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245 10$aPhysics of semiconductor devices / $cS.M. Sze and Kwok K. Ng.
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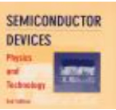
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ascribed to Orpheus. 3. Capable of casting a charm or spell; entrancing. 4. often **orphy** Mystic or occult. [Greek *Orphikos* < *Orpheus*, Orpheus.] —**Orphical-ly** *adv.*

**Orphism** (ôr'fiz'm) *n.* 1. An ancient Greek mystery religion arising in the sixth century BC from a synthesis of pre-Hellenic beliefs with the Thracian cult of Zagreus and soon becoming mingled with the Eleusinian mysteries and the doctrines of Pythagoras. 2. often **orphism** A short-lived movement in early 20th-century painting, derived from cubism but marked by a lyrical style and the use of bold color. [French *orphisme* < *Orphée*, Orpheus < Greek *Orpheus*.] —**Orphist** *n.*

**Orphrey** (ôr'frē) also **or-fray** (-frā') *n., pl. -phreys* also **-frays** 1. A band of elaborate embroidery decorating the front of certain ecclesiastical vestments. 2. Elaborate embroidery, especially when made of gold. [Middle English *orfreie*, alteration of *orfreis* < Old French < Medieval Latin *aurifrigium*: Latin *aurum*, gold + Latin *Phrygius*, Phrygian.]

**Orpiment** (ôr'pə-mənt) *n.* Arsenic trisulfide,  $As_2S_3$ , a yellow mineral used as a pigment. [Middle English < Old French < Latin *auripigmentum*: *aurum*, gold + *pigmentum*, pigment; see **PIGMENT**.]

**Orpine** (ôr'pin) *n.* Any of various succulent plants of the family Crassulaceae, especially the Eurasian species *Hylotelephium telephium* syn. *Sedum telephium*, having clusters of reddish-purple flowers. Also called *live-forever*. [Middle English *orpin* < Old French < *orpiment*, orpiment; see **ORPIMENT**.]

**Orping-ton** (ôr'ping-tən) *n.* Any of a breed of large, heavily feathered domestic chickens having a single comb, originally bred in England for both meat and eggs. [After *Orpington*, a district of southeast England.]

**Orr** (ôr), **Robert Gordon** Known as "Bobby." Born 1948. Canadian-born hockey player. He led the National Hockey League in scoring in 1970 and 1975 and was the first defenseman to score more than 100 points in a season.

**Orre-ry** (ôr'rē, ôr'-) *n., pl. -ries* A mechanical model of the solar system or parts of it. [After Charles Boyle, Fourth Earl of Orrery (1676–1731), for whom one was made.]

**Orris** (ôr'is, ôr'-) *n.* 1. Any of several species of iris having a fragrant rootstock, especially *Iris pallida* and cultivars of the hybrid species *I. xgermanica*. 2. The fragrant rootstock of an orris, used chiefly in perfumes. Also called *orrisroot*. [Probably alteration of Middle English *yreos* < Medieval Latin, alteration of Latin *iris*; see **IRIS**.]

**Orris-root** (ôr'is-rōōt', -rōōt', ôr'-) *n.* See **ORRIS** (sense 2).

**Ort** (ôr't) *n.* 1. often **orts** A small scrap or leaving of food after a meal is completed. 2. A scrap; a bit. [Middle English *orte*, food left by animals, probably < Middle Dutch: *oor*, out; see **UD-** in App. I + *eten*, to eat; see **ED-** in App. I.]

**Or-te-ga** (ôr-tā'gā, -tē'gā), **Daniel** Born 1945. Nicaraguan revolutionary and politician. He was a leader of the Sandinistas, helped establish the Government of National Reconstruction after the overthrow of the Somoza regime (1979), and later served as president (1985–1990).

**Ortega y Gas-set** (ē gā-sēt'), **José** 1883–1955. Spanish philosopher. His most famous work, *The Revolt of the Masses* (1930), argues that human beings are essentially unequal and that an intellectual elite is necessary.

**Or-thi-con** (ôr'thi-kōn') *n.* An electron tube used in early video cameras to capture images by scanning a photoactive mosaic inside the camera with a low-velocity electron beam. Unlike the earlier iconoscope, it could capture images in low light. Also called *image orthicon*. [**ORTH(O)-** + **ICON(OSCOPE)**.]

**Or-tho** (ôr'thō) *adj.* Orthochromatic. [**ORTH(O)-**.]

**Ortho-** or **orth-** *pref.* 1. Straight; upright; vertical: *orthotopous*. 2. Perpendicular: *orthorhombic*. 3. Correct; correction: *orthopsychiatry*. 4. The most fully hydrated form of an acid or of its salts: *orthoboric acid*. 5. Of or relating to one of three possible isomers of a benzene ring with two attached chemical groups in which the carbon atoms with attached groups are adjacent: *ortho-dibromobenzene*. [Middle English < Old French < Latin < Greek < *orthos*, straight, correct, right.]

**Or-tho-cen-ter** (ôr'thō-sen'tər) *n.* The point of intersection of the three altitudes of a triangle.

**Or-tho-chro-mat-ic** (ôr'thō-kro-māt'ik) *adj.* Photography 1. Of, relating to, or accurately reproducing the colors of the subject. 2. Sensitive to all colors except red: *orthochromatic film*. —**Or-tho-chro-mat-ism** (-krō'mā-tiz'm) *n.*

**Or-tho-clase** (ôr'thā-klás', -kláz') *n.* A white to yellowish red monoclinic mineral of the potassium feldspar group that forms from medium- to low-temperature magmas. [Greek *ortho-*, *ortho-* + Greek *klasis*, a breaking (< *klān*, to break).]

**Or-tho-clas-tic** (ôr'thā-klás'tik) *adj.* Geology Having right-angled cleavage.

**Or-tho-don-tia** (ôr'thā-dōn'shā) or **Or-tho-don-ture** (-dōn'chər) *n.* Orthodontics.

**Or-tho-don-tics** (ôr'thā-dōn'tiks) *n.* (used with a *sing. verb*) The dental specialty dealing with correction of irregularities of the teeth, such as malocclusion, often by the use of braces. —**Or-tho-don'tic** *adj.* —**Or-tho-don'ti-cal-ly** *adv.* —**Or-tho-don'tist** *n.*

**Or-tho-dox** (ôr'thā-dōks') *adj.* 1. Adhering to the accepted or traditional and established faith, especially in religion. 2. Adhering to the Christian faith as expressed in the early Christian ecumenical creeds. 3. **Orthodox a.** Of or relating to any of the churches or rites of the Eastern Orthodox Church. **b.** Of or relating to Orthodox Judaism. 4. Adhering to what is commonly accepted, customary, or traditional: *an orthodox view of world affairs*. ♦ *n.* 1. One that is orthodox. 2. **Orthodox** A member of an Eastern Orthodox church. [Middle English *orthodoxe* < Old French < Late Latin *orthodoxus* < Late Greek *orthodoxos*: Greek *ortho-*, *ortho-* +

Greek *doxa*, opinion (< *dokein*, to think; see **DEK-** in App. I).] —**Or-tho-dox-ly** *adv.*

**Orthodox Church** *n.* The Eastern Orthodox Church.

**Orthodox Judaism** *n.* The branch of Judaism that is governed by adherence to the Torah as interpreted in the Talmud.

**orthodox sleep** *n.* See **non-REM sleep**.

**or-tho-dox-y** (ôr'thā-dōks'ē) *n., pl. -ies* 1. The quality or state of being orthodox. 2. Orthodox practice, custom, or belief. 3. **Orthodoxy a.** The beliefs and practices of the Eastern Orthodox Church. **b.** Orthodox Judaism.

**or-tho-e-pist** (ôr'thō-ē-pist, ôr'thō-ēp'ist) *n.* A specialist in orthoepy, especially one of a number of scholars of the 1500s and 1600s who proposed reforms of English spelling so that it would more systematically reflect pronunciation.

**or-tho-e-py** (ôr'thō-ē-pē, ôr'thō-ēp'ē) *n.* 1a. The study of the pronunciation of words. **b.** The study of the relationship between the pronunciation of words and their orthography. 2. The customary pronunciation of words. [Greek *orthoepeia*, correctness of diction: *ortho-*, *ortho-* + *epos*, *epe-*, word; see **WEK-** in App. I.] —**Or-tho-ep'ic** (-ēp'ik), **or-tho-ep'i-cal** (-ēp'i-kəl) *adj.*

**or-tho-gen-e-sis** (ôr'thō-jen'i-sis) *n.* 1. **Biology** The hypothesis, now largely discredited, that the evolution of species is linear and driven largely by internal factors rather than by natural selection. 2. **Anthropology** The hypothesis that all cultures evolve in a linear manner from primitivism to civilization. —**Or-tho-ge-net'ic** (-jā-nēt'ik) *adj.* —**Or-tho-ge-net'i-cal-ly** *adv.*

**or-thog-o-nal** (ôr'thō-gā-nəl) *adj.* 1. Relating to or composed of right angles. 2. **Mathematics a.** Of or relating to a matrix whose transpose equals its inverse. **b.** Of or relating to a linear transformation that preserves the length of vectors. 3. Very different or unrelated; sharply divergent: "Radical Islamists are ultimately seeking to create something orthogonal to our model of democracy" (Richard A. Clarke). [**ORTH(O)-** + *gonios*: *ortho-*, *ortho-* + *goniā*, angle; see **GENU-** in App. I.] —**Or-thog'o-nal'i-ty** (-nāl'i-tē) *n.* —**Or-thog'o-nal-ly** *adv.*

**orthogonal projection** *n.* The two-dimensional graphic representation of an object formed by the perpendicular intersections of lines drawn from points on the object to a plane of projection. Also called *orthographic projection*.

**or-tho-grade** (ôr'thā-grād') *adj.* Walking with the long axis of the body perpendicular to the ground, as humans do. [**ORTH(O)-** + Latin *-gradus*, walking (< *gradī*, to move; see **RETROGRADE**).]

**or-tho-graph-ic** (ôr'thā-grāf'ik) also **or-tho-graph-i-cal** (-i-kəl) *adj.* 1. Of or relating to orthography. 2. Spelled correctly. 3. **Mathematics** Having perpendicular lines. —**Or-tho-graph'i-cal-ly** *adv.*

**or-thog-ra-phy** (ôr'thō-g'rā-fē) *n., pl. -phies* 1. The art or study of correct spelling according to established usage. 2. The aspect of language study concerned with letters and their sequences in words. —**Or-thog-ra-pher**, or **or-thog-ra-phist** *n.*

**Or-tho-log** or **Or-tho-logue** (ôr'thā-lōg', -lōg') *n.* A homologous gene that is related to those in different organisms by descent from the DNA of a common ancestor and that may or may not have the same function. [Back-formation < *orthologous*: **ORTH(O)-** + (**HOMO**)**LOGOUS**.] —**Or-thol'o-gous** (-thōl'a-gas) *adj.*

**Or-tho-mo-lec-u-lar** (ôr'thō-mā-lēk'yā-lər) *adj.* Of, relating to, or being a theory holding that mental diseases or abnormalities result from various chemical imbalances or deficiencies and can be cured by restoring proper levels of chemical substances, such as vitamins and minerals, in the body.

**or-tho-myx-o-vi-rus** (ôr'thō-mik'sā-vi'rās) *n., pl. -rus-es* Any of a family of single-stranded RNA viruses, including the virus that causes influenza. [**ORTH(O)-**, correct (< the fact that the viruses cause influenza, in contrast to the paramyxoviruses causing parainfluenza) + **MYXOVIRUS**.]

**Or-tho-pe-dics** also **Or-tho-pae-dics** (ôr'thā-pē'diks) *n.* (used with a *sing. verb*) The branch of medicine that deals with the prevention or correction of injuries or disorders of the skeletal system and associated muscles, joints, and ligaments. [**orthopedic** < French *orthopédie* < *orthopédie*, orthopedic surgery: Greek *ortho-*, *ortho-* + Greek *paideia*, child-rearing (< *pais*, *paid-*, child; see **PAU-** in App. I).] —**Or-tho-pe'dic** *adj.* —**Or-tho-pe'di-cal-ly** *adv.* —**Or-tho-pe'dist** *n.*

**Or-tho-psy-chi-a-try** (ôr'thō-sī-kī'ā-trē, -sī-) *n.* The psychiatric study, treatment, and prevention of emotional and behavioral problems, especially of those that arise during early development. —**Or-tho-psy-chi-at'ric** (-sī'kē-āt'rik), **Or-tho-psy-chi-at'ri-cal** (-rī-kəl) *adj.* —**Or-tho-psy-chi-a-trist** *n.*

**Or-thop-ter-an** (ôr'thōp'tər-ən) *n.* Any of numerous insects of the order Orthoptera, having mouthparts that are adapted for chewing, usually two pairs of wings with thickened front wings and folded hind wings, and often enlarged hind legs. Orthopterans include the grasshoppers, crickets, and katydids. [**Orthoptera**, order name: Greek *ortho-*, *ortho-* + Greek *ptera*, neuter pl. of *pteron*, wing; see **PET-** in App. I.] —**Or-thop-ter-an**, or **Or-thop-ter-ous** *adj.*

**Or-thop-tics** (ôr'thōp'tiks) *n.* (used with a *sing. verb*) The evaluation and nonsurgical treatment of visual disorders caused by imbalance of the eye muscles, such as strabismus. —**Or-thop'tic** *adj.* —**Or-thop'tist** *n.*

**Or-tho-py-rox-ene** (ôr'thā-pī-rōk'sēn') *n.* Any of a number of varieties of pyroxene that crystallize in the orthorhombic system and contain no calcium and little or no aluminum.

**Or-tho-rhom-bic** (ôr'thō-rōm'bik) *adj.* Of or relating to a crystalline structure of three mutually perpendicular axes of different length.

**Or-tho-scop-ic** (ôr'thā-skōp'ik) *adj.* 1. Having normal vision; free from visual distortion. 2. Giving an undistorted image. Used of an optical instrument.

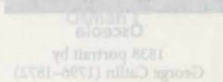
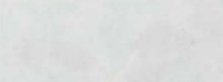
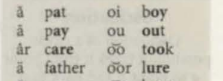
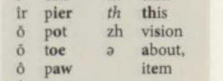


orphrey

the early 15th-century Erpingham chasuble, of Italian silk with an English orphrey



orrery



Stress marks: ' (primary); ' (secondary), as in dictionary (dik'shā-nēr'ē)



**per-me-ance** (pûr'mē-āns) *n.* A measure of the ability of a magnetic circuit to conduct magnetic flux; the reciprocal of reluctance. [*< Latin permeare, to penetrate; see PERMEATE.*]

**per-me-ase** (pûr'mē-ās') *n.* Any of several cell-membrane proteins that function as channels for the transport of a specific molecule in or out of the cell. [*PERME(ATE) + -ASE.*]

**per-me-ate** (pûr'mē-āt') *v.* **-at-ed, -at-ing, -ates** —*tr.* 1. To pass through the openings or interstices of: *liquid permeating a membrane.* 2. To spread or flow throughout; pervade: "Our thinking is permeated by our historical myths" (Freeman J. Dyson). See **Synonyms at imbue**. —*intr.* To spread through or penetrate something. [*Latin permeare, permeāt-, to penetrate: per-, through; see PER- + meare, to pass; see mei-<sup>1</sup> in App. I.*] —**per-me-ant** (-ānt), **per-me-a'tive** (-ā'tiv) *adj.* —**per-me-a'tion** *n.*

**per-meth-rin** (pər-mēth'rīn) *n.* A topical insecticide,  $C_{21}H_{30}Cl_2O_3$ , used to treat head lice and nits, scabies, and various species of ticks. [*PER- + (res)methrin, a pyrethroid (resm-, of unknown origin + (PYR)ETHRIN).*]

**Per-mi-an** (pûr'mē-ān, pēr'-) *adj.* Of, relating to, or being the period of geologic time from about 299 to 251 million years ago, the seventh and last period of the Paleozoic Era. The Permian Period is characterized by the formation of the supercontinent Pangaea, the first modern conifers, and the diversification of reptiles. It ended with the largest known mass extinction in the history of life. See table at **geologic time**. ♦ *n.* The Permian Period. [After *Perm* Oblast, a region of west-central Russia.]

**per mil** also **per mill** *adv.* Per thousand. [*PER + mil (short for Latin mille, thousand; see gheslo- in App. I).*]

**per-min-er-al-i-za-tion** (pûr'mīn'ər-ə-lī-zā'shən) *n.* The formation of a fossil from the remains of an organism by the replacement of its tissues by minerals. —**per-min'er-al-ize** *v.*

**per-mis-si-ble** (pər-mis'ə-bəl) *adj.* Permitted; allowable; permissible: *deductions; permissible behavior in school.* —**per-mis'si-bil'i-ty**, **per-mis-si-ble-ness** *n.* —**per-mis-si-ble** *adv.*

**per-mis-sion** (pər-mish'ən) *n.* 1. The act of permitting, especially in giving formal consent; authorization: *Do they have permission to leave?* 2. An authorization to do something, as to quote from a book under copyright. [Middle English *< Old French < Latin permissio, permissiō- < permissus, past participle of permittere, to permit; see PERMIT<sup>1</sup>.*]

**SYNONYMS** permission, authorization, consent, leave, license, sanction These nouns denote approval for a course of action that an authority has granted: *was refused permission to smoke; seeking authorization to begin construction; gave their consent to the marriage; will ask leave to respond to the speaker; was given license to depart; gave sanction to the project.*

**ANTONYM** prohibition

**per-mis-sive** (pər-mis'iv) *adj.* 1a. Granting or inclined to grant permission; tolerant or lenient: *permissive parents.* b. Characterized by freedom of personal behavior or a disregard of traditional social mores. 2. Permitted or optional: *permissive uses of funds.* 3. Biology Supporting viral replication. Used of a cell. —**per-mis'sive-ly** *adv.* —**per-mis-sive-ness** *n.*

**per-mit'** (pər-mīt') *v.* **-mit-ted, -mit-ting, -mits** —*tr.* 1. To allow the doing of (something); consent to: *permit the sale of alcoholic beverages.* 2. To grant consent or leave to (someone); authorize: *permitted him to explain.* 3. To afford opportunity or possibility for: *weather that permits sailing.* —*intr.* To afford opportunity; allow: *if circumstances permit.* ♦ *n.* (pûr'mīt, pər-mīt') A document or certificate giving permission to do something: *a building permit.* [Middle English *permitted < Latin permittere: per-, through; see PER- + mittere, to let go.*] —**per-mit-tee'** (pûr'mīt-tē') *n.* —**per-mit'ter** *n.*

**per-mit'** (pûr'mīt, pər-mīt') *n.* A carangid fish (*Trachinotus falcatus*) of the western Atlantic Ocean, having a laterally compressed silvery body and a deeply forked tail and valued as a food and game fish. [Alteration of Spanish *palometa*, a species of pompano (*Trachinotus ovatus*), any of several other species of fish, probably ultimately *< Doric Greek \*palamus, palamud-, variant of Greek pēlamus, pēlamud-, young tuna, tuna in its first year, of unknown origin.*]

**per-mit-tiv-i-ty** (pûr'mī-tiv'i-tē) *n., pl. -ties* A measure of the ability of a material to interact with an electric field and become polarized by the field, so that the field within the material is weaker than the field in the absence of the material. The permittivity of a material is the product of the dielectric constant of the material and the permittivity of a perfect vacuum, which is defined to be about  $8.854 \times 10^{-12}$  farad per meter.

**per-mu-ta-tion** (pûr'myō-tā'shən) *n.* 1a. The process of altering the order of a given set of objects in a group. b. The result of such a process; a rearrangement or recombination of elements: *permutations of gene order.* c. Mathematics A rearrangement of the elements of a set. 2. A complete change; a transformation: *the country's permutation into a modern democracy.* —**per-mu-ta-tion-al** *adj.*

**per-mute** (pər-myūt') *tr.v.* **-mut-ed, -mut-ing, -mutes** 1. To change the order of. 2. Mathematics To subject to permutation. [Middle English *permuten < Old French permuter < Latin permūtare: per-, per- + mutare, to change; see mei-<sup>1</sup> in App. I.*] —**per-mut'a-bil'i-ty** *n.* —**per-mut'a-ble** *adj.* —**per-mut'a-bly** *adv.*

**per-ni-cious** (pər-nish'əs) *adj.* 1. Tending to cause death or serious injury; deadly: *a pernicious virus.* 2. Causing great harm; destructive: *pernicious rumors.* [Middle English *< Old French pernicios < Latin perniciosus < pernicios, destruction: per- + nex, nec-, violent death; see nek-<sup>1</sup> in App. I.*] —**per-ni-cious-ly** *adv.* —**per-ni-cious-ness** *n.* **pernicious anemia** *n.* A severe anemia most often affecting older adults, caused by failure of the stomach to absorb vitamin B<sub>12</sub> and marked

by a decrease in number and an increase in the size of red blood cells, by gastrointestinal disturbances, and by lesions of the spinal cord.

**per-nick-e-ty** (pər-nīk'ē-tē) *adj.* Persnickety. [Origin unknown.]

**Per-rón** (pə-rōn', pē-), **Juan Domingo** 1895–1974. Argentine soldier and president (1946–1955 and 1973–1974). His second wife, (Maria) **Eva Duarte de Perón** (1919–1952), known as "Evita," was popular for her charitable works. Perón was succeeded in office by his third wife, **Maria Estela Martínez de Perón** (born 1931), known as "Isabelita," who was ousted by the military in 1976.

**per-o-ne-al** (pēr'ə-nē'al) *adj.* Of or relating to the fibula or to the outer portion of the leg. [*< Greek peronē, pin of a brooch, fibula; see per-<sup>2</sup> in App. I.*]

**per-o-ral** (pər-ōr'al) *adj.* Through or by way of the mouth: *a peroral infection; peroral administration of fluids.* —**per-o'ral-ly** *adv.*

**per-o-rate** (pēr'ə-rāt') *tr.v.* **-rat-ed, -rat-ing, -rates** 1. To conclude a speech with a formal recapitulation. 2. To speak at great length, often in a grandiloquent manner; declaim. [*Latin perorare, perorāt-: per-, per- + orare, to speak.*] —**per-o-ra'tion** *n.* —**per-o-ra'tion-al** *adj.*

**per-ovsk-ite** (pə-rōvz'kit', -rōfs'-) *n.* 1. A relatively rare yellow, brown, or black mineral, CaTiO<sub>3</sub>, sometimes also containing rare-earth elements, such as lanthanum. 2. Any of various oxides having a crystal structure similar to that of this mineral and that can be found in many superconducting ceramic materials and in electrodes in fuel cells. [After Count Lev Alekseyevich Perovski (1792–1856), Russian mineralogist.]

**per-ox-i-dase** (pə-rōk'sī-dās', -dāz') *n.* Any of a group of enzymes that occur especially in plant cells and catalyze the oxidation of a substance by a peroxide.

**per-ox-ide** (pə-rōk'sīd') *n.* 1. The divalent O<sub>2</sub> group, or a compound containing this group, such as sodium peroxide, Na<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>, used as an oxidizing agent or bleach. 2. Hydrogen peroxide. ♦ *tr.v.* **-id-ed, -id-ing, -ides** 1. To treat with peroxide. 2. To bleach (hair) with hydrogen peroxide. —**per-ox'id-e'** *adj.* —**per-ox'id-ic** (pûr'ōk-sīd'ik) *adj.*

**per-ox-i-some** (pə-rōk'sī-sōm') *n.* A cell organelle containing enzymes, such as catalase and oxidase, that catalyze the production and breakdown of hydrogen peroxide. [PEROXI(DE) + -SOME<sup>3</sup>.] —**per-ox'i-som'al** (-sō'māl) *adj.*

**peroxy-** *pref.* Containing the bivalent group O<sub>2</sub>: *peroxyacetyl nitrate.* [PER- + OXY-.]

**per-ox-y-a-cet-yl nitrate** (pər-ōk'sē-ə-sē'tl) *n.* **Abbr.** PAN A toxic organic compound, C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>3</sub>NO<sub>3</sub>, formed photochemically in smog, causing eye irritation and damage to vegetation. Due to the stability of this compound, it may be transported in air over long distances before breaking down into smaller reactive compounds.

**perp** (pûrp) *n.* Slang One who perpetrates or is accused of perpetrating a crime.

**perp.** *abbr.* perpendicular

**per-pend** (pər-pënd') *v.* **-pend-ed, -pend-ing, -pends** *Archaic* —*tr.* To consider carefully; ponder. —*intr.* To be attentive; reflect. [*Latin pendere: per-, per- + pendere, to weigh; see (s)pen- in App. I.*]

**per-pen-dic-u-lar** (pûr'pən-dīk'yə-lər) *adj.* 1. Mathematics Intersecting at or forming right angles. 2. Being at right angles to the horizontal; vertical. See **Synonyms at vertical**. 3. often **Perpendicular** Of or relating to a style of English Gothic architecture of the 1300s and 1400s, characterized by emphasis of the vertical element. ♦ *adv.* In a perpendicular position. ♦ *n.* 1. Mathematics A line or plane perpendicular to a given line or plane. 2. A perpendicular position. 3. A device, such as a plumb line, that is used in marking the vertical from a given point. 4. A vertical or nearly vertical line or plane. [Middle English *perpendicularer < Old French < Latin perpendicularis < perpendiculum, plumb line < pendere, to weigh carefully: per-, per- + pendere, to weigh; see (s)pen- in App. I.*] —**per-pen-dic'u-lar'i-ty** (-lār'i-tē) *n.* —**per-pen-dic'u-lar-ly** *adv.*

**per-pe-trate** (pûr'pī-trāt') *tr.v.* **-trat-ed, -trat-ing, -trates** To be responsible for; commit: *perpetrate a crime; perpetrate a practical joke.* [*Latin perpetrare, perpetrāt-, to accomplish: per-, per- + patrare, to bring about (< pater, father; see pater- in App. I).*] —**per-pe-tra'tion** *n.* —**per-pe-tra'tor** *n.*

**per-pet-u-al** (pər-pēch'ō-əl) *adj.* 1. Lasting forever; never-ending: *conceived heaven as a state of perpetual bliss.* 2. Continuing or being so for an indefinitely long time: *found themselves in perpetual debt; felt like a perpetual outsider.* See **Synonyms at continual**. 3. Flowering throughout the growing season. [Middle English *perpetuel < Old French < Latin perpetuus < perpetuus, continuous: per-, per- + petere, to go toward; see pet- in App. I.*] —**per-pet-u-al-ly** *adv.*

**perpetual calendar** *n.* A chart or mechanical device that indicates the day of the week corresponding to any given date over a period of many years.

**perpetual motion** *n.* The hypothetical continuous operation of an isolated mechanical device or other closed system without a sustaining energy source.

**per-pet-u-ate** (pər-pēch'ō-āt') *tr.v.* **-at-ed, -at-ing, -ates** 1. To cause to continue indefinitely; make perpetual. 2. To prolong the existence of; cause to be remembered: *The new library will perpetuate its founder's great love of learning.* [*Latin perpetuare, perpetuāt- < perpetuus, continuous; see PERPETUAL.*] —**per-pet'u-ance**, **per-pet'u-a'tion** *n.* —**per-pet'u-a'tor** *n.*

**per-pe-tu-i-ty** (pûr'pī-tōō'i-tē, -tyōō'-) *n., pl. -ties* 1. The quality or condition of being perpetual: "The perpetuity of the Church was an article of faith" (Morris L. West). 2. Time without end; eternity. 3. Law a. The condition of an estate that is limited so as to be inalienable either perpetually or longer than the period determined by law. b. An estate so

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| ī  | bite   | th  | thin   |
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| ō  | pot    | zh  | vision |
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| ō  | paw    |     | item   |
| ōr | core   |     |        |

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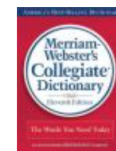
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# Merriam- Webster's Collegiate<sup>®</sup> Dictionary

ELEVENTH  
EDITION

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- adorns 3: one whose virtues or graces add luster to a place or society 4: the act of adorning or being adorned 5: an embellishing note not belonging to the essential harmony or melody — called also *embellishment*, *floritura*
- or-na-ment** \-nə-mənt\ *v* (1656): to provide with ornament: EMBELLISH  
*syn* *see* ADORN
- or-na-men-tal** \-nə-mən-təl\ *adj* (1646): of, relating to, or serving as ornament; *specif*: grown as an ornamental — **or-na-men-tal-ly** \-təl-ē\ *adv*
- ornamental** *n* (1650): a decorative object; *esp*: a plant cultivated for its beauty rather than for use
- or-na-men-ta-tion** \-nə-mən-tā-shən, -men-\ *n* (1706) 1: something that ornaments: EMBELLISHMENT 2: the act or process of ornamenting: the state of being ornamented
- or-nate** \-nāt\ *adj* [ME *ornat*, fr. L *ornatus*, pp. of *ornare* to furnish, embellish; akin to L *ordo* order — more at ORDER] (15c) 1: marked by elaborate rhetoric or florid style 2: elaborately or excessively decorated (an ~ mantle) — **or-nate-ly** *adv* — **or-nate-ness** *n*
- or-nery** \-nə-rē, -ār-, -örn-rē, -örn-\ *adj* **or-neri-er**, -est [alter. of *ordinary*] (1816): having an irritable disposition: CANTANKEROUS — **or-neri-ness** *n*
- ornith-** or **ornitho-** *comb form* [L, fr. Gk, fr. *ornith-*, *ornis* — more at ERNE]: bird [ornithology]
- or-nith-ic** \-nī-thik\ *adj* [Gk *ornithikos*, fr. *ornith-*, *ornis*] (1854): of, relating to, or characteristic of birds
- or-ni-thine** \-nə-thēn\ *n* [ISV *ornithuric acid* (a compound of which ornithine is a component, found in the urine of birds) + *-ine*] (1881): a crystalline amino acid  $C_5H_{12}N_2O_2$  that functions esp. in urea production as a carrier by undergoing conversion to citrulline and then arginine in reaction with ammonia and carbon dioxide followed by recovery along with urea by enzymatic hydrolysis of arginine
- or-nith-is-chi-an** \-nə-this-kē-ən\ *n* [NL *Ornithischia*, fr. *ornith-* + *ischium*] (1933): any of an order (Ornithischia) of herbivorous dinosaurs (as a stegosaur) that have the pubis of the pelvis rotated backward to a position parallel and close to the ischium — compare SAURISCHIAN — **ornithischian** *adj*
- or-ni-thol-o-gy** \-nə-thā-lə-jē\ *n*, *pl* -gies [NL *ornithologia*, fr. *ornith-* + *-logia* -logy] (1676) 1: a treatise on ornithology 2: a branch of zoology dealing with birds — **or-ni-tho-log-i-cal** \-thə-lā-jikəl\ *also* **or-ni-tho-log-ic** \-jik\ *adj* — **or-ni-tho-log-i-cal-ly** \-jikəl-ē\ *adv* — **or-ni-thol-o-gist** \-thā-lə-jist\ *n*
- or-nith-o-pod** \-nī-thə-pād, -nī-thə-\ *n* [ultim. fr. Gk *ornith-* + *pod-*, *pous* foot — more at FOOT] (ca. 1889): any of a suborder (Ornithopoda) of bipedal ornithischian dinosaurs (as a hadrosaur) with digitigrade walking limbs usu. having only three functional toes
- or-ni-thop-ter** \-nə-thāp-tər\ *n* [ISV *ornith-* + *-pter* (as in *helicopter*)] (1908): an aircraft designed to derive its chief support and propulsion from flapping wings
- or-ni-tho-sis** \-nə-thō-səs\ *n*, *pl* -tho-ses \-sēz\ [NL] (1939): PSITTACOSIS
- oro-** *comb form* [Gk *oros* — more at ORIENT]: mountain [orography]
- oro-** *comb form* [L *or-*, *os* — more at ORAL]: mouth [oropharynx]
- oro-gen-e-sis** \-ə-jē-nə-səs\ *n* [NL] (1886): OROGENY — **oro-gen-et-ic** \-jə-ne-tik\ *adj*
- orog-e-ne-y** \-ə-rā-jə-nē\ *n* [ISV] (1890): the process of mountain formation esp. by folding of the earth's crust — **oro-gen-ic** \-ə-jē-nik\ *adj*
- oro-graph-ic** \-ə-gra-fik\ *also* **oro-graph-i-cal** \-fi-kəl\ *adj* (ca. 1803): of or relating to mountains; *esp*: associated with or induced by the presence of mountains (~ rainfall)
- orog-ra-phy** \-ə-rā-grā-fē\ *n* [ISV] (ca. 1846): a branch of physical geography that deals with mountains
- Oro-mo** \-rō-(j)mō, -ō-\ *n*, *pl* **Oromos** or **Oromo** [Oromo (western dial.) *oromoo*, a self-designation, prob. fr. obs. pl. of *orma* person, stranger] (1893) 1: a member of a Cushitic-speaking people of southern Ethiopia and adjacent parts of Kenya 2: the Cushitic language of the Oromo
- oro-pa-ryn-geal** \-ə-rə-fa-rən-jē-əl, -fə-rin-jē-əl\ *adj* (1885) 1: of or relating to the oropharynx 2: of or relating to the mouth and pharynx
- oro-phar-ynx** \-fə-rin(k)s\ *n* (1887): the part of the pharynx that is below the soft palate and above the epiglottis and is continuous with the mouth
- oro-tund** \-ə-rə-tənd, -ār-\ *adj* [modif. of L *ore rotundo*, lit., with round mouth] (ca. 1799) 1: marked by fullness, strength, and clarity of sound: SONOROUS (an ~ voice) 2: POMP, BOMBASTIC (an ~ speech) — **oro-tun-di-ty** \-ə-rə-tən-dā-tē, -ār-\ *n*
- orphan** \-ə-rən\ *n* [ME, fr. LL *orphanus*, fr. Gk *orphanos*; akin to OHG *erbi* inheritance, L *orbus* orphaned] (15c) 1: a child deprived by death of one or usu. both parents 2: a young animal that has lost its mother 3: one deprived of some protection or advantage (~s of the storm) — **orphan** *adj* — **orphan-hood** \-hūd\ *n*
- orphan** *v* or **orphaned**; **orphan-ing** \-ə-rən-ɪŋ, -ɔrf-ɪŋ\ (1814): to cause to become an orphan
- orphan-age** \-ə-rə-nij, -ɔrf-nij\ *n* (ca. 1580) 1: the state of being an orphan 2: an institution for the care of orphans
- orphan drug** *n* (1981): a drug that is not developed or marketed because its extremely limited use makes it unprofitable
- orphan's court** *n* (1713): a probate court with jurisdiction in some states over the affairs of minors and the administration of estates
- Or-phues** \-ə-rif-əs, -fē-s\ *n* [L, fr. Gk] (14c): a poet and musician in Greek mythology who almost rescues his wife Eurydice from Hades by charming Pluto and Persephone with his lyre
- or-phic** \-ə-rif\ *adj* (1655) 1 *cap*: of or relating to Orpheus or the rites or doctrines ascribed to him 2: MYSTIC, ORACULAR 3: FASCINATING, ENTRANCING — **or-phic-cal-ly** \-fi-kəl-ē\ *adv*
- Or-phism** \-ə-rif-iz-m\ *n* [Orpheus, its reputed founder] (1880): a mystic Greek religion offering initiates purification of the soul from innate evil and release from the cycle of reincarnation
- or-phrey** \-ə-rē\ *n*, *pl* **orpreys** [ME *orfrey*, fr. AF *orfreis*, fr. ML *aurifrigium*, fr. L *aurum* gold + *Phrygius* Phrygian — more at AUREUS] (13c) 1 *a*: elaborate embroidery 2 *b*: a piece of such embroidery 2: an ornamental border or band esp. on an ecclesiastical vestment
- or-pi-ment** \-ə-rə-pə-mənt\ *n* [ME, fr. AF, fr. L *auripigmentum*, fr. *aurum* + *pigmentum* pigment] (14c): a rare orange to lemon-yellow mineral consisting of a native trisulfide of arsenic
- or-pine** \-ə-rən\ *n* [ME *orpin*, fr. AF, fr. *orpinet*] (14c): an herb (Scrophulariaceae) of the family Crassulaceae, the orpine family) that has fleshy leaves and pink or purple flowers and was formerly used in folk medicine; *broadly*: SEDUM
- Or-ping-ton** \-ə-rə-piŋ-tən\ *n* [Orpington, England] (1897): any of an English breed of large deep-chested domestic chickens
- or-rery** \-ə-rē, -ār-\ *n*, *pl* **or-er-ies** [Charles Boyle †1731 4th Earl of Orrery] (1713): an apparatus showing the relative positions and motions of bodies in the solar system by balls moved by a clockwork
- or-ris** \-ə-rəs, -ār-\ *n* [prob. alter. of ME *ireos*, fr. ML, alter. of L *iris* iris] (1545): ORRISROOT
- or-ris-root** \-ə-rūt, -rūt\ *n* (1598): the fragrant rootstock of any of three European irises (*Iris florentina*, *I. germanica*, and *I. pallida*) used esp. in perfumery
- ort** \-ərt\ *n* [ME, fr. MLG *orte*] (15c): a morsel left at a meal: SCRAP
- orth-** or **ortho-** *comb form* [Gk, fr. *orthos* straight, right, true; akin to Skt *ūrdhva* high, upright] 1: straight; upright; vertical (*orthographic*) 2: perpendicular (*orthorhombic*) 3: correct; corrective (*orthographic*) 4 *a*: hydrated or hydroxylated to the highest degree (*orthophosphoric acid*) 5 *b*: involving substitution at or characterized by or having the relationship of two neighboring positions in the benzene ring (*ortho-xylene*)
- orth-con** \-ə-rə-thi-kən\ *n* [ISV *orth-* + *iconoscope*] (1939): a camera tube similar to but more sensitive than an iconoscope in which the charges are scanned by a low-velocity beam
- orth-** \-ə-rə-thi\ *adj* (1904): ORTHOCHROMATIC
- or-tho-cen-ter** \-ə-rə-thə-sen-tər\ *n* [ISV] (1869): the common intersection of the three altitudes of a triangle or their extensions or of the several altitudes of a polyhedron provided these latter exist and meet in a point
- or-tho-chro-mat-ic** \-ə-rə-thə-kro-ma-tik\ *adj* [ISV] (1887) 1: of, relating to, or producing tone values of light and shade in a photograph that correspond to the tones in nature 2: sensitive to all colors except red
- or-tho-clase** \-ə-rə-thə-kliās, -kliās\ *n* [G *Orthoklas*, fr. *orth-* + Gk *klasis* breaking, fr. *klaō* to break — more at CLAST] (1849): a monoclinic mineral of the feldspar group consisting of a silicate of potassium and aluminum
- or-tho-don-tia** \-ə-rə-thə-dān(t)-sh(ē)-ə\ *n* [NL] (ca. 1849): ORTHODONTICS
- or-tho-don-tics** \-dān-tiks\ *n* *pl* but *sing* in constr (1909): a branch of dentistry dealing with irregularities of the teeth (as malocclusion) and their correction (as by means of braces) — **or-tho-don-tic-ly** \-dān-tik-ē\ *adv* — **or-tho-don-tist** \-dān-tist\ *n*
- or-tho-dox** \-ə-rə-thə-dāks\ *adj* [ME *orthodoxe*, fr. MF or LL; MF *orthodoxe*, fr. LL *orthodoxus*, fr. LGk *orthodoxos*, fr. Gk *orth-* + *doxa* opinion — more at DOXOLOGY] (15c) 1 *a*: conforming to established doctrine esp. in religion 2 *cap*: of, relating to, or constituting any of various conservative religious or political groups: *a*: EASTERN ORTHODOX 2 *b*: of or relating to Orthodox Judaism — **or-tho-dox-ly** *adv*
- orthodox** *n*, *pl* **orthodox** *also* **or-tho-dox-es** (1587) 1: one that is orthodox 2 *cap*: a member of an Eastern Orthodox church
- Orthodox Judaism** *n* (1904): Judaism that adheres to the Torah and Talmud as interpreted in an authoritative rabbinic law code and applies their principles and regulations to modern living — compare CONSERVATIVE JUDAISM, REFORM JUDAISM
- or-tho-dox-y** \-ə-rə-thə-dāks-ē\ *n*, *pl* -dox-ies (1630) 1: the quality or state of being orthodox 2: an orthodox belief or practice 3 *cap* *a*: Eastern Orthodox Christianity 2 *b*: ORTHODOX JUDAISM
- or-tho-ep-y** \-ə-rə-thə-we-pē, -ə-rə-thə-pe\ *n* [NL *orthoepia*, fr. Gk *ortho-* + *epos* word — more at VOICE] (1668) 1: the customary pronunciation of a language 2: the study of the pronunciation of a language — **or-tho-ep-ic** \-ə-rə-thə-we-pik\ *adj* — **or-tho-ep-i-cal-ly** \-pi-kəl-ē\ *adv* — **or-tho-epist** \-ə-rə-thə-we-pist, -ə-rə-thə-pist\ *n*
- or-tho-gen-e-sis** \-ə-rə-thə-jē-nə-səs\ *n* [NL] (1895): variation of organisms in successive generations that in some esp. former evolutionary theories takes place in some predestined direction resulting in progressive evolutionary trends independent of external factors — **or-tho-gen-et-ic** \-jə-ne-tik\ *adj* — **or-tho-gen-et-i-cal-ly** \-ti-kəl-ē\ *adv*
- or-thog-o-nal** \-ə-rə-thə-gə-nəl\ *adj* [MF, fr. L *orthogonius*, fr. Gk *orthogōnios*, fr. *orth-* + *gōnia* angle — more at -GON] (1612) 1 *a*: intersecting or lying at right angles 2 *b*: having perpendicular slopes or tangents at the point of intersection (~ curves) 2: having a sum of products or an integral that is zero or sometimes one under specified conditions: *a* of real-valued functions: having the integral of the product of each pair of functions over a specific interval equal to zero 2 *b* of vectors: having the scalar product equal to zero 2 *c* of a square matrix: having the sum of products of corresponding elements in any two rows or any two columns equal to one if the rows or columns are the same and equal to zero otherwise: having a transpose with which the product equals the identity matrix 3 of a linear transformation: having a matrix that is orthogonal: preserving length and distance 4: composed of mutually orthogonal elements (an ~ basis of a vector space) 5: statistically independent — **or-thog-o-nal-i-ty** \-thə-gə-nā-lē-tē\ *n* — **or-thog-o-nal-ly** \-thə-gə-nəl-ē\ *adv*
- or-thog-o-nal-ize** \-ə-rə-thə-gə-nə-līz\ *v* -ized; -iz-ing (1930): to make orthogonal — **or-thog-o-nal-i-za-tion** \-thə-gə-nə-lā-zā-shən\ *n*
- or-tho-grade** \-ə-rə-thə-grād\ *adj* (1902): walking with the body upright or vertical
- or-tho-graph-ic** \-ə-rə-thə-gra-fik\ *also* **or-tho-graph-i-cal** \-fi-kəl\ *adj* (1706) 1: of, relating to, being, or prepared by orthographic projection (an ~ map) 2 *a*: of or relating to orthography 2 *b*: correct in spelling — **or-tho-graph-i-cal-ly** \-fi-kəl-ē\ *adv*
- orthographic projection** *n* (1668) 1: projection of a single view of an object (as a view of the front) onto a drawing surface in which the lines of projection are perpendicular to the drawing surface 2: the representation of related views of an object as if they were all in the same plane and projected by orthographic projection
- or-thog-ra-phy** \-ə-rə-thə-grā-fē\ *n* [ME *ortografie*, fr. AF, fr. L *orthographia*, fr. Gk, fr. *orth-* + *graphein* to write — more at CARVE] (15c)



**perme-abil-i-ty** /'pər-mē-ə-'bi-l-i-tē/ *n* (1759) 1 : the quality or state of being permeable 2 : the property of a magnetizable substance that determines the degree in which it modifies the magnetic flux in the region occupied by it in a magnetic field  
**per-me-a-ble** /'pər-mē-ə-'bal/ *adj* (15c) : capable of being permeated **PERMEABLE; esp :** having pores or openings that permit liquids or gases to pass through (a ~ membrane) (<~ limestone)  
**per-me-ase** /'pər-mē-'ās-, 'jāz/ *n* [ISV *perme-* (fr., *permeate*) + -ase] : a substance that catalyzes the transport of another substance across a cell membrane  
**per-me-at-e** /'pər-mē-'āt/ *v* **-at-ed; -at-ing** [*permeatus*, pp. of *permeare*, fr. *per-* through + *meare* to go, pass; akin to MW *myner* to go, reach, fr. *per-* through + *passe*] *vi* (1656) : to diffuse through or penetrate somewhat *vt* 1 : to spread or diffuse through (a room permeated with smoke) 2 : to pass through the pores or interstices of — *permeation* /-tē-'ā-tiv/ *adj*  
**per-me-a-tion** /'pər-mē-'ā-shən/ *n* (ca. 1623) 1 : the quality or state of being permeated 2 : the action or process of permeating  
**per-meth-in** /'pər-'ment(t)-səm/ *adj* [ML] (1647) : by the month  
**per-methyl-n** /'pər-'mē-thrən/ *n* [*per-* + *methyl* + *pyrethrins*] (1976) : a synthetic pyrethroid C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>30</sub>Cl<sub>3</sub>O<sub>3</sub> used esp. as an insecticide  
**per-mian** /'pər-mē-'n/, '-pər-/ *adj* [*Perm.*, former province in eastern Prussia] (1841) : of, relating to, or being the last period of the Paleozoic era for the corresponding system of rocks — see GEOLOGIC TIME TABLE  
**Per-mian n**  
**per-mil v** /'pər-'mil/ *adv* [*per* + L *mille* thousand] (1721) : per thousand  
**per-mil-lage** /'pər-'mi-lij/ *n*  
**per-mis-sible** /'pər-'mis-ə-'bal/ *adj* [ME, fr. ML *permissibilis*, fr. L *permittere*, pp. of *mittere*] (15c) : that may be permitted : ALLOWABLE  
**per-mis-si-bil-i-ty** /-mi-'si-'bi-l-i-tē/ *n* — **per-mis-si-ble-ness** /-sə-'bə-'lə-'nəs/ *n* — **per-mis-si-bly** /-blē/ *adv*  
**per-mis-sion** /'pər-'mi-shən/ *n* [ME, fr. AF, fr. L *permissio*-, *permissio*, *permittere*] (15c) 1 : the act of permitting 2 : formal consent : AUTHORIZATION  
**per-mis-sive** /'pər-'mi-siv/ *adj* [ME *permyssyf*, fr. MF *permissif*, fr. L *permissus*] (15c) 1 *archaic* : granted on sufferance : TOLERATED 2 *a* : granting or tending to grant permission : TOLERANT **b** : deficient in strictness or control : INDULGENT, LAX 3 : allowing discretion : OPTIMIST (reduced the ~ retirement age from 65 to 62) — **per-mis-sively adv** — **per-mis-sive-ness n**  
**per-mit** /'pər-'mit/ *v* **per-mit-ted; per-mit-ting** [ME *permitteren*, fr. L *mittere* to let through, permit, fr. *per-* through + *mittere* to let go, allow] (15c) 1 : to consent to expressly or formally (<~ access to records) 2 : to give leave : AUTHORIZE 3 : to make possible (the decision) — *see* *easy access* — *see vi* : to give an opportunity : ALLOW (if time permits) — **per-mit-tee** /'pər-'mit(t)-'tē, 'pər-'mit(t)-'n/ *n* — **per-mit-ter n**  
[*per-mit*, *per-* 'n (1682) 1 : a written warrant or license issued by one having authority (<a gun ~) 2 : PERMISSION  
[*per-mit*, *per-* 'n (perh. by folk etymology fr. Sp *palometa*, a kind of pompano, fr. dim. of *paloma* dove, fr. L *palumba*, *palumbus* — *see* at PALOMINO] (ca. 1945) : either of two pompanos (*Trachinotus fuscus* and *T. goodii*) that are important game fishes of temperate coastal waters of the western Atlantic  
**per-mu-ta-tion** /'pər-'mi-'ti-'və-tē-, '-mə-'n/ [*permut* + -ity (as in *selectivity*)] (1887) : the ability of a material to store electrical potential energy due to the influence of an electric field measured by the ratio of the capacitance of a capacitor with the material as dielectric to its capacitance with vacuum as dielectric — called also *dielectric constant*  
**per-mu-ta-tion** /'pər-'myū-'tā-shən/ *n* [ME *permutacioun* exchange, information, fr. AF, fr. L *permutatio*-, *permutatio*, fr. *permutare*] 1 : often major or fundamental change (as in character or composition) based primarily on rearrangement of existent elements (<the system has gone through several ~s>; *also* : a form or variety resulting from such change [technology available in various ~s]) 2 *a* : the act or process of changing the linear order of an ordered set of objects **b** : an ordered arrangement of a set of objects — **per-mu-ta-tional adj**, **-ta-tion-al** *adj*  
**per-mu-ta-tion group n** (1904) : a group whose elements are permutations and in which the product of two permutations is a permutation and the effect is the same as the successive application of the first two  
**per-mute** /'pər-'myūt/ *vt* **per-mut-ed; per-mut-ing** [ME, to exchange, fr. OF or L *AF permutare*, fr. L *permutare*, fr. *per-* + *mutare* to change more at MUTABLE] (1878) : to change the order or arrangement of; to arrange in all possible ways — **per-mut-able** /-'myū-'tə-'bal/ *adj*  
**per-mu-tu-ous** /'pər-'ni-'shəs/ *adj* [ME, fr. AF, fr. L *perniciosis*, fr. *perni-* destruction, fr. *per-* + *nec*-, *nex* violent death — more at NOXIOUS] 1 : highly injurious or destructive : DEADLY 2 *archaic* : WICKED  
**per-ni-ci-ously ly adv** — **per-ni-ci-ous-ness n**  
**PERNICIOUS, BANEFUL, NOXIOUS, DELETERIOUS, DETRIMENTAL** *adjectives* : exceedingly harmful. PERNICIOUS implies irreparable harm done through evil or insidious corrupting or undermining (the claim of photography has a pernicious effect on society), BANEFUL implies injury through poisoning or destroying (the baneful notion that science destroys creativity), NOXIOUS applies to what is both offensive and injurious to the health of a body or mind (<noxious chemical agents>), DELETERIOUS applies to what has an often unsuspected harmful effect (a diet found to have deleterious effects), DETRIMENTAL implies obvious harmfulness to something specified (<the detrimental effects of excessive drinking>).  
**per-ni-cious anemia n** (1874) : a severe megaloblastic anemia that is characterized by a progressive decrease in the number of red blood cells and color, weakness, and gastrointestinal and nervous disturbances and caused by malabsorption of vitamin B<sub>12</sub> due to the absence of intrinsic factor  
**per-ni-cious-ly** /'pər-'ni-'k-i-tē/ *adj* [origin unknown] (ca. 1818) chiefly in US : *per-ni-cious* *adj*  
**per-nick-et-y** /'pər-'nik-it/ *adj* [trademark — used for a French liqueur produced by J. R. Pernikety]  
**per-one** /'pər-'ō-nē-, 'pə-'rō-nē-/ *adj* [NL *peroneus*, fr. *perone* fibula, fr. Gr *peronē*, lit., pin, fr. *peirein* to pierce — more at DIAPYR] (1831) : relating to, or located near the fibula  
**per-or-al** /'pər-'ōrəl, '-ār-/ *adj* [ISV] (1908) : occurring through the mouth — **per-or-al-ly** /-'ō-lē/ *adv*  
**per-or-ate** /'pər-'rātō *vb* **-rat-ed; -rating** [L *peroratus*, pp. of *perorare* to declaim at length, wind up an oration, fr. *per-* through

**orator** to speak — more at **PER-, ORATION** (1603) 1: to deliver a long or grandiloquent oration 2: to make a peroration  
**per-o-ra-tion** \per-'rā-shən also -pər- n [ME *peroracyon*, fr. L *peroratio*, *peroratio*, fr. *perorare*] (15c) 1: the concluding part of a discourse and esp. an oration 2: a highly rhetorical speech — **per-o-ra-tion-al** \per-'rā-shənəl, -pər-, -shə-nəl/ *adj*  
**per-ov-al-skite** \per-'rāv-skīt, -'rāf- n [G *Perowskit*, fr. Count L. A. *Perovski* 1856 Russ. statesman] (1840) : a yellow, brown, or grayish-black mineral consisting of an oxide of calcium and titanium and sometimes containing rare earth elements  
**per-ox-i-dase** \pə-'rāk-sə-dās, -'dāz n (1900) : an enzyme that catalyzes the oxidation of various substances by peroxides  
**per-ox-i-d-a-tion** \pə-'rāk-sə-'dā-shən n (1839) : oxidation to the greatest possible extent resulting esp. in formation of a peroxide  
**per-ox-i-de** \pə-'rāk-sīd n (1804) : a compound (as hydrogen peroxide) in which oxygen is visualized as joined to oxygen — **per-ox-id-ic** \pə-'rāk-sīd-ik/ *adj*  
**peroxide** **vt** -id-ed; -id-ing (1906) 1: to treat with a peroxide; *esp* : to bleach (hair) with hydrogen peroxide  
**peroxide** *adj* (1920) : having or being bleached hair (a ~ blonde)  
**per-ox-i-s-ome** \pə-'rāk-sə-'sōm n [*peroxide* + ~*some*] (1965) : a cytoplasmic cell organelle containing enzymes (as catalase) which act in oxidative reactions and esp. in the production and decomposition of hydrogen peroxide — **per-ox-i-som-al** \pə-'rāk-sə-'sō-məl/ *adj*  
**peroxy-** *comb form* [ISV *per-* + *oxy*] : containing the divalent group O-O (*peroxyacetyl nitrate*)  
**per-ox-y-ace-tyl nitrate** \pə-'rāk-sē-sə-'tī-l; -'ā-sə-'tī-l, -'tē-l n (1963) : a toxic compound C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>3</sub>O<sub>5</sub>N found esp. in smog  
**perp** \pərp n (1981) : a perpetrator esp. of a crime  
**perp** *abbr* perpetrator  
**per-pend** \pərp-'pend/ *vb* [ME, fr. L *perpendere*, fr. *per-* thoroughly + *pendere* to weigh — more at **PER-, PENDANT**] *vt* (15c) : to reflect on carefully : **PONDER** ~ *vi* : to be attentive : **REFLECT**  
**per-pen-dic-u-lar** \pərp-'pən-dī-kyə-lər/ *adj* [ME *perpendicular*, fr. MF, fr. L *perpendicularis*, fr. *perpendicular* plumb line, fr. *per-* + *pendere* to hang — more at **PENDANT**] (14c) 1 **a** : standing at right angles to the plane of the horizon : exactly upright **b** : being at right angles to a given line or plane 2 : extremely steep : **PRECIPITOUS** 3 *often cap* : of or relating to a medieval English Gothic style of architecture in which vertical lines predominate 4 : relating to, uniting, or consisting of individuals of dissimilar type or on different levels *syn* see **VERTICAL** — **per-pen-dic-u-lar-ly** \pərp-'pən-dī-kyə-'lā-r-tē/ *n* — **per-pen-dic-u-lar-ly** \pərp-'pən-dī-kyə-lər-lē/ *adv*  
**perpendicular** *n* (1571) : a line at right angles to a line or plane (as of the horizon)  
**per-pe-trate** \pərp-'pə-,trāt/ *vt* -trat-ed; -trat-ing [L *perpetratus*, pp. of *perpetrare*, fr. *per-* through + *paterre* to accomplish, fr. *pater* father — more at **FATHER**] (1537) 1 : to bring about or carry out (as a crime or deception) : **COMMIT** 2 : to produce, perform, or execute (something likened to a crime) (< a pun) — **per-pe-tra-tion** \pərp-'pə-'trā-shən/ *n* — **per-pe-tra-tor** \pərp-'pə-'trā-tər/ *n*  
**per-pet-u-al** \pərp-'pe-cha-wəl, -chal; -'bech-wəl/ *adj* [ME *perpetuel*, fr. AF, fr. L *perpetuus* uninterrupted, fr. *per-* through + *petere* to go to — more at **FEATHER**] (14c) 1 **a** : continuing forever : **EVERLASTING** (< motion) **b** (1) : valid for all time (a ~ right) (2) : holding (as an office) for life or for an unlimited time 2 : occurring continually : indefinitely long-continued (< problems) 3 : blooming continuously throughout the season *syn* see **CONTINUAL** — **per-pet-u-al-ly** *adv*  
**perpetual calendar** *n* (1895) : a table for finding the day of the week for any one of a wide range of dates  
**perpetual check** *n* (ca. 1909) : an endless succession of checks to which an opponent's king may be subjected to force a draw in chess  
**per-pet-u-ate** \pərp-'pe-cha-wāt/ *vt* -at-ed; -at-ing [L *perpetuatus*, pp. of *perpetuare*, fr. *perpetuus*] (1530) : to make perpetual or cause to last indefinitely (< the species) — **per-pet-u-a-tion** \pərp-'pe-cha-'wā-shən/ *n* — **per-pet-u-a-tor** \pərp-'pe-cha-'wā-tər/ *n*  
**per-pe-tu-i-ty** \pərp-'pə-'tū-ə-tē, -'tī-yū- n, pl -ties [ME *perpetuite*, fr. AF *perpetuité*, fr. L *perpetuitas*, *perpetuitas*, fr. *perpetuus*] (15c) 1 : **ETERNITY** 2 : the quality or state of being perpetual (bequeathed to them in ~) 3 **a** : the condition of an estate limited so that it will not take effect or vest within the period fixed by law **b** : an estate so limited 4 : an annuity payable forever  
**per-pher-na-zine** \pərp-'fē-nə-'zēn, -'fē-n/ *n* [blend of *piperazine* and *phen-1*] (1957) : a phenothiazine tranquilizer C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>26</sub>ClN<sub>3</sub>O<sub>3</sub> that is used esp. to control psychotic symptoms (as anxiety and agitation)  
**per-plex** \pərp-'pleks/ *vt* [obs. *perplex*, *adj*, involved, perplexed, fr. L *perplexus*, fr. *per-* thoroughly + *plexus* involved, fr. pp. of *plectere* to braid, twine — more at **PER-, PLY**] (1593) 1 : to make unable to grasp something clearly or to think logically and decisively about something (her attitude ~es me) (a ~ing problem) 2 : to make intricate or involved : **COMPLICATE** *syn* see **PUZZLE**  
**per-plex-ed** \pərp-'plekst/ *adj* (15c) 1 : filled with uncertainty : **PUZZLED** 2 : full of difficulty — **per-plex-i-ty** \pərp-'plek-sə-tē, -'plekst-lē/ *adv*  
**per-plex-i-ty** \pərp-'plek-sə-tē n, pl -ties [ME *perplexitie*, fr. MF *perplexité*, fr. LL *perplexitāt*, *perplexitās*, fr. L *perplexus*] (14c) 1 : the state of being perplexed : **BEWILDERMENT** 2 : something that perplexes 3 : **ENTANGLEMENT**  
**per-qui-site** \pərp-'kwə-zət n [ME, property acquired by means other than inheritance, fr. AF *perquisit*, ML *perquisitum*, fr. neut. of *perquisitus*, pp. of *perquirere* to purchase, acquire, fr. L, to search for thoroughly, fr. *per-* thoroughly + *quaerere* to seek] (15c) 1 : a privilege, gain, or profit incidental to regular salary or wages; *esp* : one expected or promised 2 : **GRATUITY**, **TIP** 3 : something held or claimed as an exclusive right or possession  
**per-ron** \pərp-'rən, pe-rōn n [F, fr. OF, fr. *perre*, *pierre* rock, stone, fr. L *petra*, fr. Gk] (1723) : an outdoor stairway leading up to a building entrance; *also* : a platform at its top

|ə| abut |ə| kitten, F table |ər| further |ə| ash |ā| ace |ā| mop, mar  
 |aʊ| out |ch| chin |e| bet |ē| easy |g| go |ĥ| hit |ĥ| ice |j| job  
 |ŋ| sing |ō| go |ó| law |ói| boy |th| thin |th| the |ū| loot |ú| foot  
 |y| yet |zh| vision, beige |k, n, æ, u, ʏ| see Guide to Pronunciation



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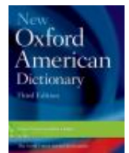
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## orthodontics

**ortho-don-tics** /ˈɔrθəˈdɒntiks/ (also **orthodontia** /ˈɔrθəˈdɒntiə/) ► **plural n.** [treated as sing.] the treatment of irregularities in the teeth (esp. of alignment and occlusion) and jaws, including the use of braces.

**DERIVATIVES** **ortho-don-tic adj.**

**ortho-don-ti-cal-ly** /ˈtɪk(ə)l/ **adv.** or **ortho-don-tist** /ˈtɪst/ **n.**

**ORIGIN** early 20th cent.: from **ORTHO-** 'straight' + Greek *odont-* 'tooth'.

**ortho-dox** /ˈɔrθəˈdɒks/ ► **adj.** 1 (of a person or their views, esp. religious or political ones, or other beliefs or practices) conforming to what is generally or traditionally accepted as right or true; established and approved: *the orthodox economics of today* | *orthodox medical treatment* | *orthodox Hindus*. ■ (of a person) not independent-minded; conventional and unoriginal: *a relatively orthodox artist*. 2 (of a thing) of the ordinary or usual type; normal: *they avoided orthodox jazz venues*.

3 (usu. **Orthodox**) (of the Jews or Judaism) strictly keeping to traditional doctrine and ritual.

4 (usu. **Orthodox**) of or relating to the Orthodox Church.

**DERIVATIVES** **ortho-dox-ly adv.**

**ORIGIN** late Middle English: from Greek *orthodoxos* (probably via ecclesiastical Latin), from *orthos* 'straight or right' + *doxa* 'opinion'.

**Ortho-dox Church** a Christian church or federation of churches originating in the Greek-speaking church of the Byzantine Empire, not accepting the authority of the pope, and using ancient forms of service.

The chief Orthodox churches (often known collectively as the **Eastern Orthodox Church**) include the national churches of Greece, Russia, Bulgaria, Romania, and Serbia. The term is also used by other ancient churches, mainly of African or Asian origin, e.g., the Coptic, Syrian, and Ethiopian churches.

**Ortho-dox Ju-da-ism** a major branch within Judaism that teaches strict adherence to rabbinical interpretation of Jewish law and its traditional observances.

**ortho-dox-y** /ˈɔrθəˈdɒksɪ/ ► **n.** (pl. **orthodoxies**) 1 authorized or generally accepted theory, doctrine, or practice: *monetarist orthodoxy* | *he challenged many of the established orthodoxies*. ■ the quality of conforming to such theories, doctrines, or practices: *writings of unimpeachable orthodoxy*.

2 the whole community of Orthodox Jews or Orthodox Christians.

**ORIGIN** mid 17th cent.: via late Latin from late Greek *orthodoxia* 'sound doctrine', from *orthodoxos* (see **ORTHODOX**).

**ortho-drom-ic** /ˈɔrθəˈdrɒmɪk/ ► **adj.** Physiology (of an impulse) traveling in the normal direction in a nerve fiber. The opposite of **ANTIDROMIC**.

**ORIGIN** 1940s: from **ORTHO-** 'right, correct' + Greek *dromos* 'running' + **-ic**.

**ortho-e-py** /ˈɔrθəˈeɪpɪ/ ► **n.** the correct or accepted pronunciation of words. ■ the study of correct or accepted pronunciation.

**DERIVATIVES** **ortho-e-py-ic** /ˈɔrθəˈeɪpɪk/ **adj.**, **ortho-e-pist** /ˈpɪst/ **n.**

**ORIGIN** mid 17th cent.: from Greek *orthopeia* 'correct speech', from *orthos* 'right or straight' + *epos*, *epe* 'word'.

**ortho-gen-e-sis** /ˈɔrθəˈɡenɪsɪs/ ► **n.** Biology, chiefly historical a theory that variations in evolution follow a particular direction and are not merely sporadic and fortuitous.

**DERIVATIVES** **ortho-gen-e-sist n.**, **ortho-gen-et-ic** /ˈjəˌnetɪk/ **adj.**, **ortho-gen-et-ic-ly** /ˈjəˌnetɪk(ə)l/ **adv.**

**orthog-na-thous** /ˈɔrθəˈɡnəθəs/ ► **adj.** Anatomy (esp. of a person) having a jaw that does not project or recede, so that the facial profile is nearly vertical. **ORIGIN** mid 19th cent.: from **ORTHO-** 'straight' + Greek *gnathos* 'jaw' + **-ous**.

**orthog-o-nal** /ˈɔrθəˈɡɒnəl/ ► **adj.** 1 of or involving right angles; at right angles.

2 statistics (of variates) statistically independent.

■ (of an experiment) having variates that can be treated as statistically independent.

**DERIVATIVES** **orthog-o-nal-i-ty** /ˈɔrθəˈɡɒnəlɪti/ **n.**, **orthog-o-nal-ly adv.**

**ORIGIN** late 16th cent.: from French, based on Greek *orthogonios* 'right-angled'.

**orthog-o-nal pro-jection** ► **n.** Engineering a system of making engineering drawings showing two or more views of an object at right angles to each other on a single drawing. ■ a drawing made using this method.

**ortho-graph-ic pro-jection** /ˈɔrθəˈɡrafɪk/ ► **n.** a method of projection in which an object is depicted on a surface mapped using parallel lines to project

its shape onto a plane. ■ a drawing or map made using this method.

**orthog-ra-phy** /ˈɔrθəˈɡrafɪ/ ► **n.** (pl. **orthographies**) 1 the conventional spelling system of a language. ■ the study of spelling and how letters combine to represent sounds and form words.

2 another term for **ORTHOGRAPHIC PROJECTION**.

**DERIVATIVES** **orthog-ra-pher** /ˈfɑːr/ **n.**

(sense 1), **orthog-graph-ic** /ˈɔrθəˈɡrafɪk/ **adj.**, **orthog-graph-i-cal** /ˈɔrθəˈɡrafɪkəl/ **adj.**

**orthog-graph-i-cal-ly** /ˈɔrθəˈɡrafɪk(ə)l/ **adv.**

**ORIGIN** late Middle English: via Old French and Latin from Greek *orthographia*, from *orthos* 'correct' + *-graphia* 'writing'.

**ortho-ker-a-tol-o-gy** /ˈɔrθəˈkɛrətələdʒi/ ► **n.** the temporary reshaping of the cornea (usually overnight) with specially made rigid contact lenses, in order to correct myopia.

**ortho-mo-lec-u-lar** /ˈɔrθəˈmɒləkyələr/ ► **adj.** pertaining to a theory that illness can be treated and health maximized by creating the optimal molecular environment for the cells of the body through the introduction of natural substances: *orthomolecular nutrition/psychiatry/oncology*.

**ORIGIN** 1968: coined by Linus Pauling.

**ortho-mor-phic** /ˈɔrθəˈmɒrfɪk/ ► **adj.** see **CONFORMAL**.

**Ortho-nec-ti-da** /ˈɔrθəˈnektɪdə/ Zoology a minor phylum of mesozoan worms that are internal parasites of a range of marine invertebrates.

**DERIVATIVES** **ortho-nec-tid n.** & **adj.**

**ORIGIN** modern Latin (plural), from Greek *orthos* 'straight' + *nektos* 'swimming' (see **NEKTON**).

**ortho-nor-mal** /ˈɔrθəˈnɒrməl/ ► **adj.** Mathematics both orthogonal and normalized.

**DERIVATIVES** **ortho-nor-mal-i-ty** /ˈnɒrməlɪti/ **n.**, **ortho-nor-mal-i-za-tion** /ˈnɒrməlɪˈzæʃən/ **n.**

**ortho-pe-dics** /ˈɔrθəˈpɛdɪks/ (Brit. **orthopaedics**) ► **plural n.** [treated as sing.] the branch of medicine dealing with the correction of deformities of bones or muscles, [originally relating specifically to children].

**DERIVATIVES** **ortho-pe-dic adj.**, **ortho-pe-di-cal-ly** /ˈɪk(ə)l/ **adv.**, **ortho-pe-dist** /ˈdɪst/ **n.**

**ORIGIN** mid 19th cent.: from French *orthopédie*, from Greek *orthos* 'right or straight' + *paideia* 'rearing of children'.

**ortho-phos-phor-ic acid** /ˈɔrθəˈfɒsˌfɒrɪk/ **n.** **ORIGIN** another term for **PHOSPHORIC ACID**.

**DERIVATIVES** **ortho-phos-phate** /ˈfɒsˌfæt/ **n.**

**ortho-pox-vi-rus** /ˈɔrθəˈpɒksˌvɪrəs/ ► **n.** any of a set of viruses pathological in humans and animals that includes the cowpox, smallpox, and monkeypox viruses. ■ Genus *Orthopoxvirus*, family *Poxviridae*.

**ortho-psy-chi-a-try** /ˈɔrθəˈsɪkiətri/ ► **n.** the branch of psychiatry concerned with the study and prevention of mental or behavioral disorders, with emphasis on child development and family life.

**DERIVATIVES** **ortho-psy-chi-at-ric** /ˈsɪkəˈatrɪk/ **adj.**, **ortho-psy-chi-a-trist** /ˈtrɪst/ **n.**

**orthop-ter** /ˈɔrθəptər/ ► **n.** another term for **ORNITHOPTER**.

**Orthop-ter-a** /ˈɔrθəptərə/ Entomology an order of insects that comprises the grasshoppers, crickets, katydids, etc. They have a saddle-shaped thorax, hind legs that are typically long and modified for jumping, and a characteristic song that the male produces by stridulation. ■ (as plural noun) **orthoptera** insects of this order.

**ORIGIN** modern Latin (plural), from **ORTHO-** 'straight' + Greek *pteros* 'wing'.

**orthop-ter-an** /ˈɔrθəptərən/ Entomology ► **n.** an insect of the order Orthoptera, such as a grasshopper or cricket.

► **adj.** relating to or denoting orthopterans.

**DERIVATIVES** **orthop-ter-ous** /ˈtərəs/ **adj.**

**orthop-ter-oid** /ˈɔrθəptəˈrɔɪd/ ► **adj.** Entomology of or relating to a group of insect orders that are related to the grasshoppers and crickets, including also the stoneflies, stick insects, earwigs, cockroaches, mantises, and termites.

**orthop-tics** /ˈɔrθəptɪks/ ► **plural n.** [treated as sing.] the study or treatment of disorders of vision, esp. of eye movements or eye alignment.

**DERIVATIVES** **orthop-tic adj.**, **orthop-tist** /ˈtɪst/ **n.**

**ORIGIN** late 19th cent.: from **ORTHO-** 'correct' + Greek *optikos* (see **OPTIC**).

**ortho-py-rox-ene** /ˈɔrθəˈpɪrɒksən/ ► **n.** a mineral of the pyroxene group crystallizing in the orthorhombic system.

**ortho-rex-i-a** /ˈɔrθəˈrɛksə/ ► **n.** an obsession with eating foods that one considers healthy. ■ (also **orthorexia nervosa** /ˈnɒrˈvɒsə/) a medical condition in which the sufferer systematically avoids specific foods in the belief that they are harmful.

**DERIVATIVES** **ortho-rex-ic adj.** & **n.**

**ORIGIN** 1990s: from **ortho-** + Greek *orexia* 'appetite', after *anorexia*.

**ortho-rhom-bic** /ˈɔrθəˈrɒmbɪk/ ► **adj.** of or denoting a crystal system or three-dimensional geometric arrangement having three unequal axes at right angles.

**ortho-sis** /ˈɔrθəˈsɪs/ ► **n.** (pl. **orthoses** /ˈsɛz/) Medicine the correction of disorders of the limbs or spine by use of braces and other devices to correct alignment or provide support. ■ a brace or other such device; orthotic.

**ORIGIN** 1950s: from Greek *orthosis* 'making straight', from *orthoun* 'set straight'.

**ortho-stat-ic** /ˈɔrθəˈstatɪk/ ► **adj.** Medicine relating to or caused by an upright posture.

**orthos-ti-chy** /ˈɔrθəˈstɪki/ ► **n.** (pl. **orthostichies**) Botany (in phyllotaxis) a vertical row of leaves arranged one directly above another. Contrasted with **PARASTICHY**.

**ORIGIN** late 19th cent.: from **ORTHO-** 'upright, straight' + Greek *stikhos* 'row, rank'.

**orthot-ic** /ˈɔrθəˈtɪk/ ► **adj.** relating to orthotics.

► **n.** an artificial support or brace for the limbs or spine.

**orthot-ics** /ˈɔrθəˈtɪks/ ► **plural n.** [treated as sing.] the branch of medicine that deals with the provision and use of artificial devices such as splints and braces.

**DERIVATIVES** **orthot-ist n.**

**ortho-trop-ic** /ˈɔrθəˈtrɒpɪk/ **adj.** 1 Botany (of a shoot, stem, or axis) growing vertically.

2 Engineering (of a material) having elastic properties in two or three planes perpendicular to each other.

**orthot-ro-pous** /ˈɔrθəˈtrɒpəs/ ► **adj.** Botany (of a plant ovule) having the nucleus straight, i.e., not inverted, so that the micropyle is at the end opposite the base.

**or-to-lan** /ˈɔrtələn/ (also **ortolanbunting**) ► **n.** a small Eurasian songbird that was formerly eaten as a delicacy, the male having an olive-green head and yellow throat. ■ *Emberizahortulana*, family *Emberizidae* (subfamily *Emberizinae*).

**ORIGIN** early 16th cent.: from French, from Provençal, literally 'gardener', based on a diminutive of Latin *hortus* 'garden'.

**Or-ru-ro** /ˈɔrʊrɒ/ a city in western Bolivia; pop. 216,714 (2009). It is the center of an important mining region, with rich deposits of tin, zinc, silver, copper, and gold.

**ORV** ► **abbr.** off-road vehicle.

**Or-vie-to** /ˈɔrviətə/ a town in Umbria, in central Italy in the middle of a wine-producing area; pop. 21,059 (2008).

**Or-vie-to** /ˈɔrviədə/ ► **n.** a white wine made near Orvieto.

**Or-well** /ˈɔrwel/ George (1903–50), British novelist and essayist, born in India; pseudonym of *Eric Arthur Blair*. His work is characterized by his concern about social injustice. His best-known works are *Animal Farm* (1945) and *Nineteen Eighty-Four* (1949).

**DERIVATIVES** **Or-well-i-an** /ˈɔrwelən/ **adj.**

**-ory** ► **suffix** (forming nouns) denoting a place for a particular function: *dormitory* | *repository*.

**ORIGIN** from Latin *-oria*, *-orium*, sometimes via Anglo-Norman French *-orie*, Old French *-oire*.

**-ory** ► **suffix** forming adjectives (and occasionally nouns) relating to or involving a verbal action: *compulsory* | *directory* | *mandatory*.

**ORIGIN** from Latin *-orius*, sometimes via Anglo-Norman French *-orie*.

**o-ryx** /ˈɔrɪks/ ► **n.** any of several species of antelopes native to arid regions of Africa and Asia, having dark markings on the face and long, pointed horns.

■ Genus *Oryx*, family *Bovidae*: several species, including the **Arabian oryx** (*O. leucorox*). See also **GEMSBOK**, **SCIMITAR ORYX**.

**ORIGIN** late Middle English: via Latin from Greek *oryx* 'stonemason's pickax' (because of its pointed horns).

**or-zo** /ˈɔrzə/ ► **n.** a variety of pasta shaped like grains of barley or rice.

**ORIGIN** Italian, literally 'barley'.

**OS** ► **abbr.** (in calculating dates) Old Style.

■ Computing operating system. ■ Ordinary Seaman.

■ (in the UK) Ordnance Survey. ■ (as a size of clothing) outside. ■ out of stock. ■ overseas.

**Os** ► **symbol** the chemical element osmium.

**PRONUNCIATION KEY** ɒ ago, up; ɔ over, fur; a hat; ʌ ate, ʌ car; e let; ɛ see; ɪ fit; ɪ by; NG sing; ɒ go; ɒ law, for; ɔ toy; ɒ good; ɒ goo; ɒ out; ʌ thin; ʌ then; ʌ vision



DERIVATIVES **Pe-ro-nism** /-nizəm/ **n.**, **Pe-ro-nist** /-nist/ **adj.** & **n.**

**per-o-ne-al** /perə'neəl/ **adj.** Anatomy relating to or situated in the outer side of the calf of the leg.

ORIGIN mid 19th cent.: from modern Latin *peroneus* 'peroneal muscle' (based on Greek *peronē* 'pin, fibula') + **-AL**.

**per-o-rate** /perə'rāt/ **v.** [no obj.] formal speak at length: he reportedly would *perorate* against his colleague. **ORIGIN** archaic sum up and conclude a speech: the following innocent conclusion with which she *perorates*.

ORIGIN early 17th cent.: from Latin *perorare* 'spoken at length', from the verb *perorare*, from *per-* 'through' + *orare* 'speak'.

**per-o-ration** /perə'rāʃən/ **n.** the concluding part of a speech, typically intended to inspire enthusiasm in the audience.

ORIGIN late Middle English: from Latin *peroratio* (n-), from *perorare* 'speak at length' (see **PERORATE**).

**pe-rovsk-ite** /pə'rəvskit/ **n.** a yellow, brown, or black mineral consisting largely of calcium titanate. **ORIGIN** early 19th cent.: from the name of L. A. Perovskiy (1792-1856), Russian mineralogist, + **-ITE**.

**per-ox-i-dase** /pə'rəksə'dās/ **n.** Biochemistry an enzyme that catalyzes the oxidation of a particular substrate by hydrogen peroxide.

**per-ox-ide** /pə'rəksid/ **n.** Chemistry a compound containing two oxygen atoms bonded together in its molecule or as the anion O<sub>2</sub><sup>2-</sup>. **ORIGIN** early 19th cent.: from **PER-** (sense 2) + **OXIDE**.

**per-ox-i-some** /pə'rəksi'səm/ **n.** Biology a small organelle that is present in the cytoplasm of many cells and that contains the reducing enzyme catalase and usually some oxidases.

DERIVATIVES **per-ox-i-so-mal** /-rəksi'səmə/ **adj.**

ORIGIN 1960s: from **PEROXIDE** + **-SOME**.

**perp** /pərp/ **n.** informal the perpetrator of a crime.

ORIGIN 1980s: abbreviation.

**perp.** **abbr.** perpendicular.

**per-pend** /pə'pend/ **n.** a vertical layer of mortar between two bricks.

**per-pen-dic-u-lar** /pə'pəndɪkylər/ **adj.** 1 at an angle of 90° to a given line, plane, or surface: dormers and gables that extend *perpendicular* to the main roofline. **ORIGIN** at an angle of 90° to the ground; vertical: the *perpendicular* cliff. **ORIGIN** (of something with a slope) so steep as to be almost vertical: guest houses seem to cling by faith to the *perpendicular* hillside.

2 (**Perpendicular**) denoting the latest stage of English Gothic church architecture, prevalent from the late 14th to mid 16th centuries and characterized by broad arches, elaborate fan vaulting, and large windows with vertical tracery: the handsome *Perpendicular* church of St. Andrew.

**ORIGIN** a straight line at an angle of 90° to a given line, plane, or surface: at each division, draw a *perpendicular* representing the surface line. **ORIGIN** (usu. the *perpendicular*) perpendicular position or direction: the wall declines from the *perpendicular* a little inward. **ORIGIN** an instrument for indicating the vertical line from any point, as a spirit level or plumb line.

DERIVATIVES **per-pen-dic-u-lar-i-ty** /-dɪkylərɪ'ti/ **n.**, **per-pen-dic-u-lar-ly** **adv.**

ORIGIN late Middle English (as an adverb meaning 'at right angles'): via Old French from Latin *perpendicularis*, from *perpendicularis* 'plumb line', from *per-* 'through' + *pendere* 'to hang'.

**per-pe-trate** /pə'pɛtrāt/ **v.** [with obj.] carry out or commit (a harmful, illegal, or immoral action): a crime has been *perpetrated* against a sovereign state.

DERIVATIVES **per-pe-tration** /pə'pɛtrəʃən/ **n.**, **per-pe-tra-tor** /-trə'tɔr/ **n.**

ORIGIN mid 16th cent.: from Latin *perpetrare* 'performed', from the verb *perpetrare*, from *per-* 'to completion' + *patrare* 'bring about'. In Latin the act perpetrated might be good or bad; in English the verb was first used in the statutes referring to crime, hence the negative association.

**USAGE** To perpetrate something is to commit it: the gang perpetrated outrages against several citizens. To perpetuate something is to cause it to continue or to keep happening: the stories only serve to perpetuate the legend that the house is haunted.

**per-pet-u-al** /pə'pɛtʃuəl/ **adj.** 1 never ending or changing: deep caves in *perpetual* darkness.

2 [attrib.] denoting a position, job, or trophy held for life rather than a limited period, or the person holding it: a *perpetual* secretary of the society. **ORIGIN** (of an investment) having no fixed maturity date; irredeemable: a *perpetual* bond.

2 occurring repeatedly, so frequent as to seem endless and uninterrupted: their *perpetual* money worries. **ORIGIN** (of a plant) blooming or fruiting several times in one season: he grows *perpetual* carnations.

DERIVATIVES **per-pet-u-al-ly** **adv.**

ORIGIN Middle English: from Old French *perpetuel*, from Latin *perpetuus*, from *perpetuus* 'continuing throughout', from *perpes*, *perpet-* 'continuous'.

**per-pet-u-al cal-en-dar** **n.** a calendar that can be adjusted to show any combination of day, month, and year, and is therefore usable year after year. **ORIGIN** a set of tables from which the day of the week can be reckoned for any date.

**per-pet-u-al check** **n.** Chess the situation of play when a draw is obtained by repeated checking of the king.

**per-pet-u-al mo-tion** **n.** a state in which movement or action is or appears to be continuous and unceasing. **ORIGIN** the motion of a hypothetical machine that, once activated, would run forever unless subject to an external force or to wear.

**per-pet-u-ate** /pə'pɛtʃuət/ **v.** [with obj.] make (something, typically an undesirable situation or an unfounded belief) continue indefinitely: the law perpetuated the interests of the ruling class.

**ORIGIN** early 16th cent.: from Latin *perpetuare* 'made permanent', from the verb *perpetuare*, from *perpetuus* 'continuing throughout' (see **PERPETUAL**).

**USAGE** See usage at **PERPETRATE**.

**per-pe-tu-i-ty** /pə'pɛtɪ'ti/ **n.** (pl. *perpetuities*) 1 a thing that lasts forever or for an indefinite period, in particular: **ORIGIN** a bond or other security with no fixed maturity date. **ORIGIN** a restriction making an estate inalienable perpetually or for a period beyond certain limits fixed by law. **ORIGIN** an estate so restricted.

2 the state or quality of lasting forever: he did not believe in the *perpetuity* of military rule.

PHRASES **in (or for) perpetuity** forever: all the Bonapartes were banished from France in *perpetuity*.

ORIGIN late Middle English: from Old French *perpetuite*, from Latin *perpetuitas*, from *perpetuus* 'continuing throughout' (see **PERPETUAL**).

**per-pet-u-um mo-bi-le** /pə'pɛtʃuəm'məbəl/ **n.** 1 Music a piece of fast-moving instrumental music consisting mainly of notes of equal length.

2 another term for **PERPETUAL MOTION**.

ORIGIN Latin, literally 'continuously moving (thing)', on the pattern of *primum mobile*.

**Per-pi-gnan** /pə'pɪ'gnæn/ **n.** a city in southern France, in the northeastern foothills of the Pyrenees, close to the border with Spain; pop. 117,500 (2006).

**per-plex** /pə'pleks/ **v.** [with obj.] (of something complicated or unaccountable) cause (someone) to feel completely baffled: she was *perplexed* by her husband's moodiness. **ORIGIN** dated complicate or confuse (a matter): they were *perplexing* a subject plain in itself.

ORIGIN late 15th cent. (as the adjective *perplexed*): from the obsolete adjective *perplex* 'bewildered', from Latin *perplexus* 'entangled', based on *plexus* 'interwoven', from the verb *plectere*.

**per-plex-ed** /pə'plekst/ **adj.** completely baffled; very puzzled: she gave him a *perplexed* look.

DERIVATIVES **per-plex-ed-ly** /-pleksɪdli/ **adv.**

**per-plex-ing** /pə'pleksɪŋ/ **adj.** completely baffling; very puzzling: a *perplexing* problem.

DERIVATIVES **per-plex-ing-ly** **adv.**

**per-plex-i-ty** /pə'pleksɪti/ **n.** (pl. *perplexities*) 1 inability to deal with or understand something complicated or unaccountable: she paused in *perplexity*. **ORIGIN** (usu. *perplexities*) a complicated or baffling situation or thing: the *perplexities* of international relations.

2 archaic an entangled state: the dense *perplexity* of dwarf palm, garlanded creepers, glossy undergrowth.

ORIGIN Middle English: from Old French *perplexite* or late Latin *perplexitas*, from Latin *perplexus* 'entangled, confused' (see **PERPLEX**).

**per pro.** /pə'prɒ/ **abbr.** per procuracionem (used when signing a letter on behalf of someone else; now usually abbreviated to **pp**).

ORIGIN Latin.

**per-qui-site** /pə'kwɪzɪt/ **n.** formal another term for **PERK**. **ORIGIN** a thing regarded as a special right or privilege enjoyed as a result of one's position: the wife of a president has all the *perquisites* of stardom.

historical a thing that has served its primary use and is then given to a subordinate or employee as a customary right.

ORIGIN late Middle English: from medieval Latin *perquisitum* 'acquisition', from Latin *perquirere* 'search diligently for', from *per-* 'thoroughly' + *quaerere* 'seek'.

**USAGE** *Perquisite* and *prerequisite* are sometimes confused. *Perquisite* usually means 'an extra allowance or privilege': he had all the *perquisites* of a movie star, including a stand-in. *Prerequisite* means 'something required as a condition': passing the examination was one of the *prerequisites* for a teaching position.

**Per-rault** /pə'rɔ/ **n.** Charles (1628-1703), French writer. He is noted for *Mother Goose Tales* (1697).

**Per-ri-er** /pə'rɪə/ (also **Perrier water**) **n.** trademark an effervescent natural mineral water sold as a drink.

ORIGIN from the name of a spring at Vergèze, France, from which this water comes.

**Per-rin** /pə'rɪn, pə'ræn/ **n.** Jean Baptiste (1870-1942), French physical chemist. He provided the definitive proof of the existence of atoms, proved that cathode rays are negatively charged, and investigated Brownian motion. Nobel Prize for Physics (1926).

**per-ron** /pə'rɒn, pə'rɒn/ **n.** Architecture an exterior set of steps and a platform at the main entrance to a large building such as a church or mansion.

ORIGIN late Middle English: from Old French, literally 'large stone', from Latin *petra* 'stone'.

**Per-ry** /pə'rɪ/ **n.** Fred (1909-95), US tennis player, born in Britain; full name Frederick John Perry. His record of winning three consecutive singles titles at Wimbledon (1934-36) was unequalled until 1979 when it was broken by Björn Borg.

**per-ry** /pə'rɪ/ **n.** (pl. *perries*) an alcoholic drink made from the fermented juice of pears.

ORIGIN Middle English: from Old French *pere*, from an alteration of Latin *pirum* 'pear'.

**pers.** **abbr.** person. personal.

**per se** /pə'sə/ **adv.** by or in itself or themselves; intrinsically: it is not these facts *per se* that are important.

ORIGIN Latin.

**per-se-cute** /pə'se'kyʊt/ **v.** [with obj.] subject (someone) to hostility and ill-treatment, esp. because of their race or political or religious beliefs: his followers were *persecuted* by the authorities.

**ORIGIN** harass or annoy (someone) persistently: Hilda was *persecuted* by some of the other girls.

DERIVATIVES **per-se-cu-tor** /-kyʊ'tɔr/ **n.**, **per-se-cu-to-ry** /-kyʊ'tɔrɪ/ **adj.**

ORIGIN late Middle English: from Old French *persecuter*, from Latin *persecut-* 'followed with hostility', from the verb *persequi*, from *per-* 'through, utterly' + *sequi* 'follow, pursue'.

**per-se-cu-tion** /pə'se'kyʊʃən/ **n.** hostility and ill-treatment, esp. because of race or political or religious beliefs: her family fled religious persecution. **ORIGIN** persistent annoyance or harassment: his persecution at the hands of other students.

**per-se-cu-tion com-plex** **n.** an irrational and obsessive feeling or fear that one is the object of collective hostility or ill-treatment on the part of others.

**Per-se-ids** /pə'seɪdz/ **n.** Astronomy an annual meteor shower radiating from a point in the constellation Perseus, reaching a peak about August 12.

**Per-seph-o-ne** /pə'sefəni/ **n.** Greek Mythology a goddess, the daughter of Zeus and Demeter. Roman name **PROSERPINA**.

**USAGE** She was carried off by Hades and made queen of the underworld. Demeter, vainly seeking her, refused to let the earth produce its fruits until her daughter was restored to her, but because Persephone had eaten some pomegranate seeds in the other world, she was obliged to spend part of every year there. Her story symbolizes the return of spring and the life and growth of grain.

**Per-sep-o-lis** /pə'sepəlɪs/ **n.** a city in ancient Persia, northeast of Shiraz. It was founded in the late 6th century BC by Darius I as the ceremonial capital of Persia under the Achaemenid dynasty.

**Per-se-us** /pə'seəs, -sɪdɪs/ **n.** 1 Greek Mythology the son of Zeus and Danae, a hero celebrated for many achievements. Riding the winged horse Pegasus, he cut off the head of the Gorgon Medusa and gave it to Athena; he also rescued and married Andromeda, and became king of Tiryns in Greece.

2 Astronomy a large northern constellation that includes a dense part of the Milky Way. It contains several star clusters and the variable star Algol.

**ORIGIN** (as genitive *Persei*) /pə'seɪ/ used with a preceding