *adj*

peri-m-e-ter (\(pə-'rī-mā-tər) *n* [ME *perimetre*, fr. L *perimetron* — more at **MEASURE**] (15c) 1 : a line or curve that bounds a closed plane figure b : the length of a perimeter