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AMERICAN  
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*dic·tion·ar·y*



THIRD EDITION

# THE AMERICAN HERITAGE® COLLEGE DICTIONARY

THIRD EDITION

n.ary



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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.

**pix<sup>1</sup>** (piks) *n.* Pl. of **pic**.

**pix<sup>2</sup>** (piks) *n.* Eccles. Var. of **pyx**.

**pix·el** (pik'səl, -səl') *n.* Comp. Sci. The smallest image-forming unit of a video display. [PIX<sup>1</sup> + 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', -ərd) *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. To calm. See **plāk-1\***. [Lat. plācāre, plācāt-, to calm. See plāk-1\*.] — **pla'cat'er** *n.* — **pla·ca'tion** (plā-kā'shən) *n.* — **plā-kā'ty** — **pla'cat'ry** (-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 a horserace. 17. The position of a figure in a numeral or series. — *v.* 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

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|----------|-----------|
| ā pat    | oi boy    |
| ā pay    | ou out    |
| ār care  | ōō took   |
| ā father | ōō boot   |
| ā pet    | ā cut     |
| ē be     | ūr urge   |
| ī plt    | th thin   |
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| ī pler   | hw which  |
| ō pot    | zh vision |