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prologue /'prɒləʒ/ n. (also **Prolog**) Computing a high-level programming first devised for artificial intelligence applications. (see PROGRAM) + LOGIC

prologue /'prɒləʒ/ n. & v. ● n. **1 a** a preface or introduction to a literary work, esp. an introductory speech or short poem addressed to the audience by one of the actors in a play (compare EPILOGUE 2). **b** the actor who speaks the prologue. **2 a** short preliminary time trial held before a race to obtain a leader. **3** (usu. foll. by to) any act or event serving as an introduction. ● v. tr. (**prologues, prologued, prologuing**) introduce a performance with a prologue. [Middle English *prolog* from Old French *prologue* from Latin *prologus* from Greek *prologos* (as PRO-², *logos* speech)]

prolong /prə'ləʒ/ v. tr. **1** extend (an action, condition, etc.) in time or space. **2** extend the pronunciation of (a syllable etc.). □ **prolongation** /prə'ləʒən/ n. **prolonger** n. [Middle English from Old French *prolonger* & from Late Latin *prolongare* (as PRO-¹, *longus* long)]

prolonged /prə'ləʒd/ adj. lengthy; continuing for a long time (a prolonged performance)

prologue /prə'lu:ʒən/ n. formal **1** a preliminary essay or article. **2** a first preliminary essay. □ **prolusive** /-səri/ adj. [Latin *prolusio* from *procludere* *prolusio* beforehand (as PRO-¹, *cludere* lus- play)]

promenade /prə'meɪnədeɪ/ n. informal **1** N Amer. a semiformal or formal dance for high school or university students (often attrib.: *prom dress*). **2** Brit. a promenade. **3** esp. (Prom) any of those supported by the BBC. **3** Brit. = PROMENADE [from French *promenade* (as PRO-¹, *marcher* walk, refl.)]

promenade /prə'meɪnədeɪ/ n. & v. ● n. **1** a walk, or sometimes a drive, taken esp. for display, leisure, etc. **2 a** esp. Brit. a paved walk along the seafront at a resort. **b** any paved public walk. ● v. tr. = PROM n. 1. **4** (in square dancing) a movement resembling a promenade by couples in formation. ● v. **1** intr. make a promenade (a person etc.) about a place esp. for display. **3** tr. make a promenade (a place). □ **promenader** n. [French from *se promener* walk, refl. take for a walk]

promenade concert n. Brit. a concert of usu. classical music at which part of the auditorium's floor space is without seating so that the audience stands or sits on the floor or can move about.

promenade deck n. an upper deck on a passenger ship where passengers may stroll.

promazine /prə'meɪzɪn/ n. an antihistamine drug used to treat allergic motion sickness, etc. [PROPYL + dimethylamine + phenothiazine]

promethean /prə'mi:θiən/ adj. **1** of or relating to Prometheus. **2** daring or adventurous like Prometheus.

Prometheus /prə'mi:θiəs/ Gk Myth a demigod, one of the Titans, who was punished by craftsmen. When Zeus hid fire away from man Prometheus stole it by trickery and returned it to earth; as punishment Prometheus was chained to a rock where an eagle fed each day on his liver until he was rescued by Hercules.

promethium /prə'mi:θiəm/ n. Chem. a radioactive metallic element of the actinide series occurring in nuclear waste material. Symbol: **Pm**; at. no. 61. [from PROMETHEUS]

prominence /'prɒmɪnəns/ n. **1** the state of being prominent. **2 a** a prominent thing, esp. a jutting outcrop, mountain, etc. **3** Astronomy a point of incandescent gas projecting above the sun's chromosphere. [from French from Latin *prominentia* jutting out (as PROMINENT)]

prominent /'prɒmɪnənt/ adj. & n. ● adj. **1** jutting out; projecting. **2** conspicuous. **3** distinguished; important. ● n. (in full **prominent**) a moth of the family Notodontidae, with tufted forewings and a body with humped backs. □ **prominently** adv. [Latin *prominere* 'jut out': see EMINENT]

promiscuous /prə'mɪskju:əs/ adj. **1 a** (of a person) having frequent and casual sexual relationships, esp. transient ones. **b** (of sexual relationships) of this kind. **2** of mixed and indiscriminate composition or character. **3** informal carelessly irregular; casual. **4** **promiscuity** /-'skju:ɪti/ n. **promiscuously** adv. **promiscuousness** n. [from PROMISCUOUS (as PRO-¹, *miscere* mix)]

promise /'prɒmɪs/ n. & v. ● n. **1** an assurance that one will or will not do a certain action, behaviour, etc. (a *promise of help*; *gave a promise to help*). **2** a sign or signs of future achievements, good results, etc. (a *promise of great promise*). ● v. **1** tr. & intr. (usu. foll. by to + infin., or that + infin.) make (a person) a promise, esp. to do, give, or procure (a thing) (I *promise you a fair hearing*; *they promise not to be late*; *promised that he would be able to solve the problem*). **2** tr. afford expectations of (the discussions *promise to be a good cook*). **3** tr. informal assure, inform (I *promise you, it won't be easy*). **4** tr. (usu. in passive) archaic betroth

promised /'prɒmɪsd/ n. & v. ● n. **1** a place where happiness is expected, esp. heaven. **2 a** any place where happiness is expected, esp. heaven. **b** any coveted situation (a *promised land of economic freedom*).

promising /'prɒmɪsɪŋ/ adj. likely to turn out well; hopeful; full of promise (a *promising start*). □ **promisingly** adv.

promissory /'prɒmɪsəri/ adj. **1** conveying or implying a promise. **2** (often foll. by of) full of promise. [medieval Latin *promissorius* from Latin *promissor* (as PROMISE)]

promissory note n. esp. N Amer. a signed document containing a written promise to pay a stated sum to a specified person or the bearer at a specified date or on demand.

promo /'prɒ:mə/ n. & adj. informal ● n. (pl. -os) **1** an advertising or publicity campaign for a particular product. **2 a** a trailer for a television program, theatrical production, etc. **b** Brit. a promotional video for a pop record. ● adj. of or relating to publicity for a performer, commercial product, etc.; promotional (a *short promo video*). [abbreviation]

promontory /'prɒməntəri/ n. (pl. -ies) **1** a point of high land jutting out into the sea etc.; a headland. **2** Anat. a prominence or protuberance in the body. [medieval Latin *promontorium* alteration (influenced by *mons montis* mountain) from Latin *promunturium* (perhaps from PRO-¹, *mons*)]

promote /prə'məʊt/ v. tr. **1** (often foll. by to) advance or raise (a person) to a higher office, rank, etc. (was *promoted to captain*). **2** help forward; encourage; support actively (a cause, process, desired result, etc.) (promoted women's rights; rest promotes recovery). **3** publicize and sell (a product). **4** advance (a student) to the next grade. **5** Chess raise (a pawn) to the rank of queen etc. when it reaches the opponent's end of the board. □ **promotable** adj. **promotability** /-'bɪləti/ n. **promotion** /-'məʊ:ʃən/ n. **promotional** /-'məʊ:ʃənəl/ adj. **promotive** adj. [Middle English from Latin *promovere* *promot-* (as PRO-¹, *movere* 'move')]

promoter /prə'məʊtə/ n. **1** a person who promotes. **2** a person who finances, organizes, etc. a sporting event, theatrical production, etc. **3** a person involved in setting up and funding a new company. **4** Chem. an additive that increases the activity of a catalyst. **5** Genetics a part of an operon, situated between the operator and the structural gene or genes at which transcription starts. [earlier *promotour* from Anglo-French from medieval Latin *promotor* (as PROMOTE)]

prompt /prɒmpt/ adj., v., & n. ● adj. **1** (of a person) acting without delay (we are always *prompt in paying our bills*). **2** made, done, etc. readily or at once (a *prompt reply*). ● v. tr. **1** (usu. foll. by to, or to + infin.) incite; urge (prompted them to action). **2 a** supply a forgotten word, sentence, etc., to (an actor, reciter, etc.). **b** assist (a hesitating speaker) with a suggestion. **3** give rise to; inspire (a feeling, thought, action, etc.). ● n. **1 a** an act of prompting. **b** a thing said to help the memory of an actor etc. **2** Computing an indication or sign on a computer screen to show that the system is waiting for input. **3** the time limit for the payment of an account for goods purchased. □ **prompting** n. **promptitude** n. **promptly** adv. **promptness** n. [Middle English from Old French *prompt* or Latin *promptus* past part. of *promere* *prompt-* produce (as PRO-¹, *emere* take)]

prompt-book n. a copy of a play annotated with directions for a prompter's use.

prompter /'prɒmptə/ n. **1** Theatre a person seated out of sight of the audience who prompts the actors. **2** a person or thing that prompts.

promulgate /'prɒmʌlgeɪt/ v. tr. **1** make known to the public; disseminate; promote (a cause etc.). **2** proclaim (a decree, news, etc.). □ **promulgation** /-'geɪʃən/ n. **promulgator** n. [Latin *promulgare* (as PRO-¹, *mulgere* milk, cause to come forth)]

promulge /prə:'mʌldʒ/ v. tr. archaic = PROMULGATE. [PROMULGATE]

prone /'prə:neɪt/ v. tr. **1** put (the hand, forearm, etc.) into a prone position (with the palm etc. downwards). **2** (of a person) turn the foot outward so that the weight falls on the inner side of the foot. □ **pronation** /-'neɪʃən/ n. [back-formation from *pronation* (as PRONE)]

pronator /prə:'neɪtə/ n. Anat. any muscle producing or assisting in pronation.

prone /'prə:n/ adj. **1 a** lying face downwards (compare SUPINE adj. 1). **b** lying flat; prostrate. **c** having the front part downwards, esp. the palm of the hand. **2** (usu. foll. by to, or to + infin.) disposed or liable, esp. to a bad action, condition, etc. (is *prone to depression*). **3** (usu. in comb.) more than usually likely to suffer (accident-prone). **4** archaic with a downward slope or direction. □ **pronely** adv. **proneness** /'prə:nəns/ n. [Middle English from Latin *pronus* from *pro* forwards]

prong /prɒŋ/ n. & v. ● n. each of two or more projecting pointed parts at the end of a fork etc. ● v. tr. pierce or stab with or as with a fork. [Middle

2 (esp. in comb.) highly (adv.) from Old English

ent; the habit of saving a fr **thrift institution**) plant, *Armeria maritima*, leafless stems, and dense English from Old Norse

ent. **thriflessly** adv.

that sells second-hand n going to charity (also

omical, frugal. **2** healthy,

len feeling of excitement, winning goal). **2 a** a thing aration (his new book was a experience (it was a thrill t gone out of our marriage). vibratory movement or (a person) to feel intense t intr. (usu. foll. by at or to) vice). **4** intr. quiver or throbbingly adv. [thirl (now dial.) : from *thurh* THROUGH] elighted. **2** overwhelmed

movie or novel etc., esp. a espionage. **2** a person or

ement of participating in seeking thrills. **thrill-**

r: Thysanoptera, of minute bodies and four fringed plants. [Latin from Greek,

o/v; past part. **thrived** or (animal) grow vigorously, erous (the tourist industry animal etc.) depend upon d upon for the strength or ousured by (she thrives on Old Norse *thrifask* refl. of

neath the chin and above anything resembling or entranceway. **4** the part ove the fireplace, which vary a voice. **be at each**

thrombo- /'θrɒmbə:/ comb. form. Med. & Biochem. of, pertaining to, or involving the clotting of blood. [Greek *thrombus* THROMBUS]

thrombocyte /'θrɒmbə,saɪt/ n. a cell or platelet which circulates in the blood of vertebrates and is responsible for coagulation. [as THROMBUS + -CYTE]

thrombocytopenia /,θrɒmbə:saɪtə'pi:niə/ n. Med. deficiency of platelets in the blood. **thrombocytopenic** adj. [THROMBOCYTE + Greek *penia* 'poverty']

thromboembolism /,θrɒmbə:'embə,lɪzəm/ n. an embolism of a blood vessel caused by a thrombus dislodged from another site.

thrombose /θrɒm'bo:z/ vtr. & intr. affect with or undergo thrombosis. [back-formation from THROMBOSIS]

thrombosis /θrɒm'bo:sɪs/ n. (pl. **thromboses** /-sɪ:z/) a local coagulation or clotting of the blood in a part of the circulatory system. **thrombotic** /-'bɒtɪk/ adj. [modern Latin from Greek *thrombōsis* curdling (as THROMBUS)]

thrombus /'θrɒmbəs/ n. (pl. **thrombi** /-baɪ/) a blood clot that forms on the wall of a blood vessel or a chamber of the heart, esp. in such a way that it impedes or obstructs the flow of blood. [modern Latin from Greek *thrombos* lump, blood clot]

throne /θro:n/ n. & v. ● n. **1** an ornate, elaborate, and usu. raised chair occupied by a deity, monarch, pope, bishop, etc., esp. on ceremonial occasions. **2 a** the position, office, power, or dignity of a sovereign (a claim to the throne). **b** the occupant of a throne; a monarch or ruler. **3** Christianity a member of the third order of the nine ranks of heavenly beings (see ORDER n. 19). **4** informal or jocular a toilet. ● vtr. place on or as if on a throne. **throneless** adj. [Middle English from Old French *trone* from Latin *thronus* from Greek *thronos* high seat]

throne room n. **1** a room containing a throne, esp. one used for audiences with a monarch. **2** informal or jocular a bathroom.

Throne Speech n. Cdn = SPEECH FROM THE THRONE.

throng /θrɒŋ/ n. & v. ● n. (often foll. by of) a crowd or multitude of esp. people. ● v. **1** tr. & intr. gather or assemble in or around (crowds thronged the streets). **2** intr. travel in large numbers (on weekends people throng to the malls). [Middle English *thrang*, *throng*, Old English *gethrang*, from verbal stem *thring*-*thrang*-]

throstle /'θrɒsəl/ n. a song thrush. [Old English from Germanic: related to THRUSH¹]

throttle /'θrɒtəl/ n. & v. ● n. **1 a** (in full **throttle valve**) a valve controlling the flow of fuel or steam etc. in an engine. **b** (in full **throttle control** or **throttle lever**) a lever or pedal operating this valve. **2** archaic the throat. ● v. **1** tr. choke or strangle. **2** tr. stifle or suppress (words, a rumour, etc.). **3** tr. & intr. control the flow of gas or steam to (an engine etc.). **throttle back** (or **down**) close the throttle of (an engine or vehicle) in order to slow down or stop. **throttler** n. [Middle English *throtel* (v.), perhaps from THROAT + -LE⁴: (n.) perhaps a diminutive of THROAT]

through /θru:/ prep., adv., & adj. ● prep. **1 a** from one end to the other of (we drove through Saskatchewan). **b** going in one side or end and out the other of (through the tunnel). **c** beyond; past (she drove through a stop sign). **2** between or among (ran through the trees). **3 a** from beginning to end of; over each one or part of (she read through the letter). **b** during the whole temporal extent of (we worked through lunch). **4 a** by means of (I heard about it through an ad in the paper). **b** due to; because of (he lost it through carelessness). **5** N Amer. up to and including (Monday through Friday). ● adv. **1 a** from side to side, end to end, or beginning to end of a body or space (I read the letter through; may I pass through?). **b** all the way; to the end of a

throw /θro:/ v. & n. ● project (something) v in a particular direction particular direction shot through the air threw the snow onto the state or condition, turmoil; the news threw quickly or suddenly beam, ray, or light). **1** voice) so that it seem **7** tr. direct (a kiss, w or aim (a punch). **b** an opponent. **9** tr. a bring (an opponent) fall off. **10** tr. inform question really threw party, barbecue, etc an article of clothin Football **a** intr. start c (who's throwing for ti ball), esp. in a speci he threw deep into the (a strikeout, compl deliberately. **16** tr. r **17** tr. put (a vehicle a cause (a die or di them from the har dice. **19 a** tr. & intr. f etc.) on a lathe. **c** tr. into) alter or chang throwing. **2** the d **3** N Amer. **a** (in full used as a casual co act of throwing an informal each; per it cam, or eccentric straight line pas between the cent **7** Geol. & Mining **a** caused by this. **8** **throw around** (one's money) in **1** dispose of or dis the garbage. **2 a** v foll. by on) was undeserving peo deliberate under (a person) to rely, (curtains, bedclo drink) quickly an **throw cold** wa someone by doin hurl, or bring to **glove** issue a c **throw for** N Ame yards, intercepti

j yes k cat l leg m man n no p pen r red s sit t top v voice

w we z zoo

el violently. **cut one's own**
n (or **thrust** etc.) **down a**
thing). □ **-throated** *adj.* [*in*
nic]

1 (of a voice) rough, husky;
at; deep, guttural (*a throaty*
tininess *n.*)

ing **1** (of the heart or pulse
orce or rapidity. **2** pulsate
3 ache with a recurrent or
palpitation or (esp. violent)
audible beat or vibration

esp. of childbirth or death
struggling with the task of
l situation). [Middle English
awu calamity, alteration of

which acts as an enzyme =
te the clotting of blood. [*in*

biochem. of, pertaining to, =
ibus THROMBUS]

telet which circulates in the
coagulation. [as THROMBOSIS +

n. Med. deficiency of platelets
[THROMBOCYTE + Greek *pen-*

n. an embolism of a blood
t another site.

with **undergo thrombosis**

es /-si:z/) a local coagulation
latory system. □ **thrombosis**
n. curdling (as THROMBOSIS)
a blood clot that forms on the
heart, esp. in such a way that
[modern Latin from Greek

borate, and usu. raised
top, etc., esp. on ceremonial
r dignity of a sovereign or
nonarch or ruler. **3** *Christ*
s **heavenly beings** (see **throne**)
ace on or as if on a **throne**
Old French *trone* from Latin

a throne, esp. one used
lar a bathroom.
[THRONE.

journey (we walked through to the garden). **2** past or across a barrier or space
(there was a gate but the guard let us through). **3** successfully past a particular
stage or test (our team made it through to the finals). **4** so as to be connected
by telephone (the operator will put you through). ● *attrib. adj.* **1** (of a flight etc.)
that travels the whole distance or journey without interruption or
change. **2** (of traffic) going through a place to a destination. **3** (of a road,
route, etc.) open at both ends, allowing a continuous journey. □ **be**
through *informal* **1** (often foll. by *with*) have finished (I'm through with the
newspaper, you can have it now). **2** (often foll. by *with*) cease to have dealings;
terminate a relationship with (he and his girlfriend are through). **3** have no
further prospects; be washed up (is through as a politician). **through and**
through **1** thoroughly; in every respect. **2** repeatedly through; through
again and again. [Old English *thurh* from West Germanic]

throughout /θru:'aʊt/ *prep.* & *adv.* ● *prep.* **1** through all of; in or to every
part of; everywhere in (was known throughout southwestern Ontario). **2**
during the whole time, extent, or length of; from beginning to end (we
cried throughout the funeral). ● *adv.* **1** in every part or respect (the timber was
rotten throughout). **2** during the whole time (it was a dull speech but I stayed
awake throughout).

throughput /'θru:pʊt/ *n.* **1** the amount of material put through a process,
esp. in manufacturing or computing. **2** processing or handling capacity.

thoroughway /'θru:wei/ *n.* *N Amer.* (also esp. *US* **thruway**) an expressway.

throve *past of* THRIVE.

throw /θro:/ *v.* & *n.* ● *v.* (*past* **threw** /θru:/; *past part.* **thrown** /θro:n/) **1** *tr.*
project (something) with force from the hand or arm through the air, esp.
in a particular direction; cast, hurl, fling. **2** *tr.* force violently, esp. in a
particular direction or into a particular position; cause to be thrust or
shot through the air (the wind threw the ship onto the rocks; the snow blower
threw the snow onto the lawn). **3** *tr.* cause to pass into or out of a particular
state or condition, esp. suddenly or unexpectedly (it threw her life into
turmoil; the news threw us into a panic). **4** *tr.* turn or move (part of the body)
quickly or suddenly (throw his arms around her). **5** *tr.* **a** emit or project (a
beam, ray, or light). **b** cast (a shadow). **6** *tr.* (of a ventriloquist) project (the
voice) so that it seems to be coming from a source other than the speaker.
7 *tr.* direct (a kiss, wink, look, insult, etc.) at a person. **8** *tr.* **a** give, deliver,
or aim (a punch). **b** (often foll. by *on*) *Hockey* deliver (a hit or bodycheck) on
an opponent. **9** *tr.* **a** *Sport* (often foll. by *down*) (esp. in wrestling or football)
bring (an opponent) to the ground; tackle. **b** (of a horse) cause (its rider) to
fall off. **10** *tr.* *informal* (often foll. by *off*) baffle, confuse, disconcert (the
question really threw me). **11** *tr.* have (a tantrum or fit etc.). **12** *tr.* host (a
party, barbecue, etc.). **13** *tr.* (foll. by *on* or *off*) put on or remove (clothes or
an article of clothing) hastily (throw a jacket on and let's go). **14** *Baseball &*
Football **a** *intr.* start or participate in a game as a pitcher or quarterback
(who's throwing for the Expos tonight?). **b** *tr.* & *intr.* pitch, pass, or deliver (the
ball), esp. in a specified manner or direction (she threw to the first baseman;
he threw deep into the end zone). **c** *tr.* (of a pitcher in baseball) earn or achieve
(a strikeout, complete game, etc.). **15** *tr.* *informal* lose (a game or race etc.)
deliberately. **16** *tr.* move (a switch or lever) in order to turn something on.
17 *tr.* put (a vehicle) into a particular gear (threw the car into third). **18** *tr.*
a cause (a die or dice) to fall on a surface, esp. by releasing or propelling
them from the hand. **b** obtain (a specified number) by throwing a die or
dice. **19** **a** *tr.* & *intr.* form (ceramic ware) on a potter's wheel. **b** *tr.* turn (wood
etc.) on a lathe. **c** *tr.* twist (silk etc.) into thread or yarn. **20** *tr.* (often foll. by
into) alter or change deftly into another form or shape. ● *n.* **1** an act of
throwing. **2** the distance a thing is or may be thrown (a stone's throw).
3 a light rug or piece of decorative fabric

bad incur further loss
throw one's hand in
throw in **1** include at
3 a (in basketball or so
return (the ball) from
throw in the towel (a
boxer's attendant) thro
the air as a token of
1 confuse or distract (a
matter in hand. **2** disca
offhand manner. **throw**
(someone) regarded as
oneself into engage vi
completely on (he threw
open **1** open (a window
by to) make vulnerable
(something no longer w
(a troublemaker, tresp
b evict (a tenant etc.) fr
eject (a player, manager
3 wrench or dislocate
tentatively. **5 a** reject (a
or charges) in a court of
ball to the base before
build (a bridge or pier
abandon. **throw stor**
assemble hastily. **2** in
2 abandon. **3** resign fro
window) quickly. **throw**
with unpleasant self-as
comb.). [Old English *thra*

throwaway /'θro:əwei/
one use; disposable (thru
underemphasized for
wasteful (throwaway so
discarded after esp. o
discarded once read, su
child or youth who has
attrib.: throwaway childre

throwback /'θro:bæk/
principles, views, and c
song, that recalls a sim
character.

throw cushion *n.* *N A*
cushions placed on a c

throw-in *n.* (in bask
bounds from the sidel

throw rug *n.* see **THROW**

thru /θru:/ *prep.* & *adv.* *N*
thrum¹ /θrʌm/ *v.* & *n.*
stringed instrument) r
drum idly (rain thrum
thrumming sound, e
monotonous hum or c
2 a music consisting
or other stringed ins