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TENTH EDITION

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Merriam-Webster, Incorporated
Springfield, Massachusetts, U.S.A.



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622 Italian greyhound • -ization

Italian greyhound *n* (1743): any of a breed of toy dogs resembling the standard greyhound in miniature
ital-ian-ise *often cap, Brit var of ITALIANIZE*

ital-ian-ism *va-tal-yo-ni-zəm, i-also i-ā n* (1594) **1 a**: a quality characteristic of Italy or the Italian people **b**: a characteristic feature of Italian occurring in another language **2 a**: specialized interest in or emulation of Italian qualities or achievements **b**: promotion or love of Italian policies or ideals

ital-ian-ize *va-tal-yo-niz, i-also i-ā vb -ized; -izing often cap, vi* (ca. 1611): to act Italian; *specif*: to follow the style or technique of recognized Italian painters *vt*: to make Italian (as in appearance or behavior) — **ital-ian-i-za-tion** *va-tal-yo-nā-zā-shən n*

Italian sandwich *n* (ca. 1953): SUBMARINE **2**
Italian sonnet *n* (1879): a sonnet consisting of an octave rhyming *abba abba* and a sestet rhyming in any of various patterns (as *cde cde* or *cde dcd*) — called also *Petrarchan sonnet*

italic *va-tal-ik, i-, i-ā adj* (1612) **1 a**: of or relating to a type style with characters that slant upward to the right (as in "these words are italic") — compare ROMAN **b**: of or relating to a style of slanted cursive handwriting developed in the 15th and 16th centuries **2 cap**: of or relating to ancient Italy, its peoples, or their Indo-European languages

italie *n* (1676) **1**: an italic character or type **2 cap**: a branch of the Indo-European language family that includes Latin, Oscan, and Umbrian — see INDO-EUROPEAN LANGUAGES table

ital-i-cise *Brit var of ITALICIZE*

ital-i-cize *va-tal-iz-siz, i-, i-ā vt -cized; -cizing* (1795) **1**: to print in italics or underscore with a single line **2**: EMPHASIZE (the microphone — every curried top note — P. G. Davis) — **ital-i-ci-za-tion** *va-tal-iz-sā-zā-shən n*

Italo- *va-tal-ō also i-tal-ō comb form* **1**: Italian (*Italoophile*) **2**: Italian and (*Italo-Austrian*)

Italo-philic *va-tal-ō-fil adj* (ca. 1902): friendly to or favoring what is Italian — **Italoophile** *n*

itch *vi* (ME *icchen*, fr. OE *giccan*; akin to OHG *jucchen* to itch) *vi* (bef. 12c) **1 a**: to have an itch (her arm *itched*) **b**: to produce an itchy sensation (long underwear that *itches*) **2**: to have a restless desire or hankering for something (were *itching* to go outside) *vt* **1**: to cause to itch **2**: VEX, IRRITATE

itch *n* (bef. 12c) **1 a**: an uneasy irritating sensation in the upper surface of the skin usu. held to result from mild stimulation of pain receptors **b**: a skin disorder accompanied by such a sensation; *esp*: a contagious eruption caused by a mite (*Sarcoptes scabiei*) that burrows in the skin and causes intense itching **2 a**: a restless usu. constant often compulsive desire (an *itch* to travel) **b**: LUST, PRURIENCE — **itch-i-ness** *vi-chē-nəs n* — **itchy** *vi-chē-adj*

it'd *vi-tad, id* (1859): it had: it would

it-er *n* suffix [ME, fr. OF & L; OF, fr. L *ita*, *-ites*, fr. Gk *-itēs*] **1 a**: native: resident (Brooklynite) **b**: descendant (Ephraimite) **c**: adherent: follower (Jacobite) (Puseyite) **2 a** (1): product (metabolite) (2): commercially manufactured product (ebonite) **b**: ITOL (manite) **3** [NL *-ites*, fr. L]: fossil (ammonite) **4**: mineral (erythrite): rock (anorthosite) **5** [F, fr. L *ita*, *-ites*]: segment or constituent part of a body or of a bodily part (somite) (dendrite)

-ite *n* suffix [F, alter. of *-ate*, fr. NL *-atum*]: salt or ester of an acid with a name ending in *-ous* (nitrite)

item *vi-təm, i-təm adj* [ME, fr. L *ita* thus] (14c): and in addition; *also* — used to introduce each article in a list or enumeration

item *vi-təm n* (1571) **1 obs**: WARNING, HINT **2**: a distinct part in an enumeration, account, or series: ARTICLE **3**: an object of attention, concern, or interest **4**: a separate piece of news or information **5**: a couple in a romantic or sexual relationship
syn ITEM, DETAIL, PARTICULAR mean one of the distinct parts of a whole. ITEM applies to each thing specified separately in a list or in a group of things that might be listed or enumerated (every item on the list). DETAIL applies to one of the small component parts of a larger whole such as a task, building, painting, narration, or process (leave the details to others). PARTICULAR stresses the smallness, singleness, and esp. the concreteness of a detail or item (a description that included few particulars).

item *vi-təm vt* (1601) **1 archaic**: COMPUTE, RECKON **2 archaic**: to set down the particular details of

item-ise *Brit var of ITEMIZE*

item-i-za-tion *vi-tā-mā-zā-shən n* (1894): the act of itemizing; *also*: an itemized list

item-ize *vi-tā-miz vt -ized; -izing* (1857): to set down in detail or by particulars: LIST (itemized all expenses)

iter-ance *vi-tā-rən(t)s n* (1604): REPETITION

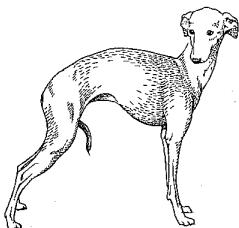
iter-ant *vi-rant adj* (1626): marked by repetition, reiteration, or recurrence (echoes)

iter-ate *vi-tā-rāt vt -at-ed; -ating* [L *iteratus*, pp. of *iterare*, fr. *iterum* again; akin to L *iter* is, that, *ita* thus, *Skt itara* the other, *iti* thus] (1533): to say or do again or again and again: REITERATE

iter-a-tion *vi-tā-rā-shən n* (15c) **1**: the action or a process of iterating or repeating; *as*: a procedure in which repetition of a sequence of operations yields results successively closer to a desired result **b**: the repetition of a sequence of computer instructions a specified number of times or until a condition is met — compare RECURSION **2**: one execution of a sequence of operations or instructions in an iteration

iter-a-tive *vi-tā-rā-tiv, -rə-adj* (15c): involving repetition; *as*: *a*: expressing repetition of a verbal action **b**: relating to or being iteration of an operation or procedure — **iter-a-tive-ly** *adv*

ithy-phallic *vi-thi-fal-ik adj* [LL *ithyphallicus*, fr. Gk *ithyphallos*, fr. *ithyphallos* erect phallus, fr. *ithys* straight + *phallos* phallus] (1795) **1**: of or relating to the phallus carried in procession in ancient festivals



Italian greyhound

of Bacchus **2 a**: having an erect penis — usu. used of figures in an art representation **b**: OBSCENE, LEWD

itiner-an-cy *vi-ti-nā-rən(t)s-ē n* (1789) **1**: a system (as in the Methodist Church) of rotating ministers who itinerate **2 a**: the act of itinerating **b**: the state of being itinerant

itiner-ant *vi-rant adj* [LL *itinerant*, *itinerans*, pp. of *itinerari* to journey, fr. L *itiner*, *iter* journey, way; akin to *itiner* way, L *ire* to go — more at ITSEE] (ca. 1576): traveling from place to place; *esp*: covering a circuit (preacher) — **itinerant** *n* — **itiner-ant-ly** *adv*

itiner-ary *vi-ti-nā-rer-ē, -ā, chiefly Brit vi-ti-nā-rē n, pl -aries* (15c) **1**: the route of a journey or tour or the proposed outline of one **2**: a travel diary **3**: a traveler's guidebook — **itinerary** *adj*

itiner-ate *vi-ti-nā-rāt, -ā vt -at-ed; -at-ing* (1775): to travel a preaching or judicial circuit — **itiner-a-tion** *vi-ti-nā-rā-shən n*

-itious *adj* suffix [L *-icius*, *-itius*]: of, relating to, or having the characteristics of (excrementitious)

-itis *n* suffix, *pl -itides also -itides or -ites* [NL, fr. L & Gk; L, fr. Gk, fr. fem. of *-itēs* -ite] **1**: disease or inflammation (bronchitis) **2 pl usu** -itides: condition likened to a disease — chiefly in nonce formations (televisionitis)

it'll *vi-tl* (1824): it will: it shall

itol *n* suffix [ISV *-ite* + *-ol*]: polyhydroxy alcohol usu. related to a sugar (mannitol)

its *vi-ts, əts adj* (1598): of or relating to it or itself esp. as possessor, agent, or object of an action (going to *its* kennel) (a child proud of *its* first drawings) (final enactment into law)

it's *vi-ts, əts* (ca. 1555): it is: it has

it-self *vi-tself, ət-, Southern also -sef* *pron* (bef. 12c) **1**: that identical one — compare IT 1 — used reflexively (watched the cat giving *itself* a bath), for emphasis (the letter *itself* was missing), or in absolute constructions (a splendid specimen of classic art, it has been exhibited throughout the world) **2**: its normal, healthy, or sane condition — in itself: in its own nature: INTRINSICALLY (was not in *itself* bad)

it-ty-bit-ty *vi-tē-bi-tē or it-ty-bit-ty* *vi-tē-sē-bit-sē adj* [prob. fr. baby talk for *little bit*] (1938): extremely small: TINY

-ity *n* suffix, *pl -ities* [ME *-ite*, fr. OF or L; OF *-itē*, fr. L *-itat-*, *-itas*, fr. *-i* (stem vowel of *alkali*) + *-tat-*, *-tas* -ity; akin to Gk *-itēs*, *-ites* -ity]: quality: state: degree (alkalinity) (theatricality)

IUD *vi-jyū-dē n* (1965): INTRAUTERINE DEVICE

-ium *n* suffix [NL, fr. L, ending of some neut. nouns] **a**: a chemical element (sodium) **b**: cation (tetrazolium) **2 pl -iums or -ia [NL, fr. Gk *-ion*]: small one: mass — esp. in botanical terms (pollinium)**

IV *vi-vē n, pl IVs* [intravenous] (ca. 1955): an apparatus used to administer an intravenous injection or feeding; *also*: such an injection or feeding

-ive *adj* suffix [ME *-if*, *-ive*, fr. MF & L; MF *-if*, fr. L *-ivus*]: that performs or tends toward an (indicated) action (amusive)

I've *iv-vē* (1586): I have

iver-mec-tin *vi-vər-mek-tən n* [perh. fr. *di-* + NL *avermittis* (specific epithet of *Streptomyces avermectilis*, bacterium from which it is derived) + *E-ect-* (of unknown origin) + *-in*] (1981): a drug mixture of two structurally similar semisynthetic lactones that is used in veterinary medicine as an anthelmintic, acaricide, and insecticide and in human medicine to treat onchocerciasis

ivied *vi-vēd adj* (ca. 1771) **1**: overgrown with ivy **2**: ACADEMIC

ivory *vi-vrē, i-vrē-rē n, pl -ries* [ME *ivoire*, fr. OF *ivoire*, fr. L *eboreus* of ivory, fr. *ebor*, *ebur* ivory, fr. Egypt *ibw* elephant, ivory] (13c) **1 a**: the hard creamy-white modified dentine that composes the tusks of a tusked mammal (as an elephant, walrus, or narwhal) **b**: a tusk that yields ivory **2**: a variable color averaging a pale yellow **3 slang**: TOOTH **4**: something (as a piano key) made of ivory or of a similar substance — **ivory** *adj*

ivory-billed woodpecker *vi-bild-ā n* (1811): a very large black-and-white woodpecker (*Campephilus principalis*) of the southeastern U.S. and Cuba that has a showy red crest in the male and is presumed extinct in the U.S.

ivory black *n* (1634): a fine black pigment made by calcining ivory

ivory nut *n* (ca. 1847): the nutlike seed of a So. American palm (*Phytelephas macrocarpa*) containing a very hard endosperm used for carving and turning — compare VEGETABLE IVORY

ivory tower *n* [trans. of *F tour d'ivoire*] (1911) **1**: an impractical often escapist attitude marked by aloof lack of concern with or interest in practical matters or urgent problems **2**: a secluded place that affords the means of treating practical issues with an impractical often escapist attitude; *esp*: a place of learning — **ivory-tower** *adj*

ivory-ry-tow-er-ish *vi-tau(-ə-rish) adj*

ivory-towered *vi-tau(-ə-rēd) adj* (1937): divorced from reality and practical matters (an *ivory-towered* recluse)

ivy *vi-vē n, pl ivies* [ME, fr. OE *ifig*; akin to OHG *ebah* ivy] (bef. 12c) **1**: a widely cultivated ornamental climbing or prostrate or sometimes shrubby chiefly Eurasian vine (*Hedera helix*) of the ginseng family with evergreen leaves, small yellowish flowers, and black berries **2**: POT-SON IVY **3 often cap**: an Ivy League college

ivy adj [fr. the prevalence of ivy-covered buildings on the campuses of older U.S. colleges] (1933) **1**: ACADEMIC **2**: IVY LEAGUE

Ivy League *adj* (1939) **1**: of, relating to, or characteristic of a group of long-established eastern U.S. colleges widely regarded as high in scholastic and social prestige **2**: of, relating to, or characteristic of the students of Ivy League colleges

Ivy Leaguer *n* (1943): a student at or a graduate of an Ivy League college

iwis *vi-wis, i-wis adv* [ME, fr. OE *gewis* certain; akin to OHG *gwiwiso* certainly, OE *witan* to know — more at WIT] (12c) *archaic*: SURELY

ix-ion *vi-k-si-ən n* [L, fr. Gk *ixion*]: a Thessalian king bound by Zeus to a burning wheel in Tartarus for attempting to seduce Hera

ix-o-did *vi-k-sa-did, ik-sō-dad adj* [ultim. fr. Gk *ixōdēs* sticky, fr. *ixōs* birdlime] (ca. 1909): of, relating to, or being a typical tick (family Ixodidae) — **ixodid** *n*

Iyar *vi-yār n* [Heb *hyār*] (1737): the 8th month of the civil year or the 2d month of the ecclesiastical year in the Jewish calendar — see MONTH table

-i-za-tion *va-zā-shən also (i)l-zā- n* suffix: action, process, or result of making (socialization)

ize *vb* suffix [ME *-isen*, fr. OF *-iser*, fr. LL *-izare*, *i*: cause to be or conform to or resemble (system *ize*); *cause to be formed into* (unionize) (2): subject (cause to be plagiarized) (3): impregnate or treat or color (b): treat like (idolize) *c*: treat accord (powderize) *2 a*: become: become like (crystallize) *c*: adopt or spread the manner of activity (Platonize) *c*: adopt or spread the manner of activity (Platonize)

usage The suffix *-ize* has been productive in Eng

J *vi-jā n, pl i's or js* *vi-jāz often* **1 a**: the 10th letter of the English alphabet; *also*: the graphic counterpart of orthographic device for reproducing unit vector parallel to the y-axis *ed* *esp*: as the 10th in order or shaped like the letter J
jab *vi-jab vb jabbed; jab-bi* *strike* (1827) **1 a**: to pierce sharp object: STAB **b**: to polly *vi*: THRUST **2**: to strike with *vi* **1**: to make quick or a

jab *n* (1872): an act of jabbing; *esp*: a short straight blow with the leading hand

jabber *vi-jab vb jabbered; jab-ber-ing* *vi-jab* (imit. origin) *vi* (15c): to talk rapidly, indistinctly *vi*: to speak rapidly or indistinctly — **jabber-er** *n*

jabber *n* (1727): GIBBERISH, CHATTER

jabber-wocky *vi-jab-wō-kē n* [*Jabberwocky*, Lewis Carroll] (1908): meaningless speech or writ

jab-ru *vi-jā-bā-rū n* [Pg, fr. Tupi & Guarani *ja* several large tropical storks]

jab-ran-di *vi-jā-bā-rān-dē n* [Pg, fr. 1875]: the dried leaves of two So. American shrubs (*Andropogon microphyllus*) of the rue family that

jab *n* (1872): a fall of lace or cloth attached to the front of a neckband and worn esp. by men in the 18th century **2**: a pleated frill of cloth or lace attached down the center front of a woman's blouse or dress

jabo-ti-ca-ba *vi-jā-bō-ti-kā-bā n* [Pg, fr. Tupi] (1824): a Brazilian tree (*Myrciaria cauliflora*) of the myrtle family cultivated in warm regions for its edible usu. purplish fruit

jacal *vi-jā-kāl n, pl ja-cals* *vi-jā(-g)lās also jacals* [MexSp, fr. Nahuatl *xahcalli*] (1838): a hut in Mexico and southwestern U.S. with a thatched roof and walls made of upright poles or sticks covered and chinked with mud or clay

jacamar *vi-jā-kā-mār n* [F, fr. Tupi *jacamã-ciri*] (1825): any of a family (Galbulidae) of usu. iridescent green or bronze insectivorous birds of Central tropical forests

jacana *vi-jā-kā-nā, zha-s'n-ā n* [Pg *jacamã*, fr. J 1753]: any of a family (Jacanidae) of long-legged wading birds that frequent coastal freshwater

jacaranda *vi-jā-kā-rān-dā n* [NL, fr. Pg *jacaranus*, fr. Tupi] (ca. 1753): any of a genus (*Jacarana*) of tropical American trees of the trumpet-creeper family with blue flowers in panicles

jack *vi-jā-s'n(t)th, -ja- n* [ME *iacinct*, fr. OF *jacinct*, a flowering plant, a gem] (13c) **1**: HYACIN nearly orange in color than a hyacinth

jack *vi-jāk n* [ME *Jacke*, familiar term of address nickname for John John] (1548) **1 a**: MAN — *u* in such phrases as *every man jack* *b often*: SERVANT, LABORER (2): LUMBERJACK **2**: any

jack *n* (1825): any of a family (Galbulidae) of usu. iridescent green or bronze insectivorous birds of Central tropical forests

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