

adventitia /ˌædvɛn'tɪʃə/ ▶ n. the outermost layer of the wall of a blood vessel.

– DERIVATIVES **adventitial** adj.

– ORIGIN C19: shortening of mod. L. *tunica adventitia* 'additional sheath'.

adventitious /ˌædvɛn'tɪʃəs/ ▶ adj. 1 happening according to chance. 2 coming from outside; not native.

3 Biology formed accidentally or in an unusual position.

4 Botany (of a root) growing directly from the stem or other upper part of a plant.

– DERIVATIVES **adventitiously** adv.

– ORIGIN C17: from L. *adventicius* 'coming to us from abroad' + *-ous* (see also *-mous*).

Advent Sunday ▶ n. the first Sunday in Advent.

adventure ▶ n. 1 an unusual, exciting, and daring experience. 2 excitement arising from such experiences: *in search of adventure*. 3 archaic a commercial speculation.

▶ v. dated engage in an adventure.

– DERIVATIVES **adventurer** n. **adventuresome** adj.

adventress n.

– ORIGIN ME: from OFr. *aventure* (n.), *aventurer* (v.), based on L. *adventurus* 'about to happen', from *advenire* 'arrive'.

adventure playground ▶ n. Brit. a playground

containing structures encouraging physically

challenging play.

adventurism ▶ n. willingness to take risks in business or politics.

– DERIVATIVES **adventurist** n. & adj.

adventurous ▶ adj. open to or involving new or daring methods or experiences.

– DERIVATIVES **adventurously** adv. **adventurousness** n.

adverb ▶ n. Grammar a word or phrase that modifies the meaning of an adjective, verb, or other adverb, or of a sentence (e.g. *gently*, *very*, *fortunately*).

– ORIGIN ME: from L. *adverbium*, from *ad-* 'to'

(expressing addition) + *verbum* 'word, verb'.

adverbial ▶ n. a word or phrase functioning as a major clause constituent and typically expressing place

(*in the garden*), time (*in May*), or manner (*in a strange way*).

▶ adj. relating to or functioning as an adverb or adverbial.

– DERIVATIVES **adverbially** adv.

adversarial /ˌædvə'sɪəriəl/ ▶ adj. 1 involving or

characterized by conflict or opposition. 2 law (of legal

proceedings) in which the parties involved have the

responsibility for finding and presenting evidence.

Compare with **ACCUSATORIAL**, **INQUISITORIAL**.

– DERIVATIVES **adversarially** adv.

adversary /ˌædvəs(ə)ri, ˌædvəs(ə)ri/ ▶ n. (pl. **adversaries**)

an opponent. ▶ adj. another term for **ADVERSARIAL**.

– ORIGIN ME: from OFr. *adversarie*, from L. *adversarius*

'opposed, opponent', from *adversus* (see **ADVERSE**).

adversative /ˌædvəs(ə)tɪv/ ▶ adj. Grammar (of a word or

phrase) expressing opposition or antithesis.

adverse /ˌædvəs/ ▶ adj. preventing success or

development; unfavourable.

– DERIVATIVES **adversely** adv.

– ORIGIN ME: from OFr. *advers*, from L. *adversus* 'against,

opposite', from *advertere*, from *ad-* 'to' + *vertere* 'to turn'.

USAGE A common error is to use **adverse** instead of

averse, as in *I am not adverse to helping out*, rather

than the correct form *I am not averse to helping out*.

adversity ▶ n. (pl. **adversities**) difficulty or misfortune.

advert /ˌædvɜ:t/ ▶ n. Brit. informal an advertisement.

advert /ˌædvɜ:t/ ▶ v. (**advert to**) formal refer to.

– ORIGIN ME: from OFr. *advertire*, from L. *advertere* (see

ADVERSE).

advertise ▶ v. 1 publicize (a product, service, or

event) in order to promote sales or attendance. 2 make

(something) known. 3 archaic notify.

– DERIVATIVES **advertiser** n. **advertising** n.

– ORIGIN ME: from OFr. *advertiss*, lengthened stem of

advertir, from L. *advertere* (see **ADVERSE**).

advertisement ▶ n. 1 a notice or display advertising

something. 2 archaic a notice to readers in a book.

adventorial /ˌædvə'tɔ:riəl/ ▶ n. an advertisement in the

style of an editorial or objective journalistic article.

advice ▶ n. 1 guidance or recommendations offered

with regard to future action. 2 a formal notice of a sale,

delivery, or other transaction. 3 (**advice**) archaic news.

– ORIGIN ME: from OFr. *avis*, based on L. *ad-* 'to' + *visum*,

past part. of *videre* 'to see'.

advisable ▶ adj. to be recommended; sensible.

– DERIVATIVES **advisability** n.

advise ▶ v. 1 recommend (a course of action). 2 offer

advice to. 2 inform about a fact or situation.

– DERIVATIVES **adviser** (also **advisor**) n.

– ORIGIN ME: from OFr. *avis*, based on L. *ad-* 'to' +

visere, frequentative of *videre* 'to see'.

advised ▶ adj. acting in a way that would be

recommended; sensible.

– DERIVATIVES **advisedly** adv.

advisement ▶ n. archaic or N. Amer. careful consideration.

▶ advice or counsel.

– PHRASES **take something under advisement** N. Amer.

reserve judgement while considering something.

advisory ▶ adj. having the power to make

recommendations but not to enforce them.

▶ recommended but not compulsory. ▶ n. (pl. **advisories**)

chiefly N. Amer. an official announcement or warning.

advocaat /ˌædvə'kɑ:t/ ▶ n. a liqueur made with eggs,

sugar, and brandy.

– ORIGIN Du., lit. 'advocate' (being orig. considered a

lawyer's drink).

advocate ▶ n. /ˌædvə'kæt/ 1 a person who publicly

supports or recommends a particular cause or policy.

2 a person who pleads a case on someone else's behalf.

▶ Scottish term for **BARRISTER**. ▶ v. /ˌædvə'keɪt/ publicly

recommend or support.

– DERIVATIVES **advocacy** n. **advocation** n.

– ORIGIN ME: from OFr. *avocat*, from L. *advocat*,

advocare 'call (to one's aid)', from *ad-* 'to' + *vocare* 'to

call'.

advocate deputy ▶ n. (pl. **advocates depute**) (in

Scotland) any of a number of officers who assist the

Lord Advocate in prosecutions.

advocate general ▶ n. (pl. **advocates general**) any

of a number of officers assisting the judges in the

European Court of Justice.

adwoson /ˌædvəʊz(ə)n/ ▶ n. Brit. (in ecclesiastical law)

the right to recommend a member of the Anglican

clergy for a vacant benefice, or to make such an

appointment.

– ORIGIN ME: from OFr. *avooson*, from L. *advocatio* (n.),

from *advocare* (see **ADVOCATE**).

advt ▶ abbr. advertisement.

adware ▶ n. Computing software that automatically

displays or downloads advertising material such as

banners or pop-ups.

Adyghe /ˌædɪ'geɪ, ˌædɪ'geɪ/ (also **Adygei**) ▶ n. (pl. same)

1 a member of a mainly Sunni Muslim people of the

NW Caucasus. 2 the North Caucasian language of the

Adyghe.

adytum /ˌædɪ'təm/ ▶ n. (pl. **adyta** /-tə/) the innermost

sanctuary of an ancient Greek temple.

– ORIGIN L., from Gk *aduton*, neut. sing. of *adutos*

'impenetrable'.

adze /ˌædz/ (US **adz**) ▶ n. a tool similar to an axe, with an

arched blade at right angles to the handle. ▶ v. (**adz**,

adzing, **adzed**) cut with an adze.

– ORIGIN OE *adesa*, of unknown origin.

adzuki /ˌædzʊ:'ki/ (also **adzuki**) ▶ n. (pl. **adzukis**) 1 a small,

round dark-red edible bean. 2 the bushy Asian plant

which produces adzuki beans. [*Vigna angularis*].

– ORIGIN C18: from Japanese *azuki*.

Æ (also **æ**) ▶ n. a letter used in Old English to represent a

vowel intermediate between a and e (see **ASH**).

-ae /i:, ai/ ▶ suffix forming plural nouns: 1 used in names

of animal and plant families and other groups: *Felidae*.

2 used instead of *-as* in the plural of many non-

naturalized nouns ending in *-a* derived from Latin or

Greek: *larvae*.

– ORIGIN L. pl. suffix, or representing the Gk pl. ending *-ai*.