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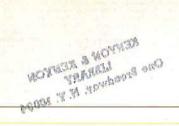
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class (klas, kläs), n. 1. a number of persons or things regarded as forming a group by reason of common attributes, characteristics, qualities, or traits, kind; sort a class of objects used in doily living. 2. a group of students meeting regularly to study a subject under the guidance of a teacher. The closes had arrived an time for the lecture. 3. the period during which a group of students meets for instruction. 4. a meeting of a group of students for instruction. 5. a classroom. 6. a number of pupils in a school, or of students in a college, pursuing the same studies, ranked together, or graduated in the same series? She graduated from Ohio State, class of 72. 7. a social stratum sharing basic economic, political, or cultural characteristics, and having the same social position. Artisons form a distinct class in some societies. 6. the system of dividing society, cast. 9. social rank, esphigh rank. 10, the members of a given group in society, regarded as a single entity. 12. any division of persons or things according to rank or grade: Hotels were listed by class, with the most luxurious ones listed first. 12. excellence; exceptional merit: She's a good performer, but she locks class. 13. Hinduism. any of the four social visions, the Brahman, Kshatriya, Vaisya, and Shudra, of Hindu society; varna. Cf. caste (def. 2). 14. Informal elegance, grace, or dignity, as in dress and behavior. He may be a slob, but his brother has real class. 15. any of several grades of accommodations available on ships, sirplanes, and the like: We bought tichets for first class. 16. Informal. the best or among the best of this new plane is the class of the wide-bodied airliners. 17. Biol. the usual major subdivision of a phylmor division in the classification of organisms, usually consisting of several orders. 18. Brit. Univ. any of three groups into which candidates for honors degrees are divided according to merit on the basis of final examinations. 19. drafted or conscription, all of whom were born in the same year. 20. Gram. See class (klas, klas), n. 1. a number of persons or things

class., 1. classic. 2. classical. 3. classification. 4. classified.

class/ act/, In garded as outstand mance. [1975-80] Informal. something or someone standing or elegant in quality or per

class' ac'tion, a legal proceeding in which persons representing interests common to a large group participate as representatives of the group or class. [1950-55]—class-ac-tion (klas-ak-shon, kläs-), adj.

class-book (klas'böók', kläs'-), n. 1. a book kept by a teacher recording student attendance, grades, etc. 2. a souvenir book of a graduating class, containing photographs, articles, etc. [1825-35, Amer.; CLASS + BOOK] class/ con/flict. See class struggle (def. 1). [1895-

class' con'sciousness, 1. awareness of one's social or economic rank in society. 2. a feeling of iden-tification and solidarity with those belonging to the same social or economic class as oneself. [1885-90] —class-con-scious (klas'kon'shee, kläs'-), adj.

olass' day', (sometimes cap.) a day during the commencement season on which the members of the graduating class in U.S. colleges and schools celebrate the completion of their course with special ceremonies. [1825-35, Amer.]

classic (classic), adj. 1. of the first or highest quality, class, or rank: a classic piece of work. 2. serving as a slandard, model, or guide: the classic method of teaching arithmetic. 3. of or pertaining to Greek and Romen antiquity, esp. with reference to licerature and art. 4. modeled upon or imitating the style or thought of ancient Greece and Rome: The 17th and 18th centuries were obsessed with classic ideals. 5. of or adhering to an established set of artistic or scientific standards or mothods: a classic example of mid-Victorian architecture. 6. basic, fundamental: the classic rules of warfare. 7. of enduring interest, quality, or style: a classic design; classic hounts of famous writers. 9. traditional or typical: a classic comedy routine. 10. definitive: the classic reference work on ornithology. 11. of or pertaining to automobiles distinguished by elegant styling, outstanding engineering, and fine workmanship that were built be tween about 1925 and 1946. —n. 1.2. an author or a literary work of the first rank, esp. one of demonstrably enduring quality. 13. an author or literary work of ancient Greece or Rome. 14. classics, the literature and languages of sancient Greece and Rome (often prec. by the). 15. an artist or artistic production considered a standard. 16. a work that is honored as definitive in its field: His handbook on mushrooms is a classic. 17. something noteworthy of its kind and worth remembering. His reply was a classic. 18. an article, as of clothing, utchanging in style: Her suit was a simple classic. 19. a typical or traditional event, esp. one that is considered to the highly prestigious or the most important of its kind; The World Series is the fall classic of basebal. 20. Archaic a classiciat. Also, classicat (for defs. 1-5. 8. 20). [1805-15; (< F classique) < L classicus belonging to

a class, belonging to the first or highest class, equiv. to class(is) CLASS + -icus -IC

a class, belonging to the first or highest class, equiv. to class(is) CLass + -icus -ic]
class-si-cal (kes'i ka). adj. 1. of, pertaining to, or characteristic of Greek and Roman antiquity: classical literature; classical languages. 2. conforming to ancient. Greek and Roman models in literature or art, or to later systems modeled upon them. 3. marked by classicism: classical simplicity. 4. Music. a. of, pertaining to, or constituting the formally and artistically more sophisticated and enduring types of music, as distinguished from popular and folk music and jazz. Classical music includes symphonies, operas, sonatas, song cycles, and lieder. b. of, pertaining to, characterized by, or adhering to the well-ordered, chiefly homophonic musical style of the latter half of the 18th and the early 19th centuries: Haydn and Mozart are classical composers. 5. Archit. a. noting or pertaining to the architecture of ancient Greece and Rome, esp. the religious and public architecture, characterized by the employment of orders. Cf. order (def. 27b). b. noting or pertaining the architecture of ancient Greece or Rome, neoclassic. c. noting or pertaining to architectural design) simple, reposeful, well-proportioned, or symmetrical in a manner suggesting the architectural design) simple, reposeful, well-proportioned, or ancient Greece and Rome. 6. (often cap.) pertaining to or designating the style of fine arts, esp. painting and sculpture, developed in Greece during the 8th and 4th centuries a.c., chiefly characterized by balanced composition, the separation of figures from an architectural design, spatial movement, and distribution of weight in a figure. Cf. archaic (def. 4), Hollenistic (def. 5). 7. of or pertaining to a style of literature and art characterized by conformity to established treatments, taste, or critical standards, and by attention to form with the general effect of regularity, simplicity, balance, proportion, and controlled emotion (contrasted with romantic). B. pertaining to or versed in the ancient classics:

clas/sical condi/tioning, conditioning (def. 2).

clas'sical economics, a system or school of economic thought developed by Adam Smith, Jeremy Bentham, Thomas Malthus, and David Ricardo, advocating minimum governmental intervention, free enterprise, and free trade, considering labor the source of wealth and dealing with problems concerning overpopulation.—clas'sical econ'omist.

Clas'sical Greek', 1. the form of Greek used in classical literature, esp. the literary Attic Greek of the 5th and 4th centuries B.C. 2. (loosely) ancient Greek.

Clas'sical Lat'in, the form of Latin used in classical literature, esp. the literary Latin of the 1st century B.C. and the 1st and 2nd centuries A.D.

and the 1st and 2nd centures A.D. Clast's ical mechan'/ ics, Physics. the branch of mechanics that is based on Newton's laws of motion and that is applicable to systems that are so large that Planck's constant can be regarded as negligibly small (distinguished from quantum mechanics). Also called Newtonian mechanics. [1850-36]

clas'sical Na/huati, Aztec (def. 2).

clas/sical San/skrit, Sanskrit of an ancient period earlier than that of the Prakrits and later than Vedic.

earlier than that of the Frakrits and later than Vedic. Olassis-foism (klas'o siz/om), n. 1. the principles or styles characteristic of the literature and art of ancient Greece and Rome. 2. adherence to such principles. 3. the classical style in literature and art, or adherence to its principles (contrasted with romanticism). Cf. classical (def. 7). 4. a Greek or Latin idiom or form, esp. one used in some other language. 5. classical scholarship or learning, Also, classicalistic (klas'e sis'tik), odi.

Clas-Si-cist (klas-o sist), n. 1. an adherent of classi-cism in literature or art (contrasted with romanticist). 2. an authority on the classics; a classical scholur. 3. a person who advocates study of the ancient Greek and Roman classics. Also, clas-si-cal-ist (klas-i ka list). [1820-30; classic + -ist]

clas-si-cize (klas'e siz'), v., -cized, -ciz-ing. —v.t. 1. to make classic. —v.i. 2. to conform to the classic style. Also, esp. Brit., clas'si-cise'. [1850-55; CLASSIC + -IZE] of make classic.—oi. 2. to comform to the classic syste. Also, esp. Brit., class'si-class' [1850-55; crassrc + -izr] classified. 3. one of the groups or classifying or being classified. 3. one of the groups or classes into which things may be or have been classified. 4. Biol. the assignment of organisms to groups within a system of categories distinguished by structure, origin, etc. The usual series of categories is phylum (or, esp. in botany, division), class, order, family, genus, species, and variety. See table under taxonomy. 5. the category, as restricted, confidential. secret, or top secret, to which information, a document, etc., is assigned, as, by a government or military agency, based on the degree of protection considered necessary to safeguard it from unauthorized use. 6. Library Science, any of various systems for arranging books and other materials, esp. according to subject or format. [1780-90; < L classi(s) class + FICATION] —clas-el-ficatory (kla sigi') is bör's, -bör's, klas's fi-or, esp. Brit., klas's fi kla'te rē), adj. —cla-sificator'i-ly, adv. —Glas-si-ficaton-el, adj.

Classified (klas's fid'), adj. — la arranged or dis-

classified (klas's fid'), adj. 1. arranged or distributed in classes or according to class: We plan to review all the classified specimens in the laboratory. 2. of or designating the part or parts of a publication that

contain advertisements or lists arranged by category. Look under "plumbers" in the classified pages of the telephone book. He found a job for a "typist" in the classified section of the newspaper. 3. (of information, a document, etc.) a bearing the designation classified be available only to authorized persons. Cf. classified bion (def. 5). 4. confidential or secret The firm's promotional budget for next year is classified information. 5. identified as belonging to a specific group or category, as one to which benefits or restrictions apply: Classified buildings are eligible for state-funded restoration. The bank has a list of classified customers to whom it will not make large loans. —n. 6. See classified at. [1885-90; 1940-45 for def. 3; CLASSIFY + -ED]

Glas/Siried ad, an advertisement in a newspaper, magazine, or the like generally dealing with offers of or requests for jobs, houses, apartments, used cars, and the like. Also called classified, classified advertise.

ment, want ad. [1905-10]

clas/sified ad/vertising, 1. classified ads collectively. 2. the business or practice of selling space for classified ads. 3. the department of a newspaper or other publication that handles classified advertising. [1930-35, Amer.]

(1830-30, Amer.)

(183-31-6r (klas/a fi/ar), n. 1. a person or thing that classifies. 2. a device for separating solids of different characteristics by controlled rates of settling. 3. Gran. (in Chinese, Japanese, and other languageo) a word or morpheme that corresponds to a semantic class of nouns and regularly accompanies any noun of that class in certain syntactic constructions, such as those of numeration.

[1810-20; classify + -er.]

Clas-Si-fy (klas'e fi'), v.t., -fied, -fy-ing. 1. to arrange or organize by classes; order according to class. 2. to assign a classification to (information, a document, etc.). Cf. classification (def. 5). 3. to limit the availability of (information, a document, etc.) to authorized persons. [1790-1800; < L classi(s) CLASS + -FY] —clas'si-fi'2-ble edi

ble, adj.
—Syn. 1. class, rank, rate, categorize, group.

Class' inclu'sion, Logic. the relation between two classes in which all members of one class are included in the other, as in the proposition "All humans are ani-mals."

class' in terval, Statistics, one of a set of intervals of arbitrary width into which the range of a sample of measurement is partitioned. [1925-30]

Classis (klas'is), n., pl. classes (klas'ēz). (in certain Reformed churches) 1. the organization of pastors and elders that governs a group of local churches; a presbytery. 2. the group of churches governed by such an organization. [1885-96; < L. class]

class-ism (klas/k sm), n. 1. a biased or discrimina-tory attitude based on distinctions made between social or economic classes. 2. the viewing of society as being composed of distinct classes. [1835-45; class + -ism]

class-less (klas'lis kläs'-), adj. 1. of or pertaining to a society in which there are no economic or social distinctions. 2. (of an individual) not having membership in a social or economic class or group. [1875-80; class + -less] —class'less-ness, n.

class/ mark/, Statistics. the midpoint of a class interval. [1885-90, for an earlier sense]

class-mate (klas/mat/, kläs/-), n. a member of the same class at a school or college. [1705-15, Amer.; Class + MATEI

thate'| Class' mean'ing, Gram. 1. the meaning of a grammatical category or a form class, common to all forms showing the category or to all members of the form class, as in the meaning of number common to all Latin nouns or the meaning of singular common to all Latin singular noun and verb forms. 2. the part of the meaning of a linguistic form that it has by virtue of membership in a particular form class, as the past tense meaning of ate. [1955-30]

class-room (klas/rōōm/, -rōōm/, klis/-), n. 1. a room, as in à school or college, in which classes are held, 2. any place where one learns or gains experience: The sea is the sailor's classroom. (1865-70, Amer.; class +

coard strug/gle, 1. Also called class conflict. con-flict between different classes in a community resulting from different social or economic positions and reflecting opposed interests. 2. Also called olses' war', cless' war'fara. (in Marxist thought) the struggle for political and economic power carried on between capitalists and workers. [1840-50]

class-work (klas/wurk/, klis/-), n. 1. the written or oral work done in a classroom by a student distinguished from homework). 2. the work done in a classroom by the students and teacher jointly. [CLASS +]

(klas'ē, klā'sē), adj., class-i-er, class-i-est Informal of high class, rank, or grade; stylish; admirably smart; elegant. [1890-95; class + -v1] —class'i-ness, n.

clast (klast), n. a grain of sediment, silt, sand, gravel, etc., esp. as a constituent fragment of a clastic rock formation, as distinguished from a chemical or biogenic component of such a formation. [1950-55; prob. back formation from clastic]

clas-tic (klas/tik), adj. 1. Biol. breaking up into frag-ments or separate portions; dividing into parts. 2. per-taining to an anatomical model made up of detachable pieces. 3. Geol. noting or pertaining to rock or rocks

CONCISE PRONUNCIATION KEY: act, cape, dâre, pärt; set, ēqual; if, īce; ox, ōuer, ōrder, oil, bōōk, bōōt, out; up, ūrge; child; sing; shoe; thith; th as in treasure. o = a as in olone, e as in system, is an easily, o as in gallop, u as in circus; "as in fire (f1°r), hour (ou'r). I and n can servo as syllable consonants, as in create (krād'), and button (but'n). See the full key inside the front cover.

plun/der-er, n. —plun/der-ing-ly, adv. —plun/derous, adj. —Syn. —Syn. 1. rape, ravage, sack, devastate. 5. rapine, robbery. 6. booty, spoils.

plun-der-age (plun/der ij), n. 1. act of plundering; pillage. 2. Law. a. the embezzlement of goods on board a ship. b. the goods embezzled. [1790-1800; PLUNDER + -AGE

a ship. b. the goods embezzled. [1790-1800; PLUNDER + -AGE]

plunge (pluni), v., plunged, plung-ing, n. —v.t. 1. to cast or thrust forcibly or suddenly into something, as a liquid, a penetrable substance, a place, etc.; immerse; submerge: to plunge a dagger into one's heart. 2. to bring suddenly or forcibly into some condition, situation, etc.: to plunge a country into war, to pull a switch and plunge a house into darkness. 3. Hort. to place (a potted plant) up to its rim in soil or in certain other materials, as sand or moss. 4. Survey, to transit (the telescope of a transit or theodolite). —v.i. 5. to cast oneself, or fall as if cast, into water, a hole, etc. 6. to rush or dash with headlong haste: to plunge through a crowd. 7. to bet or speculate recklessly: to plunge on the stock market. 8. to throw oneself impetuously or abruptly into some condition, situation, matter, etc.: to plunge into debt. 9. to descend abruptly or precipitously, as a cliff, road, etc. 10. to pitch violently forward, as a horse, ship, etc. —n. 11. act of plunging. 12. a leap or dive, as into water. 13. a headlong or impetuous rush or dash: a plunge into danger. 14. a sudden, violent pitching movement. 15. a place for plunging or diving, as a swimming pool. 16. Geol. pitch (def. 48). 17. take the plunge, to enter with sudden decision upon an unfamiliar course of action, as after hesitation or deliberation: She took the plunge and invested her entire savings in the plan. [1326-75, ME
MF plung()er << VL *plumbicāre to heave the lead.
Syn. 1. See dip¹. 5. dive. 6. hasten. 9. drop. See PLUMB]
—Syn. 1. See dip¹. 5. dive. 6. hasten. 9. drop.

plunge' ba'sin, a cavity at the base of a falls or cataract, formed by the action of the falling water. [1900-05] plunge' pool', the water in a plunge basin. [1915-20]

plunger poor, the water in a piunge basin. [1916-20] plunger (plun'jər), n. 1. Mach. a pistonlike reciprocating part moving within the cylinder of a pump or hydraulic device. 2. Auto. a pistonlike part in the valve of a pneumatic tire. 3. Also called force cup, plumber's friend, plumber's helper. a device consisting of a handle with a rubber suction cup at one end, used as a force pump to free clogged drains and toilet traps. 4. a person or thing that plunges. 5. a reckless bettor or speculator. [1605-15; plunger + -em²] plung'ing fire'. Mil. artillery or other fire that

plung/ing fire', Mil. artillery or other fire that strikes the ground at a steep angle, as from high ground overlooking the target or from a weapon fired at a high angle of elevation. [1870-75]

angle of elevation. [1870–75]

plunk (plungk), v.t. 1. to pluck (a stringed instrument or its strings); twang: to plunk a guitar. 2. to throw, push, put, drop, etc., heavily or suddenly; plump (often fol. by down): Plunk down your money. She plunked herself down on the seat. 3. to push, shove, toss, etc. (sometimes fol. by in, over, etc.): to plunk the ball over the net: to plunk a pencil into a drawer. —v.i. 4. to give forth a twanging sound. 5. to drop heavily or suddenly; plump (often fol. by down): to plunk down somewhere and take a nap. —n. 6. act or sound of plunking. 7. Informal. a direct, forcible blow. 8. Slang. a dollar. —adv. 9. Informal. with a plunking sound. 10. Informal. squarely; exactly: The tennis ball landed plunk in the middle of the net. [1760–70; expressive word akin to pluck]

plunk-er (plung/ker), n. 1. a person or thing that

plunk-er (plung/ker), n. 1. a person or thing that plunks. 2. Angling. a casting lure that makes a plunking sound upon hitting the surface of the water. [PLUNK]

plu-per-fect (ploo pûr/fikt), —adj. 1. Gram. a. per-fect with respect to a point of reference in past time, as had done in He had done it when I came. b. designating a tense or other verb formation or construction with such meaning, as Latin portāveram "I had carried." 2. more than perfect: He spoke the language with pluper-fect precision. —n. Gram. 3. a. the pluperfect tense, or other verb formation or construction with such meaning. b. a form in the pluperfect. [1520-30; < L plū(s quam) perfectum (more than) perfect, trans. of Gk hypersyntelikos]

plupf., pluperfect. Also, plup., pluperf.

plur., 1. plural. 2. plurality.

plural. 1. plural. 2. plurality.

plural (plòor/el), adj. 1. consisting of, containing, or pertaining to more than one. 2. pertaining to or involving a plurality of persons or things. 3. being one of such a plurality. 4. Gram. noting or pertaining to a member of the category of number, found in many languages, indicating that a word has more than one referent, as in English men, or more than two referents, as in Old English ge, meaning "you." —n. Gram. 5. the plural number. 6. a form in the plural. [1350-1400; ME < L plūrālis, equiv. to plūr, s. of plūs plus + -alis -Ali]

plural-ism (plòor/a liz/m). n. 1. Philos a. a theory

raits, equiv. to ptūr-, s. of ptūs ptus + -alis -Ali]

plu-rai-ism (plòor'e liz/em), n. 1. Philos. a. a theory
that there is more than one basic substance or principle.

Cf. dualism (def. 2), monism (def. 1a). b. a theory that
reality consists of two or more independent elements. 2.

Eccles. a. the holding by one person of two or more
offices at the same time. b. plurality (def. 7a). 3. Sociol.

Sec cultural pluralism. 4. state or quality of being plurai. [1810-20; plural + -ism) —plu/rai-ist, n., adj.
—plu/rai-ist(c, adj. —plu/rai-ist), adv.

plural-ist(c, adj. —plu/rai-ist).

plural-ist(c, adj. —plu/rai-ist).

plu-rai-is uc, aaj. —plu-rai-is u-cai-iy, aav.

plu-rai-i-ty (plŏo rai/i tē), n., pl. -ties. 1. the excess of votes received by the leading candidate, in an election in which there are three or more candidates, over those received by the next candidate (distinguished from majority). 2. more than half of the whole; the majority. 3. a number greater than one. 4. fact of being numerous. 5. a large number; multitude. 6. state or fact of being plu-

CONCISE ETYMOLOGY KEY: <, descended or borrowed from; >, whence; b., blend of, blended; c., cognate with; cf., compare; deriv, derivative; equiv., equivalent; imit., imitative; obl., obfique; r., replacing; s., stem; sp., spelling, spelled; resp., respelling, respelled; trans., translation; ?, origin unknown; *, unattested; ‡, probably earlier than. See the full key inside the front cover.

ral. 7. Eccles. a. the holding by one person of two or more benefices at the same time; pluralism. b. any of the benefices so held. [1325-75; ME pluralite < OF < LL pluralits. See ptural., -ITY]—Syn. 1. See majority.

plu-ral-ize (ploor/e liz/), v., -ized, -iz-ing. —v.t. 1. to express in the plural form; make plural: to pluralize a noun. —v.i. 2. to receive or take a plural form. Also, esp. Brit., plu/ral-ise/. [1795-1805; PLURAL + -IZE]—plu/ral-iz/a-ble, adj. —plu/ral-i-za/tion, n. —plu/ ral·iz/er, n.

plu·ral·ly (plŏor/e lĕ), adv. as a plural; in a plural sense. [1350-1400; ME pluraliche. See Plural, -LY] plur/al mar/riage, polygamy (def. 1). [1865-70]

Plus (plus) prep. 1. more by the addition of, increased by: ten plus two is twelve. 2. with the addition of, with: He had wealth plus fame. —adj. 3. involving or noting by: ten plus two is twelve. 2. with the addition of, with: He had wealth plus fame. —adj. 3. involving or noting addition. 4. positive: a plus quantity. 5. more (by a certain amount). 6. Elect. pertaining to or characterized by positive electricity: the plus terminal. 7. Mycol. (in heterothallic fungi) designating, in the absence of morphological differentiation, one of the two strains of mycelia that unite in the sexual process. 8. having a certain quality to an unusual degree: He has personality plus. —n. 9. a plus quantity. 10. Arith. See Plus sign. 11. something additional. 12. a surplus or gain. —conj. 13. Informal. also; and; furthermore: A bicycle is cheaper than a car, plus it doesn't pollute the air. —adv. 14. in addition; besides. [1570-80; < L plus more; akin to Gk pletôn, ON fleiri more, OE feolu, fela, G viel, Goth filu, OIr il, Gk poly many].—Usage. Since Plus as a preposition has long had the meanings "more by the addition of" and "with the addition of," it was but a short step to a newer use, mainly in informal writing and speech, as a conjunction meaning "also, and, furthermore." Although this use is increasing, many object to it, and it is rare in more formal writing. AND PLUS is likewise objected to, especially for being redundant: The paper was delivered two hours late, and plus it was soaking wet.

plus' fours', long, baggy knickers for men, introduced before World War I and worn until the 1930's for sports activities, esp. golf. [1915–20; so called because four inches are added to the length of ordinary knickers to give the desired looseness] —plus'-foured', adj.

the desired looseness]—plus'-roured', adj.

plush (plush), n., adj., -er, -est. —n. 1. a fabric, as of silk, cotton, or wool, whose pile is more than ½ inch (0.3 cm) high. —adj. 2. expensively or showily luxurious: the plushest hotel in town 3. abundantly rich; lush; luxuriant: plush, rolling lawns. [1585-95; 1920-25 for def. 2; < F pluche, syncopated var. of peluche << L pilus hair]—plushed, adj. —plush'like', adj. —plush'ly, adv. —plush'ness, n.
—Syn. 2. opulent, lavish, palatial.

plush-y (plush/ē), adj., plush-i-er, plush-i-est. 1. of, pertaining to, or resembling plush. 2. Informal. characterized by luxury, wealth, or ease: a plushy resort. [1605-15; plush + -x1] —plush/i-ness, n.

plus/ junc/ture, Phonet. See open juncture. plus-sage (plus/ij), n. a surplus amount. [1920-25; -AGE

plus' sight', Survey. a backsight used in leveling. plus' sign', Arith. the symbol (+) indicating summation or a positive quality. [1645-55]

plus' tick', Stock Exchange. uptick (def. 2).

Plu-tarch (ploo/tark), n. A.D. c46-c120, Greek biogra-

Plu-tarch-i-an (ploo tar/ke en), adj. 1. of or pertaining to the biographer Plutarch. 2. characteristic of or resembling a biography by Plutarch or its subject: a life worthy of Plutarchian description; a deed of Plutarchian splendor. [1855-60; Plutarch + -IAN]

Plu'tarch's Lives', (Parallel Lives) a collection (A.D. 105-15) by Plutarch of short biographies of the leading political figures of ancient Greece and Rome.

plu-te-us (ploo'të ss), n., pl. -te-l (-të i'), -te-us-es, the free-swimming, bilaterally symmetrical larva of an echinoid or ophiuroid, [1825-35; < NL; L: breastwork, movable shelter] —plu'te-al, plu'te-an, adj.

Plu-to (ploo/to), n. 1. Class. Myth. a name given to Hades, under which he is identified by the Romans with Orcus. 2. Astron. the planet ninth in order from the sun, having an equatorial diameter of about 2100 miles sun, having an equatorial manneter of about 2100 miles (3300 km), a mean distance from the sun of 3.674 billion miles (5.914 billion km), a period of revolution of 248.53 years, and one known moon, Charon. See table under

plu-toc-ra-cy (ploo tok're sē), n., pl. -cies. 1. the rule or power of wealth or of the wealthy. 2. a government or state in which the wealthy class rules. 3. a class or group ruling, or exercising power or influence, by virtue of its wealth. [1645-55; < Gk ploutokratia, equiv. to ploûto(s) wealth + -kratia -cracy]

plu-to-crat (ploo/te krat/), n. a member of a plutocracy. [1840-50; pluto(cracy) + -crat]

plu-to-cratic (ploo/te krat/ik), adj. of, pertaining to, or characterized by a plutocracy or plutocrats. Also, plu/to-crat/i-cal. [1865-70; PLUTOCRAT + -IC] —plu/-to-crat/i-cal-ily, adv.

plu-ton (ploo'ton), n. Geol. any body of igneous rock that solidified far below the earth's surface. [1935-40; < G Pluton, back formation from plutonisch PLUTONIC]

Plu-to-ni-an (ploo to/ne en), adj. Also, Plu-ton-ic (ploo ton/ik). of, pertaining to, or resembling Pluto or the lower world; infernal. [1660-70; < L Plūtōni(us) (< Gk Ploutōnios, deriv. of Ploūtōn Pluto) + -AN]

plu-ton-ic (plos ton/ik), adj. Geol. noting or pertaining to a class of igneous rocks that have solidified far below the earth's surface. [1790-1800; < L Plūtōn-(s. of Plūtō Pluto < Gk Ploútōn) + -Ic; orig. referring to the Plutonic theory (see Plutonism)]

plu-to-nism (ploot'n iz/em), n. Geol. 1. the intrusion

of magma and associated deep-seated process the earth's crust. 2. (often cap.) the disproving that all rocks formed by solidification of a mol promulgated by Scottish geologist James Hutt 97). [1840–50; PLUTON(IC) + -ISM] —plu'to-ni

plu-to-ni-um (ploo to/nē əm), n. Chem., p. transuranic element with a fissile isotope of m ber 239 (plutonium 239) that can be produ non-fissile uranium 238, as in a breeder reactor Pu; at. no.: 94. [1940–45; < Gk Plouton Plurc

ru; at. no.: 94. [1940-45; < Gk Plouton Plurre plurvial (ploof vē el), adj. 1. of or pertainin esp. much rain; rainy. 2. Geol. occurring the action of rain. —n. 3. Geol. a rainy period for garded as coeval with a glacial age, but now ras episodic and, in the tropics, as characteristic glacial ages. [1600-60; < L pluviālis, equiv. train + -ālis -AL¹]

plu-vi-om-e-ter (ploo/ve om/i tər), n. gauge. [1785-95; < L pluvi(a) rain + -o- + --plu-vi-o-met-ric (ploo/ve a me/trik), plu/viplu-vi-om-e-ter cal, adj. -plu/vi·om/e-try, n.

Plu-vi-ôse (ploō/vē ōs/; Fr. ply vyōz/), n. French Revolutionary calendar) the fifth mon year, extending from January 20 to February 1. 1800; < F < L pluviōsus rainy. See PLUVIOUS]

plu-vi-ous (ploo'vē əs), adj. of or pertaining rainy. [1400-50; late ME < L pluviōsus. See -ous] —plu-vi-os-i-ty (ploo'vē os'i tē), n.

ply' (pli), v., plied, ply-ing. —v.t. 1. to work v diligently; employ busily: use: to ply the need carry on, practice, or pursue busily or steadily trade. 3. to treat with or apply to (something edly (often fol by with): to ply a fire with fresh to assail persistently: to ply horses with a wh; supply with or offer something pressingly to: person with drink. 6. to address (someone) per or importunately, as with questions. person with drink. 6. to address (someone) per or importunately, as with questions, solicitati importune. 7. to pass over or along (a river etc.) steadily or on a regular basis: boats that Mississippi. —v.i. 8. to run or travel regular fixed course or between certain places, as a tetc. 9. to perform one's work or office busily or to ply with the oars; to ply at a trade. [1300 plien, aph. var. of aplien to APPLY] —ply'ingl—Syn. 2. follow, exercise.

ply² (pli), n., pl. plies, v., plied, ply-ing. — thickness or layer. 2. Auto. a layer of reinforci for a tire. 3. a unit of yarn: single ply. 4. or sheets of veneer that are glued together to m wood. 5. Informal. plywood. 6. bent, bias, or tion. —v.t. 7. Brit. Dial. to bend, fold, or mold. Obs. to bend, incline, or yield. [1300-50; ME pli MF plier to fold, bend, var. of ployer, OF pleier care to fold; see FOLD¹]

ply-er (pli'er), n. Chiefly Brit. plier.

ply/ met/al, a composition of dissimilar metal together in sheet form. Also, ply/met/al.

bogether in sheet form. Also, Phymeters.

Plym-outh (plim'eth), n. 1. a seaport in SW shire, in SW England, on the English Chann base; the departing point of the Mayflower 1620.

2. a city in SE Massachusetts the oldest town England, founded by the Pilgrims 1620. 35,91 town in SE Minnesota. 31,615.

4. a town in N necticut. 10,732.

5. a town in and the capital serrat, West Indies. 3200.

Plym/outh Breth/ren, a loosely organized Christians founded in Plymouth, England, abo having no ordained ministry, no formal creed c and accepting the Bible as the only guide. [183] Plym'outh Col'ony, the colony establishe Massachusetts by the Pilgrims in 1620.

Plym/outh Com/pany, a company, formed land in 1606 to establish colonies in America founded a colony in Maine in 1607.

Plym'outh Rock', 1. a rock at Plymouth, M. setts, on which the Pilgrims who sailed on the M are said to have stepped ashore when they le America in 1620. 2. one of an American breed um-sized chickens, raised for meat and eggs.

ply' roll'ing, Metalworking. See pack rolling ply-wood (plr/wood/), n. a material used for building purposes, consisting usually of an odd of veneers glued over each other, usually at righ [1905-10; rux² + woon¹]

Pl-zeň (pl/zen/y²), n. a city in Bohemia, in Czech Republic. 175,000. German, Pilsen.

Pm, Symbol, Chem. promethium.

pm., premium.

P.M., 1. Past Master. 2. Paymaster. 3. See Police Magistrate. 5. Postmaster. 6. post-mor Prime Minister. 8. Provost Marshal.

p.m., 1. after noon. 2. the period between n midnight. [< L post meridiem]
—Usage. See a.m.

P marker. See phrase marker. Also, P-mark

P.M.G., 1. Paymaster General. 2. Postmaster 3. Provost Marshal General. pmk., postmark. P.M.L., Insurance. probable maximum loss.

PMLA, Publications of the Modern Language , tion of America. Also, P.M.L.A. PMS, See premenstrual syndrome

pmt., payment.

PN, 1. please note. 2. promissory note. 3. psy rotic.

pn, 1. please note. 2. promissory note.

P/N, promissory note. Also, p.n.

-pnea, a combining form meaning "breath, respi used in the formation of compound words that c