

Second College Edition

The
American
Heritage
Dictionary



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less, spontaneously flammable poisonous gas, PH_3 , having a

NLat. *Teleostomi*, group name (Gk. *teleos*, complete + *stoma*, mouth.)

tele-a-thy (tə-lēp'ə-thē) *n.* Communication through means other than the senses, as by the exercise of mystical powers. —**tele-a-thy** (tēl'ə-pāth'ik) *adj.* —**tele-a-thy** *adv.* —**tele-a-thist** *n.*

tele-phone (tēl'ə-fōn') *n.* An instrument that directly modulates carrier waves with voice or other acoustic source signals to be transmitted to remote locations and that directly reconverts received waves into audible signals, esp. such an instrument connected to others by wire. —**phoned**, **-phon-ing**, **-phones**. —*tr.* 1. To communicate with by telephone. 2. To call (someone) on the telephone. 3. To transmit by telephone. —*intr.* To communicate by telephone. —**tele-phoner** *n.*

telephone book *n.* A directory of the names of telephone subscribers with corresponding addresses and telephone numbers.

telephone booth *n.* A small enclosure containing a public telephone.

telephone exchange *n.* Any of numerous central systems of switches and other equipment that establish connections between individual telephones.

telephone receiver *n.* The part of a telephone in which incoming electrical impulses are converted into sound.

tele-phon-ic (tēl'ə-fōn'ik) *adj.* 1. Of or pertaining to a telephone. 2. Transmitted or conveyed by a telephone. —**tele-phon-ic-ly** *adv.*

teleph-o-ny (tə-lēf'ə-nē) *n.* 1. The electrical transmission of sound between distant stations, esp. by radio or telephone. 2. The technology and manufacture of telephone equipment.

tele-photo (tēl'ə-fō'tō) *adj.* 1. Of or pertaining to a photographic lens or lens system used to produce a large image of a distant object. 2. A telephotograph (sense 1).

tele-photo-graph (tēl'ə-fō'tə-grāf) *n.* 1. A photograph made with a telephoto lens. 2. A photograph transmitted and reproduced by telephotography. —*tr.v.* **-graphed**, **-graph-ing**, **-graphs**. 1. To photograph with a telephoto lens. 2. To transmit by telephotography.

tele-photo-tog-ra-phy (tēl'ə-fō'tōg'rā-fē) *n.* 1. The process or technique of photographing distant objects, using a telephoto lens on a camera. 2. The technique or process of transmitting charts, pictures, and photographs over a distance. —**tele-photo-to-graph-ic** (fō'tə-grāf'ik) *adj.*

tele-play (tēl'ə-plā') *n.* A play written or adapted for television.

tele-print-er (tēl'ə-prīn'tər) *n.* A teletypewriter.

tele-proc-ess-ing (tēl'ə-prōs'ēs-ing, -prō'sēs'-) *n.* Computer service by means of terminals remote from the central computer.

Tele-Promp-Ter (tēl'ə-prōmp'tər) *n.* A trademark for a device used in television to show an actor or speaker an enlarged line-by-line reproduction of a script, unseen by the audience.

tele-ran (tēl'ə-rān') *n.* An air-traffic control system in which the image of a ground-based radar unit is televised to aircraft in the vicinity so that a pilot may see his position in relation to other aircraft. [Orig. a trademark.]

tele-scope (tēl'ə-skōp') *n.* An instrument for collecting and examining electromagnetic radiation, esp.: 1. An arrangement of lenses or mirrors or both that gathers visible light, permitting direct observation or photographic recording of distant objects. 2. Any of various devices, such as a radio telescope, used to detect and observe distant objects by their emission, transmission, reflection, or other interaction with invisible radiation. —*v.* **-scoped**, **-scop-ing**, **-scopes**. —*tr.* 1. To cause to slide inward or outward in overlapping sections, as the cylindrical sections of a small hand telescope. 2. To make shorter or more precise; condense. —*intr.* To slide inward or outward in or as if in overlapping cylindrical sections. [NLat. *telescopium* or Ital. *telescopio*, both < Gk. *teleskopos*, far seeing: *tēle*, at a distance + *skopos*, watcher.]

tele-scop-ic (tēl'ə-skōp'ik) *adj.* 1. Of or pertaining to a telescope. 2. Seen or obtained by means of a telescope: *telescopic data*. 3. Visible only by means of a telescope: *a telescopic binary star*. 4. Able to discern distant objects: *telescopic vision*. 5. Extensible or compressible by or as if by the successive sliding of overlapping concentric tubular sections. —**tele-scop-ic-ly** *adv.*

Tele-sco-pi-um (tēl'ə-skōp'ē-əm) *n.* A constellation in the Southern Hemisphere near Pavo and Sagittarius. [NLat. < *telescopium*, telescope.]

tele-sco-py (tə-lēs'kə-pē) *n.* The art or study of making and operating telescopes. —**tele-scop-ist** *n.*

tele-ster-e-o-scope (tēl'ə-stēr'ē-ə-skōp', -stīr'-) *n.* A binocular telescope for stereoscopic viewing of distant objects.

tel-es-the-sia also **tel-aes-the-sia** (tēl'is-thē'zhā) *n.* Response to or perception of distant stimuli by extrasensory means. —**tel-es-the-tic** (-thēt'ik) *adj.*

tele-text (tēl'ə-tēkst') *n.* An electronic communication system in which printed information is broadcast by television signal to sets equipped with a decoder.

tele-ther-mo-scope (tēl'ə-thūr'mə-skōp') *n.* An apparatus

for indicating or recording the temperatures of distant or inaccessible locations.

tele-thon (tēl'ə-thōn') *n.* A long, continuous television program, usually to raise funds for charity. [TELE- + (MARA)-THON.]

tele-tran-scrip-tion (tēl'ə-trān-skrip'shən) *n.* The transcription of television programs by means of a kinescope or video tape.

Tele-type (tēl'ə-tīp'). A trademark for a teletypewriter.

tele-type-writer (tēl'ə-tīp'rī'tər) *n.* An electromechanical typewriter that either transmits or receives messages coded in electrical signals carried by telegraph or telephone wires.

teleu-to-spore (tə-lōō'tə-spōr', -spōr') *n.* A teliospore. [Gk. *teleutē*, termination (< *telos*, end) + *SPORE*.] —**teleu-to-spore-ic** *adj.*

tele-vise (tēl'ə-vīz') *tr.* & *intr. v.* **-vised**, **-vis-ing**, **-vis-es**. To broadcast by television. [Back-formation < TELEVISION.]

tele-vi-sion (tēl'ə-vīzh'ən) *n.* 1. The transmission of visual images of moving and stationary objects, generally with accompanying sound, as electromagnetic waves and the re-conversion of received waves into visual images. 2. a. An electronic apparatus that receives electromagnetic waves and displays the reconverted images on a screen. b. The integrated audible and visible content of the electromagnetic waves received and converted by such an apparatus. 3. The industry of broadcasting television programs. [Fr. *télévision*: *télé-*, *tele-* + *vision*, vision.]

tele-vi-sor (tēl'ə-vīzər) *n.* A television transmitter.

tel-ex (tēl'ēks') *n.* 1. A communication system consisting of teletypewriters connected to a telephonic network to send and receive signals. 2. A message sent or received by such a system. —*tr.v.* **-exed**, **-ex-ing**, **-ex-es**. To send (a message) by tel-ex. [TEL(ETYPewriter) + EX(CHANGE).]

tel-ic (tēl'ik, tēl'ik) *adj.* Directed or tending toward a goal or purpose; purposeful. [Gk. *telikos*, final < *telos*, end.]

te-li-o-spore (tēl'ē-ə-spōr', -spōr') *n.* A thick-walled, blackish resting spore of rusts and smuts, from which the basidium arises. [TEL(IUM) + *SPORE*.] —**te-li-o-spore-ic** *adj.*

te-li-um (tēl'ē-əm) *n.*, *pl.* **-i-a** (-lē-ə). A blackish, pustulelike structure formed on the tissue of a plant infected by a rust fungus, and giving rise to teliospores. [NLat. < Gk. *teleios*, complete < *telos*, end.] —**te-li-al** *adj.*

tell (tēl) *v.* **told** (tōld), **telling**, **tells**. —*tr.* 1. To give a detailed account of; narrate. 2. To communicate by speech or writing; express with words: "When in doubt tell the truth" (Mark Twain). 3. To make known to; notify; inform. 4. To make known; reveal: *tell fortunes*. 5. To command; order: *Do what I tell you*. 6. To assure in an emphatic way: *I tell you, he's an honest man*. 7. To discover by observation; discern; identify. 8. To say (a rosary). —*intr.* 1. To give an account, enumeration, or description. 2. To give evidence or indication. 3. To have an effect or impact: *In this game every move tells*. —**phrasal verbs**. **tell off**. 1. To count and set apart, esp. aloud. 2. *Informal*. To rebuke severely. **tell on**. *Informal*. To inform against; tattle on. —**idiom**. **all told**. Including everyone or everything; in all. [ME *tellen* < OE *tellan*.] —**te-li-a-ble** *adj.*

tel-er (tēl'ər) *n.* 1. One who tells. 2. A bank employee who receives and pays out money. 3. A person appointed to count votes in a legislative assembly. —**tel-er-ship** *n.*

tell-ing (tēl'ing) *adj.* 1. Having force or effect; striking. 2. Full of special meaning; revealing: *a telling illustration of his selfishness*. —**tell-ing-ly** *adv.*

tell-tale (tēl'tāl') *n.* 1. One who informs on another person; talebearer. 2. Something that indicates or reveals information; sign. 3. Any of various devices that indicate or register information, esp.: a. A time clock. b. A device indicating the position of a ship's rudder. c. A row of strips hung above a railroad track to warn an approaching train of a low clearance ahead. 4. A metal strip, 2 or 2½ feet high, across the bottom of the front wall of a racquets or squash court above which the ball must be hit.

tellur- *pref.* Variant of **telluro-**.

tel-lu-ri-an (tē-lōōr'ē-ən) *adj.* Of, pertaining to, or inhabiting the earth. —*n.* 1. An inhabitant of the earth; a terrestrial. 2. Variant of **tellurian**.

tel-lu-ric (tē-lōōr'ik) *adj.* 1. Of or relating to the earth; terrestrial. 2. Derived from or containing tellurium, esp. with valence 6.

telluric acid *n.* A white, crystalline inorganic acid, H_6TeO_4 , used as a chemical reagent.

tel-lu-ride (tēl'yā-rīd') *n.* A binary compound of tellurium.

tel-lu-ri-on (tē-lōōr'ē-ōn') also **tel-lu-ri-an** (-ən) *n.* An instrument that shows how the movement of the earth on its axis and around the sun causes day and night and the seasons.

tel-lu-ri-um (tē-lōōr'ē-əm) *n.* *Symbol* **Te** A brittle, silvery-white metallic element, occurring naturally combined with gold and other metals, produced commercially as a by-product of the electrolytic refining of copper, and used to alloy stainless steel and lead, in ceramics, and, in the form of bismuth telluride, in thermoelectric devices. Atomic number 52; atomic weight 127.60; melting point 449.5°C; boiling point 989.8°C; specific gravity 6.24; valences 2, 4, 6.

telluro- or **tellur-** *pref.* 1. Earth: *tellurian*. 2. Tellurium: *tellurous*. [< Lat. *tellus*, *tellur-*, earth.]



telescope