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THE AMERICAN HERITAGE® COLLEGE DICTIONARY

THIRD EDITION

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mil•li•li•tre (mĭl′ə-lē′tər) *n. Chiefly British.* Var. of **milliliter.**

mil•lime (mĭl′ĭm, -ēm) *n.* See table at **currency.** [Fr. *millième,* thousandth < OFr. *milisme* < Lat. *millēsimus,* thousandth < *mille,* thousand. See **gheslo-*.**]

mil•li•me•ter (mĭl′ə-mē′tər) *n.* A unit of length equal to one thousandth (10^{-3}) of a meter, or 0.0394 inch. See table at **measurement.**

mil•li•me•tre (mĭl′ə-mē′tər) *n. Chiefly British.* Var. of **millimeter.**

mil•li•mi•cron (mĭl′ə-mī′krŏn) *n.* A unit of length equal to one thousandth (10^{-3}) of a micrometer or one billionth (10^{-9}) of a meter.

mil•line (mĭl′līn′) *n.* **1.** A unit of advertising copy equal to one agate line one column wide printed in one million copies of a publication. **2.** The cost of a unit of advertising copy.

millinery

mil•li•ner (mĭl′ə-nər) *n.* One that makes, trims, designs, or sells hats. [Prob. alteration of ME *Milener,* native of Milan < MILAN, the source of goods such as bonnets and lace.]

mil•li•ner•y (mĭl′ə-nĕr′ē) *n., pl.* **-ies. 1.** Articles, esp. women's hats, sold by a milliner. **2.** The profession or business of a milliner.

mill•ing (mĭl′ĭng) *n.* **1.** The act or process of grinding, esp. grinding grain into flour or meal. **2.** The operation of cutting, shaping, finishing, or working products manufactured in a mill. **3.** The ridges cut on the edges of coins.

Mill•ing•ton (mĭl′ĭng-tən). A city of SW TN N of Memphis. Pop. 17,866.

mil•lion (mĭl′yən) *n., pl.* **million** or **-lions. 1.** The cardinal number equal to 10^6. **2.** A million monetary units, such as dollars. **3.** An indefinitely large number. Often used in the plural. **4.** The common people; the masses. Often used in the plural. [ME < OFr. *milion,* prob. < OItal. *milione,* aug. of *mille,* thousand < Lat. *mille.* See **gheslo-*.**] **—mil′lion** *adj.*

mil•lion•aire (mĭl′yə-nâr′) *n.* A person whose wealth amounts to at least a million dollars, pounds, or the equivalent in other currency. [Fr. *millionnaire* < *million,* million < OFr. *milion.* See MILLION.]

mil•lionth (mĭl′yənth) *n.* **1.** The ordinal number matching the number million in a series. **2.** One of a million equal parts. **—mil′lionth** *adv. & adj.*

millipede

mil•li•pede or **mil•le•pede** (mĭl′ə-pēd′) *n.* Any of various crawling myriapods of the class Diplopoda, having a cylindrical segmented body with two pairs of legs attached to all segments except for the first four in the thoracic region. [Lat. *milipeda,* a kind of insect : *mille,* thousand; see **gheslo-*** + *pēs, ped-,* foot; see **ped-*.**]

mil•li•sec•ond (mĭl′ĭ-sĕk′ənd) *n.* One thousandth (10^{-3}) of a second.

mil•li•volt (mĭl′ə-vōlt′) *n.* A unit of potential difference equal to one thousandth (10^{-3}) of a volt.

mil•li•watt (mĭl′ə-wŏt′) *n.* A unit of power equal to one thousandth (10^{-3}) of a watt.

mill•pond (mĭl′pŏnd′) *n.* A pond formed by a milldam.

mill•race (mĭl′rās′) *n.* **1.** The fast-moving stream of water that drives a mill wheel. **2.** The channel for the water that drives a mill wheel.

mill•run (mĭl′rŭn′) *n.* **1.** See **millrace. 2.** The output of a sawmill. **3.a.** A test of the mineral quality or content of an ore by milling. **b.** The mineral yielded by this test.

mill-run (mĭl′rŭn′) *adj.* Being in the state in which a product leaves a mill; unsorted and uninspected: *mill-run fabric.*

mill•stone (mĭl′stōn′) *n.* **1.** One of a pair of cylindrical stones used in a mill for grinding grain. **2.** A heavy weight; a burden.

mill•stream (mĭl′strēm′) *n.* The rapid stream of water flowing in a millrace.

Mill•ville (mĭl′vĭl′). A city of S NJ W of Atlantic City; settled in the 18th cent. Pop. 25,992.

mill wheel *n.* A wheel, typically driven by water, that powers a mill.

mill•work (mĭl′wûrk′) *n.* Woodwork, such as doors, window casings, and baseboards, ready-made by a lumber mill.

mill•wright (mĭl′rīt′) *n.* One that designs, builds, or repairs mills or mill machinery.

Milne (mĭln), **A(lan) A(lexander).** 1882–1956. British writer best known for *Winnie-the-Pooh* (1926).

mi•lo (mī′lō) *n., pl.* **-los.** An early-growing, usu. drought-resistant grain sorghum that resembles millet. [Poss. < Afr. *mealie,* corn, prob. < Port. *milho* < Lat. *milium,* millet. See MILLET.]

mi•lord (mĭ-lôrd′) *n.* **1.** An English nobleman or gentleman. **2.** Used as a form of address for such a man. [Fr. < E. *my lord.*]

Mi•los also **Me•los** (mē′lôs) or **Mi•lo** (mē′lō, mī′-). An island of SE Greece in the Cyclades Is. of the Aegean Sea. The *Venus de Milo* was found here in 1820.

Mi•losz (mē′lôsh′, -wôsh′), **Czeslaw.** b. 1911. Polish-born writer who won the 1980 Nobel Prize for literature.

Mil•pi•tas (mĭl-pē′təs). A city of W CA N of San Jose. Pop. 50,686.

milque•toast (mĭlk′tōst′) *n.* One who has a meek timid nature. [After Caspar *Milquetoast,* comic-strip character by H.T. Webster (1885–1952).] **—milque′toast′y** *adj.*

milt (mĭlt) *n.* **1.a.** Fish sperm, including the seminal fluid. **b.** The reproductive glands of male fishes when filled with this fluid. **2.** The spleen of certain vertebrate animals, such as cows or pigs. *—tr.v.* **milt•ed, milt•ing, milts.** To fertilize (fish roe) with milt. [ME, roe, spleen, partly < MDu. *milte* and partly < OE *milte,* spleen; see **mel-1*.**]

milt•er (mĭl′tər) *n.* A male fish that is ready to breed.

Mil•ti•a•des (mĭl-tī′ə-dēz′). 540?–489? B.C. Athenian general who defeated the Persians at Marathon (490 B.C.).

Mil•ton (mĭl′tən). **1.** A town of SE Ontario WSW of Toronto. Pop. 28,067. **2.** A town of E MA, a suburb of Boston. Pop. 25,725.

Milton, John. 1608–74. English poet and scholar who is best known for the epic poem *Paradise Lost* (1667).

Milton Keynes (kēnz). A town of S-central England NE of Oxford; designated as a new town in 1967. Pop. 126,500.

Mil•wau•kee (mĭl-wô′kē). A city of SE WI on Lake Michigan; estab. as a fur-trading post in 1795. Pop. 628,088.

Mil•wau•kie (mĭl-wô′kē). A city of NW OR, a suburb of Portland on the Willamette R. Pop. 18,692.

Mi•mas (mī′məs, mē′-) *n.* A satellite of Saturn. [After *Mimas,* one of the Giants slain by Hercules.]

mime (mīm) *n.* **1.a.** A form of ancient Greek and Roman theater in which the familiar was farcically portrayed on stage. **b.** A performance of or dialogue for such an entertainment. **c.** A performer in a mime. **2.** A modern performer who specializes in comic mimicry. **3.a.** The art of portraying characters and acting out situations or a narrative by gestures and body movement without the use of words; pantomime. **b.** A performance of pantomime. **c.** An actor skilled in pantomime. *—v.* **mimed, mim•ing, mimes.** *—tr.* **1.** To ridicule by imitation; mimic. **2.** To act out with gestures and body movement. *—intr.* **1.** To act as a mimic. **2.** To portray characters and situations by gesture and body movement. [Lat. *mīmus* < Gk. *mimos.*] **—mim′er** *n.*

mim•e•o (mĭm′ē-ō′) *Informal. —n., pl.* **-os.** A mimeograph. *—tr.v.* **-oed, -o•ing, -os.** To mimeograph.

mim•e•o•graph (mĭm′ē-ə-grăf′) *n.* **1.** A duplicator that makes copies of written, drawn, or typed material from a stencil fitted around an inked drum. **2.** A copy made by this method of duplication. [Originally a trademark.] **—mim′e•o•graph′** *v.*

mi•me•sis (mĭ-mē′sĭs, mī-) *n.* **1.** The imitation or representation of aspects of the sensible world, esp. human actions, in literature and art. **2.** *Biol.* Mimicry. **3.** *Medic.* The appearance of symptoms of a disease not actually present. [Gk. *mimēsis* < *mimeisthai,* to imitate < *mimos,* imitator, mime.]

mi•met•ic (mĭ-mĕt′ĭk, mī-) *adj.* **1.** Relating to, characteristic of, or exhibiting mimicry. **2.a.** Of or relating to an imitation; imitative. **b.** Using imitative means of representation: *a mimetic dance.* **—mi•met′i•cal•ly** *adv.*

mim•ic (mĭm′ĭk) *tr.v.* **-icked, -ick•ing, -ics. 1.** To copy or imitate closely, esp. in speech, expression, and gesture; ape. **2.** To copy or imitate so as to ridicule; mock. See Syns at **imitate. 3.** To resemble closely; simulate. **4.** To take on the appearance of. *—n.* **1.** One who imitates, esp.: **a.** An actor in a mime. **b.** One who practices the art of mime. **c.** One who copies or mimics others. **2.** A copy or an imitation. *—adj.* **1.** Relating to, acting as, resembling, or characteristic of a mimic or mimicry. **2.a.** Tending to imitate; imitative. **b.** Make-believe; mock. [< Lat. *mīmicus,* mimic < Gk. *mimikos* < *mimos,* imitator, mime.] **—mim′ick•er** *n.*

mim•ic•ry (mĭm′ĭ-krē) *n., pl.* **-ries. 1.a.** The act, practice, or art of mimicking. **b.** An instance of mimicking. **2.** *Biol.* The resemblance of one organism to another or to an object in its surroundings for concealment and protection from predators.

Mi•mir (mē′mĭr′) *n. Myth.* A Norse giant who lived by the roots of Yggdrasil, where he guarded the well of wisdom. [ON. See **(s)mer-1*.**]

mi•mo•sa (mĭ-mō′sə, -zə) *n.* **1.** Any of various mostly tropical herbs, shrubs, and trees of the genus *Mimosa,* having globular heads of small flowers and usu. bipinnate leaves that are often sensitive to touch or light. **2.** See **silk tree. 3.** A drink consisting of champagne and orange juice. [NLat. *Mimosa,* genus name < Lat. *mīmus,* mime < Gk. *mimos.*]

min. *abbr.* **1.a.** Mineralogical. **b.** Mineralogy. **2.** Minim. **3.** Minimum. **4.** Mining. **5.** Minister. **6.** Minor. **7.** Also **min.** Minute.

mi•na1 (mī′nə) *n., pl.* **-nas** or **-nae** (-nē). A varying unit of weight or money used in ancient Greece and Asia. [Lat. < Gk. *mna* < Akkadian *manû,* a unit of weight.]

mi•na2 (mī′nə) *n.* Var. of **myna.**

min•a•ble or **mine•a•ble** (mī′nə-bəl) *adj.* That can be mined.

mi•na•cious (mĭ-nā′shəs) *adj.* Of a menacing or threatening nature; minatory. [Lat. *mināx, mināc-* (< *minārī,* to threaten < *minae,* threats; see **men-2*.**) + -IOUS.] **—mi•na′cious•ly** *adv.* **—mi•na′cious•ness, mi•nac′i•ty** (mĭ-năs′ĭ-tē) *n.*

Min•a•ma•ta disease (mĭn′ə-mä′tə) *n.* A degenerative neurological disorder caused by poisoning with a mercury compound found in seafood from contaminated waters. [After *Minamata,* a town of W Kyushu, Japan.]

min•a•ret (mĭn′ə-rĕt′) *n.* A tower on a mosque, from which