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vent or discourage from acting, as by means of fear or doubt. See Syns at *dissuade*. [Lat. *dēterrēre*, frighten away.] —*de•ter•ment* *n.*

de•ter•gent (dī-tūr'jənt) *n.* A cleansing substance made from chemical compounds rather than fats and lye. —*adj.* Having cleansing power. [Lat. *dētergēre*, wipe off.]

de•te•ri•o•rate (dī-tūr'ē-ə-rāt') *v.* -*rat•ed*, -*rat•ing*. 1. To diminish in quality or value. 2. To weaken or disintegrate. [Lat. *dēterior*, worse.] —*de•te•ri•o•ra•tion* *n.*

de•ter•mi•nant (dī-tūr'mā-nənt) *adj.* Determinative. —*n.* An influencing or determining factor.

de•ter•mi•nate (dī-tūr'mā-nīt) *adj.* 1. Precisely limited or defined; definite. 2. Conclusively settled; final.

de•ter•mi•na•tion (dī-tūr'mā-nā'shən) *n.* 1. *a.* The act of arriving at a decision. See Syns at *decision*. *b.* The decision reached. 2. Firmness of purpose; resolve. 3. The ascertaining or fixing of the quantity, quality, position, or character of something.

de•ter•mi•na•tive (dī-tūr'mā-nā'tīv, -nə-) *adj.* Tending, able, or serving to determine. See Syns at *decisive*. —*n.* A determining factor. —*de•ter•mi•na•tive•ly* *adv.*

de•ter•mine (dī-tūr'mīn) *v.* -*min•ed*, -*min•ing*. 1. To decide, establish, or ascertain definitely. See Syns at *discover*. 2. To cause to come to a conclusion or resolution; influence. 3. To limit; regulate. 4. To give direction to. [Lat. *dētermināre*, to limit < *terminus*, boundary.] —*de•ter•min•a•ble* *adj.* —*de•ter•min•a•bly* *adv.*

de•ter•mined (dī-tūr'mīnd) *adj.* Showing determination. —*de•ter•mined•ly* *adv.*

de•ter•min•er (dī-tūr'mā-nər) *n.* *Gram.* A word, such as *any*, *both*, or *whose*, occupying the first position in a noun phrase.

de•ter•min•ism (dī-tūr'mā-nīz'm) *n.* The philosophical doctrine that every event, act, and decision is the inevitable consequence of antecedents independent of the human will. —*de•ter•min•ist* *n.* —*de•ter•min•is•tic* *adj.*

de•ter•rent (dī-tūr'ənt, -tūr'-) *adj.* Tending to deter. —*n.* Something that deters. —*de•ter•rence* *n.*

de•test (ī-tēs t') *v.* To dislike intensely; abhor. [Lat. *dētestārī*, to curse.] —*de•test•a•ble* *adj.* —*de•test•a•bly* *adv.* —*de•tes•ta•tion* (dē'tē-stāshən) *n.*

de•throne (dē-thrōn') *v.* -*thron•ed*, -*thron•ing*. To remove from the throne; depose. —*de•throne•ment* *n.*

det•o•nate (dēt'n-āt') *v.* -*nat•ed*, -*nat•ing*. To explode or cause to explode. [Lat. *dētonāre*, thunder down.] —*det•o•na•tion* *n.* —*det•o•na•tor* *n.*

de•tour (dē'tōr', dī-tōr') *n.* A roundabout way, esp. a road used temporarily instead of a main route. —*v.* To go or cause to go by a detour. [OFr. *destorner*, turn away.]

de•tox (dē-tōks') *Informal.* *v.* To detoxify. —*n.* (dē'tōks'). A place where patients are detoxified.

de•tox•i•fy (dē-tōk'sə-fi') *v.* -*fied*, -*fy•ing*. 1. To remove poison or the effects of poison from. 2. To treat (an individual) for alcohol or drug dependence, usu. under medical supervision. —*de•tox•i•fi•ca•tion* *n.*

de•tract (dī-trākt') *v.* To take away (from); diminish. [Lat. *dētrahere*, *dētrāct-*.] —*de•trac•tion* *n.* —*de•trac•tor* *n.*

de•train (dē-trān') *v.* To leave or cause to leave a railroad train.

det•ri•ment (dēt'rā-mənt) *n.* 1. Damage, harm, or loss. See Syns at *disadvantage*. 2. Something that causes damage, harm, or loss. [Lat. *dētrīmentum*.] —*det•ri•men•tal* *adj.* —*det•ri•men•tal•ly* *adv.*

de•tri•tus (dī-trī'təs) *n., pl. -tus*. 1. Loose fragments or grains worn away from rock. 2. Debris; the detritus of past civilizations. [Lat. *dētrītus*.]

De•troit (dī-troit'). A city of SE MI opposite Windsor, Ontario. Pop. 1,027,974.

*deuce*¹ (dōōs, dyōōs) *n.* 1. A playing card or side of a die having two spots. 2. A tied score in tennis in which each player or side has 40 points. [Lat. *duōs*, two.]

*deuce*² (dōōs, dyōōs) *Informal.* *n.* The devil. Used as a mild oath. [Prob. < LGer. *duus*, a throw of two in dice games.]

deu•te•ri•um (dōō-tīr'ē-əm, dyōō-) *n.* A hydrogen isotope with an atomic weight of 2.014. [Gk. *deuteros*, second.]

Deu•ter•on•o•my (dōō'tə-rōn'ə-mē, dyōō'-) *n.* See table at Bible. [Gk. *deuteronomion*, second law.]

deut•sche mark also *deut•sche•mark* (doi'-chə-märk') *n.* See table at currency. [Ger., German mark.]

De Va•le•ra (dēv'ə-lēr'ə, -līr'ə), Eamon. 1882–1975. Amer.-born Irish political leader; first president of the Republic of Ireland (1959–73).

de•val•ue (dē-vāl'yōō) also *de•val•u•ate* (-vāl'yōō-āt') *v.* -*ued*, -*u•ing* also -*at•ed*, -*at•ing*. 1. To lessen the value of. 2. To lower the exchange value of (a currency). —*de•val•u•a•tion* *n.*

dev•as•tate (dēv'ə-stāt') *v.* -*tat•ed*, -*tat•ing*. 1. To lay waste; destroy. 2. To overwhelm; confound. [Lat. *vāstus*.] —*dev•as•ta•tion* *n.* —*dev•as•ta•tor* *n.*

de•vel•op (dī-vēl'əp) *v.* 1. To bring, grow, or evolve from latency to or toward fulfillment. See Syns at *mature*. 2. To expand or enlarge; elaborate. 3. To appear, disclose, or acquire. 4. To make available and usable. 5. To process (a photosensitive material), esp. with chemicals, to render a recorded image visible. [OFr. *desveloper*.] —*de•vel•op•er* *n.* —*de•vel•op•ment* *n.* —*de•vel•op•ment•al* *adj.* —*de•vel•op•men•tal•ly* *adv.*

Dev•er•eux (dēv'ə-rōō'), Robert. Second Earl of Essex. 1566–1601. English courtier; executed.

de•vi•ant (dē'vē-ənt) *adj.* Differing or deviating from accepted social or moral standards. —*de•vi•ance* *n.* —*de•vi•ant* *n.*

de•vi•ate (dē'vē-āt') *v.* -*at•ed*, -*at•ing*. To differ or move away from an established course, way, or prescribed mode of behavior. See Syns at *swerve*. —*n.* (-it). A deviant. [LLat. *dēviāre*.] —*de•vi•a•tion* *n.*

de•vice (dī-vīs') *n.* 1. Something designed for a particular purpose, esp. a machine. 2. A plan or scheme; trick. 3. A literary contrivance, such as parallelism or personification, used to achieve a particular effect. 4. A decorative design, figure, or pattern, as one used in embroidery. See Syns at *figure*.