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relation (noun)

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Main Entry: **re·la-tion**

Pronunciation: \rī-'lā-shən\

Function: *noun*

Etymology: Middle English *relacion*, from Anglo-French, from Latin *relation-*, *relatio*, from *referre* (past participle *relatus*) to carry back

Date: 14th century

- the act of telling or recounting : ACCOUNT
- an aspect or quality (as resemblance) that connects two or more things or parts as being or belonging or working together or as being of the same kind <the relation of time and space>; *specifically* : a property (as one expressed by *is equal to*, *is less than*, or *is the brother of*) that holds between an ordered pair of objects
- the referring by a legal fiction of an act to a prior date as the time of its taking effect — usually used with *back*
- a (1) : a person connected by consanguinity or affinity : RELATIVE (2) : a person legally entitled to a share of the property of an intestate **b** : relationship by consanguinity or affinity : KINSHIP
- : REFERENCE, RESPECT <in relation to>
- the attitude or stance which two or more persons or groups assume toward one another

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7 a : the state of being mutually or reciprocally interested (as in social or commercial matters) **b plural** (1) : [DEALINGS](#), [INTERCOURSE](#) <foreign relations> (2) : [SEXUAL INTERCOURSE](#)

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