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porterhouse • posterity

employed (as at a terminal) to carry baggage **2** : an attendant in a railroad car **3** : a dark heavy ale

porterhouse \ˈpɔr-tər-ˈhaʊs\ *n* : a choice beefsteak with a large tenderloin

port-folio \ˈpɔrt-ˈfɒ-lē-ō\ *n*, *pl* -**lios** **1** : a portable case for papers or drawings **2** : the office and functions of a minister of state **3** : the securities held by an investor

port-hole \ˈpɔrt-ˈhɒl\ *n* : an opening (as a window) in the side of a ship or aircraft

port-ico \ˈpɔr-ti-ˈkɒ\ *n*, *pl* -**coes** or -**cos** [It] : a row of columns supporting a roof around or at the entrance of a building

1portion \ˈpɔr-shən\ *n* **1** : one's part or share (a ~ of food) **2** : DOWRY **3** : an individual's lot **4** : a part of a whole (a ~ of the sky)

2portion *vb* **1** : to divide into portions **2** : to allot to as a portion

port-land cement \ˈpɔrt-lænd-\ *n* : a cement made by calcining and grinding a mixture of clay and limestone

port-ly \ˈpɔrt-lē\ *adj* **port-li-er**; -**est** : somewhat stout

port-man-teau \ˈpɔrt-ˈman-tō\ *n*, *pl* -**teaus** or -**teaux** \-tō\ [MF *portemanteau*, fr. *porter* to carry + *man-teau* mantle, fr. L. *mantellum*] : a large traveling bag

port of call : an intermediate port where ships customarily stop for supplies, repairs, or transshipment of cargo

port of entry **1** : a place where foreign goods may be cleared through a customs house **2** : a place where an alien may enter a country

portrait \ˈpɔr-trət, -strāt\ *n* : a picture (as a painting or photograph) of a person usu. showing the face

portrait-ist \-trə-tist\ *n* : a maker of portraits

portrait-ure \ˈpɔr-trə-ˈchʊr\ *n* : the practice or art of making portraits

port-tray \ˈpɔr-ˈtrā\ *vb* **1** : to make a picture of : **DEPICT** **2** : to describe in words **3** : to play the role of — **port-tray-al** *n*

Port-gu-ese \ˈpɔr-ˈchə-ˈgēz, -ˈgēs; ˈpɔr-ˈchə-ˈgēz, -ˈgēs\ *n*, *pl* Portuguese **1** : a native or inhabitant of Portugal **2** : the language of Portugal and Brazil — **Portuguese** *adj*

Portuguese man-of-war *n* : any of several large colonial marine invertebrate animals related to the jellyfishes and having a large sac by which the colony floats at the surface

port-u-laca \ˈpɔr-ˈchə-ˈla-kə\ *n* : a tropical succulent herb cultivated for its showy flowers

pos *abbr* **1** position **2** positive

1pose \ˈpɔz\ *vb* **posed**; **pos-ing** **1** : to assume or cause to assume a posture usu. for artistic purposes **2** : to set forth : **PROPOSE** (~ a question) **3** : to affect an attitude or character

2pose *n* **1** : a sustained posture; *esp* : one assumed by a model **2** : an attitude assumed for effect : **PRETENSE**

1poser \ˈpɔ-zər\ *n* : a puzzling question

2poser *n* : a person who poses

po-seur \ˈpɔ-ˈzər\ *n* [F, lit., poser] : an affected or insincere person

posh \ˈpəʃ\ *adj* : **FASHIONABLE**

pos-it \ˈpə-zət\ *vb* : to assume the existence of : **POSTULATE**

pos-i-tion \ˈpə-ˈzi-shən\ *n* **1** : an arranging in order **2** : the stand taken on a question **3** : the point or area occupied by something : **SITUATION** **4** : a certain arrangement of bodily parts (exercise in a sitting ~) **5** : **RANK**, **STATUS** **6** : **EMPLOYMENT**, **JOB** — **pos-i-tion** *vb*

1pos-i-tive \ˈpə-ˈzə-tiv\ *adj* **1** : expressed definitely (her answer was a ~ *no*) **2** : **CONFIDENT**, **CERTAIN** **3** : of, relating to, or constituting the degree of grammatical comparison that denotes no increase in quality, quantity, or relation **4** : not fictitious : **REAL** **5** : active and effective in function (~ leadership) **6** : having the light and shade as existing in the original subject (a ~ photograph) **7** : numerically greater than zero (a ~

number) **8** : being, relating to, or charged with electricity of which the proton is the elementary unit **9** : **AFFIRMATIVE** (a ~ response) — **pos-i-tively** *adv* — **pos-i-tiveness** *n*

2positive *n* **1** : the positive degree or a positive form in a language **2** : a positive photograph

pos-i-tron \ˈpə-ˈzə-ˈstrən\ *n* : a positively charged particle having the same mass and magnitude of charge as the electron

poss *abbr* possessive

pos-se \ˈpə-sē\ *n* [ML *posse comitatus*, lit., power or authority of the county] : a body of persons organized to assist a sheriff in an emergency

pos-sess \ˈpə-ˈzēs\ *vb* **1** : to have as property : **OWN** **2** : to have as an attribute, knowledge, or skill **3** : to enter into and control firmly (~ed by a devil) — **pos-sessor** \-ˈzē-sər\ *n*

pos-session \-ˈzē-shən\ *n* **1** : control or occupancy of property **2** : **OWNERSHIP** **3** : something owned : **PROPERTY** **4** : domination by something (as an evil spirit, a passion, or an idea) **5** : **SELF-CONTROL**

pos-ses-sive \ˈpə-ˈzē-siv\ *adj* **1** : of, relating to, or constituting a grammatical case denoting ownership **2** : showing the desire to possess (a ~ nature) — **pos-sessive** *n* — **pos-ses-siveness** *n*

pos-si-ble \ˈpə-sə-bəl\ *adj* **1** : being within the limits of ability, capacity, or realization **2** : being something that may or may not occur (~ dangers) **3** : able or fitted to become (a ~ site for a bridge) — **pos-si-bil-i-ty** \ˈpə-sə-ˈbi-lə-tē\ *n* — **pos-si-bly** \ˈpə-sə-blē\ *adv*

pos-sum \ˈpə-səm\ *n* : **OPOSSUM**

1post \ˈpɒst\ *n* **1** : an upright piece of timber or metal serving esp. as a support : **PILLAR** **2** : a pole or stake set up as a mark or indicator

2post *vb* **1** : to affix to a usual place (as a wall) for public notices **2** : to publish or announce by or as if by a public notice (~ grades) **3** : to forbid (property) to trespassers by putting up a notice **4** : **SCORE** **4**

3post *n* **1** *obs* : **COURIER** **2** chiefly *Brit* : **MAIL**; also : **POST OFFICE**

4post *vb* **1** : to ride or travel with haste : **HURRY** **2** : **MAIL** (~ a letter) **3** : to enter in a ledger **4** : **INFORM** (kept him ~ed on new developments)

5post *n* **1** : the place at which a soldier is stationed; *esp* : a sentry's beat or station **2** : a station or task to which a person is assigned **3** : the place at which a body of troops is stationed : **CAMP** **4** : **OFFICE**, **POSITION** **5** : a trading settlement or station

6post *vb* **1** : to station in a given place **2** : to put up (as bond)

post-age \ˈpɒs-tij\ *n* : the fee for postal service; also : stamps representing this fee

post-al \ˈpɒst-əl\ *adj* : of or relating to the mails or the post office

postal card *n* : **POSTCARD**

postal service *n* : a government agency or department handling the transmission of mail

post-card \ˈpɒst-ˈkɑrd\ *n* : a card on which a message may be written for mailing without an envelope

post chaise *n* : a 4-wheeled closed carriage for two to four persons

post-date \ˈpɒst-ˈdæt\ *vb* : to date with a date later than that of execution (~ a check)

post-doc-tor-al \ˈdɒk-tər-əl\ *also* **post-doc-tor-ate** \-tə-rət\ *adj* : of, relating to, or engaged in advanced academic or professional work beyond a doctor's degree

post-er \ˈpɒs-tər\ *n* : a bill or placard for posting often in a public place

1pos-teri-or \ˈpɒ-ˈstir-ē-ər, pə-\ *adj* **1** : later in time **2** : situated behind

2pos-teri-or \ˈpə-ˈstir-ē-ər, pə-\ *n* : the hinder bodily parts; *esp* : **BUTTOCKS**

pos-ter-i-ty \ˈpə-ˈster-ə-tē\ *n* **1** : the descendants from one ancestor **2** : all future generations