



RANDOM HOUSE  
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RANDOM HOUSE  
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## NDA to neck

**NDA**, nondisclosure (confidentiality) agreement.

**N.Dak.**, North Dakota.

**nde**, near-death experience. Also, **NDE**

**N'Dja-me-na** (än jä mä'nä), *n.* the capital of Chad, in the SW part.

511,700. Formerly, **Fort-Lamy**.

**Ndo-la** (än dö'lä), *n.* a city in N Zambia. 418,142.

**Ndon-go** (än döng'gō), *n.*, *pl.* **-gos**, (*esp. collectively*) **-go**. MBUNDU (def. 1).

**NE**, 1. Nebraska. 2. northeast. 3. northeastern.

**Ne**, *Chem. Symbol.* neon.

**ne-**, var. of **neo-** before a vowel: *neencephalon*.

**N.E.**, 1. naval engineer. 2. New England. 3. northeast. 4. northeastern.

**n.e.**, 1. northeast. 2. northeastern.

**NEA** or **N.E.A.**, 1. National Education Association. 2. National Endowment for the Arts.

**Ne-an-der-thal** (nē än'dər thōl', nā än'dər täl'), *adj.* 1. Also, **Ne-an-der-tal'** (-tōl', -täl'). of or pertaining to Neanderthal man. 2. (*often* *L.c.*) primitive, unenlightened, or reactionary. —*n.* 3. NEANDERTHAL MAN. 4. (*often* *L.c.*) an unenlightened, old-fashioned, or reactionary person. [1860-65; after *Neanderthal*, valley in Germany where evidence of Neanderthal man was first found] —**Ne-an-der-thal'er**, *n.*

**Neanderthal man**, *n.* a member of an extinct subspecies of humans, *Homo sapiens neanderthalensis*, that inhabited Europe and W and central Asia c100,000-40,000 B.C. [1860-65]

**neap** (nēp), *adj.* 1. designating those tides, midway between spring tides, that attain the least height. —*n.* 2. neap tide. [bef. 900; ME *neep*, OE *nēp*, in *nēpflōd* neap tide]

**Ne-a-pol-i-tan** (nē'a pol'i tē), *adj.* 1. of or pertaining to Naples or its inhabitants. —*n.* 2. a native or inhabitant of Naples. [1375-1425]

**near** (nēr), *adv.* and *adj.* **near-er**, **near-est**, *prep.*, *v.* —*adv.* 1. at, within, or to a short distance; close in space. 2. close in time: *The new year draws near*. 3. closely with respect to connection, similarity, etc. (*often* used in combination): *a near-standing position*. 4. almost; nearly: *a period of near 30 years*. 5. *Naut.* close to the wind. 6. *Archaic.* in a thrifty or stingy manner. —*adj.* 7. being close by; not distant: *the near fields*. 8. being the lesser in distance: *the near side*. 9. short or direct: *the near road*. 10. close in time: *the near future*. 11. closely related or connected: *our nearest relatives*. 12. close to an original: *a near translation*. 13. intimate or familiar: *a near and dear friend*. 14. narrow or close: *a near escape*. 15. thrifty or stingy. 16. (of a vehicle, single animal, or pair of animals hitched side by side) designating the left as seen from the rider's or driver's viewpoint (opposed to *off*). —*prep.* 17. at, to, or within a short distance, or no great distance, from: *regions near the equator*. 18. close to in time: *near the beginning of the year*. 19. close to a condition or state: *to be near death*. —*v.t.*, *v.i.* 20. to come or draw near; approach. —*Idiom.* 21. **near at hand**, *a.* in the immediate vicinity. *b.* in the near future. [bef. 900; ME *neare*, OE *nēar*, comp. of *nēah* *nigh*] —**near-ness**, *n.*

**near/beer**, *n.* a malt beverage similar to beer but containing less than 1/2 percent alcohol. [1905-10, *Amer.*]

**near-by** (nēr'bi'), *adj.* 1. close at hand; adjacent; neighboring. —*adv.* 2. in the vicinity; close by. [1425-75]

**Ne-arctic** (nē ärk'tik, -är'), *adj.* belonging to a zoogeographical division comprising temperate Greenland and arctic North America, sometimes including high mountainous regions of the northern Temperate Zone. [1855-60]

**near-death/ experience**, *n.* any experience involving a vision, as of the afterlife, reported by a resuscitated person.

**Near East**, *n.* a geographical region usu. considered to encompass the countries of SW Asia, including Turkey, Lebanon, Syria, Iraq, Israel, Jordan, Saudi Arabia, and the other nations of the Arabian Peninsula. Compare **MIDDLE EAST** (def. 1). —**Near/ East/ern**, *adj.*

**near-ly** (nēr'lē), *adv.* 1. all but; almost: *nearly dead with cold*; *a plan nearly like our own*. 2. with close approximation: *a nearly perfect likeness*. 3. with close kinship, interest, or connection; intimately.

**near/ miss/** or **near-/miss**, *n.* 1. a strike by a missile that is not a direct hit. 2. the narrow avoidance of a collision. 3. something that falls narrowly short of its object.

**near-point**, *n.* the point nearest the eye at which an object is clearly focused on the retina when accommodation of the eye is at a maximum. Compare **FAR-POINT**. [1875-80]

**near-sight-ed** (nēr'sī'tid, -sī'), *adj.* 1. seeing distinctly at a short distance only; myopic. 2. SHORTSIGHTED (def. 2). [1680-90] —**near-/sight-ed-ly**, *adv.* —**near/sight-ed-ness**, *n.*

**neat** (nēt), *adj.*, *-er*, *-est*, *adv.* —*adj.* 1. in a pleasingly orderly and clean condition: *a neat room*. 2. habitually orderly and clean in personal appearance or habits. 3. having a trim and graceful appearance, contour, style, etc.: *a neat figure*. 4. cleverly effective; skillful; adroit: *a neat solution*. 5. *Slang.* great; wonderful; fine: *What a neat car!* 6. STRAIGHT (def. 15). 7. NET (def. 1). —*adv.* 8. Informal. neatly. [1300-50; ME *net* spruce, trim, clean < MF < L *nitidus* shining, lustrous, der. of *nūt*(ēre) to shine] —**neat/ly**, *adv.* —**neat/ness**, *n.*

**neat** (nēt), *n.*, *pl.* **neat**. a bovine, as a cow or ox. [bef. 900; ME *net*(ē), OE *nēat*, c. OFris *nāt*, *naet*, D *noot*, OHG *nōz*, ON *naut*]

**neat-en** (nēt'n), *v.t.* to make neat. [1895-1900]

**neath** or **neath** (nēth, nēth), *prep.* Chiefly Literary. BENEATH. [1780-90]

**neat-herd** (nēt'hūrd'), *n.* *Obs.* COWHERD. [1350-1400]

**neat's-foot/ oil**, *n.* a pale yellow fixed oil made by boiling the feet and shinbones of cattle, used chiefly to dress leather. [1570-80]

**neb** (neb), *n.* NIB (def. 3). [bef. 900; ME *nebbe*, OE *nebb*, c. MD, MLG *nebbe*, ON *nēf*. Cf. NIB]

**Neb.**, Nebraska.

**neb-bish** (neb'ish), *n.* *Slang.* a pitifully ineffectual, inept, and timid person. [1890-95; < Yiddish *nebekh* poor, unfortunate, and timid; Slavic; cf. Czech *nebohy* poor] —**neb/bish-y**, *adj.*

**Ne-bo** (nē'bō), *n.* Mt. See under PISGAH.

**Nebr.**, Nebraska.

**Ne-bras-ka** (nā bras'kə), *n.* a state in the central United States. 1,656,870; 77,237 sq. mi. (200,044 sq. km). *Cap.*: Lincoln. *Abbr.*: NE.

**Nebr.**, *Nebr.* —**Ne-bras/kan**, *n.*, *adj.*

**Neb-u-chad-nez-zar** (neb'ə kad nez'ər, neb'yōō-), *n.* 1. Also, **Neb-u-chad-rez/zar** (-rez'ər), died 562? B.C., king of Babylonia 605?-562? B.C.: conqueror of Jerusalem. II Kings 24, 25. 2. (sometimes *L.c.*) a bot-

**neb-u-la** (neb'yə lə), *n.*, *pl.* **-lae** (-lē', -lī'), **-las**. 1. a. a cloud of interstellar gas and dust. *b.* (formerly) any distant celestial object that appears hazy or fuzzy. 2. *Pathol.* a. a faint opacity in the cornea. *b.* cloudiness in the urine. [1655-65; < L: a mist, vapor, cloud; akin to Gk *nephelē* cloud, G *Nebel* fog, haze] —**neb/u-lar**, *adj.*

**neb/ular hypothesis**, *n.* the theory that the solar system evolved from a mass of nebular matter. [1830-40]

**neb-u-lize** (neb'yə līz'), *v.t.*, *-lized*, *-lizing*. to reduce to fine spray; atomize. [1870-75] —**neb/u-liza-tion**, *n.* —**neb/u-liz'er**, *n.*

**neb-u-los-i-ty** (neb'yə los'i tē), *n.*, *pl.* **-ties**. 1. cloudy or cloudlike of being nebulous. [1755-65; < LL *nebulositas*]

**neb-u-lous** (neb'yə ləs), *adj.* 1. hazy, vague, indistinct, or confused. 2. cloudy or cloudlike. 3. of or resembling a nebula or nebulae; nebular. [1375-1425; late ME < L *nebulosus* full of mist, foggy, cloudy. See NEBULA, -ous] —**neb/u-lous-ly**, *adv.* —**neb/u-lous-ness**, *n.*

**ne-ces-sar-i-ly** (nes'ə sār'ə lē, -ser'), *adv.* 1. by or of necessity: *You don't necessarily have to attend*. 2. as a necessary, logical, or inevitable result: *That conclusion doesn't necessarily follow*. [1400-50]

**ne-ces-sar-y** (nes'ə ser'), *adj.*, *n.*, *pl.* **-saries**. —*adj.* 1. essential, indispensable, or requisite: *a necessary part of the motor*. 2. happening or existing by necessity; unavoidable: *a necessary change in our plans*. 3. acting or proceeding from compulsion or necessity; involuntary. 4. *Logic.* a. (of a proposition) such that a denial of it involves a self-contradiction. *b.* (of an inference or argument) such that its conclusion cannot be false if its supporting premises are true. *c.* (of a condition) such that it must exist if a given event is to occur or a given thing is to exist. Compare SUFFICIENT (def. 2). —*n.* 5. something necessary or requisite; necessity. 6. Chiefly New Eng. a privy or toilet. [1300-50; ME < L *necessarius* unavoidable, inevitable, needful] —**ne-c/ess-ar-i-ness**, *n.* —**Syn.** NECESSARY, REQUISITE, INDISPENSABLE, ESSENTIAL indicate something that cannot be done without. NECESSARY refers to something needed for existence, for proper functioning, or for a particular purpose: *Food is necessary for life*. SUGAR is a necessary ingredient in this recipe. REQUISITE refers to something required for a particular purpose or by particular circumstances: *She has the requisite qualifications for the job*. INDISPENSABLE means absolutely necessary to achieve a particular purpose or to complete or perfect a unit: *He made himself indispensable in the laboratory*. ESSENTIAL refers to something that is part of the basic nature or character of a thing and is vital to its existence or functioning: *Water is essential to life*.

**ne-ces-si-tar-i-an** (nə ses'i tār'ē ən), *n.* 1. a person who advocates or supports necessitarianism (disting. from *libertarian*). —*adj.* 2. pertaining to necessitarians or necessitarianism. [1790-1800]

**ne-ces-si-tar-i-an-ism** (nə ses'i tār'ē ə niz'əm), *n.* the doctrine that all events, including acts of the will, are determined by antecedent causes; determinism. [1850-55]

**ne-ces-si-tate** (nə ses'i tāt'), *v.t.*, **-tat-ed**, **-tat-ing**. 1. to make necessary or unavoidable. 2. to compel, oblige, or force. [1620-30; < ML *necessitatus*, ptp. of *necessitare* to compel, constrain. See NECESSITY, -ATE] —**ne-ces/si-ta-tion**, *n.* —**ne-ces/si-ta-tive**, *adj.*

**ne-ces-si-tous** (nə ses'i təs), *adj.* 1. needy; indigent. 2. essential or unavoidable. 3. requiring immediate attention or action; urgent: *necessitous demands*. [1605-15] —**ne-ces/si-tous-ly**, *adv.* —**ne-ces/si-tous-ness**, *n.*

**ne-ces-si-ty** (nə ses'i tē), *n.*, *pl.* **-ties**. 1. something necessary or indispensable: *food, shelter, and other necessities of life*. 2. the fact of being necessary or indispensable; indispensability: *the necessity of adequate housing*. 3. an imperative requirement or need for something: *a necessity for a quick decision*. 4. the state or fact of being necessary or inevitable: *to face the necessity of testifying in court*. 5. an unavoidable need or compulsion to do something: *not by choice but by necessity*. 6. a state of being in financial need; poverty: *a family in dire necessity*. 7. *Philos.* the quality of following inevitably from logical, physical, or moral laws. —*Idiom.* 8. **of necessity**, inevitably; unavoidably; necessarily. [1325-75; ME *necessite* < L *necessitas* = *ne-cess(e)* needful + *-itas* -ity]

**neck** (nek), *n.* 1. the part of the body that connects the head and the trunk. 2. the part of a garment encircling, partly covering, or closest to the neck; neckline. 3. the slender part near the top of a bottle, vase, or similar object. 4. the long, slender part of a violin or similar stringed instrument, extending from the body to the head. 5. any narrow, connecting, or projecting part suggesting a neck. 6. a narrow strip of land, as an isthmus. 7. a strait; channel. 8. a narrowed part of a bone, organ, or the like. 9. the slightly narrowed region of a tooth between the crown and the root. 10. the approximate length of a horse's head and neck, as indicating a margin of victory in a race. 11. **BEARD** (def. 5). 12. the solidified lava or igneous rock filling a conduit leading either to a vent of an extinct volcano or to a laccolith.