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[also in the sense 'illusion, delusion']; from Old French *fantasme*, based on Greek *phantasma* (see PHANTASM).

phantom limb ▶ *n.* a sensation experienced by someone who has had a limb amputated that the limb is still there.

phar. (also **Phar.**) ▶ *abbr.* ■ pharmaceutical. ■ pharmacology. ■ pharmacopoeia. ■ pharmacy.

Phar-ao /'fɑːr,ɔː/; /'fɑːr,ɔː/; /'fɑːr,ɔː/ (also **phar-ao**) ▶ *n.* a ruler in ancient Egypt. ▶ Middle English: via ecclesiastical Latin from Greek *Pharaō*, from Hebrew *par'ōh*, from Egyptian *pr-'o* 'great house.' —**phar-ao-ic** /,fɑːr'ɑːnɪk/; /fɑːr'ɑːnɪk/ *adj.*

phar-ao ant (also **pharaoh's ant**) ▶ *n.* a small red or yellowish African ant that has established itself worldwide, living as a pest in heated buildings. • *Monomorium pharaonis*, family Formicidae. ▶ so named because such ants were believed (erroneously) to be one of the plagues of ancient Egypt.

Phar-aohound ▶ *n.* a hunting dog of a short-coated tan-colored breed with large, pointed ears. ▶ 1960s: so named because the breed is said to have been first introduced to Malta and Gozo (a Maltese island) by Phoenician sailors.

Phar.B. ▶ *abbr.* Bachelor of Pharmacy.

Phar.D. ▶ *abbr.* Doctor of Pharmacy.

Phar-i-see /'fɑːrɪ'siː/ ▶ *n.* a member of an ancient Jewish sect, distinguished by strict observance of the traditional and written law, and commonly held to have pretensions to superior sanctity. ■ a self-righteous person; a hypocrite.

The Pharisees are mentioned only by Josephus and in the New Testament. Unlike the Sadducees, who tried to apply Mosaic law strictly, the Pharisees allowed some freedom of interpretation. Although in the Gospels they are represented as the chief opponents of Jesus, they seem to have been less hostile than the Sadducees to the nascent Church, with which they shared belief in the Resurrection.

▶ Old English *fariseus*, via ecclesiastical Latin from Greek *Pharisaios*, from Aramaic *parīšayā* 'separated ones' (related to Hebrew *parīš* 'separated'). —**Phar-isa-ic** /,fɑːr'ɪsɑːk/ *adj.* —**Phar-isa-ical** /,fɑːr'ɪsɑːkəl/ *adj.* —**Phar-isa-ism** /-sɑː'ɪzəm/ *n.*

pharm. ▶ *abbr.* ■ pharmaceutical. ■ pharmacology. ■ pharmacopoeia. ■ pharmacy.

Phar.M. ▶ *abbr.* Master of Pharmacy.

phar-ma-ceu-ti-cal /,fɑːmɑː'siːdɪkəl/ ▶ *adj.* of or relating to medicinal drugs, or their preparation, use, or sale.

▶ *n.* (usu. **pharmaceuticals**) a compound manufactured for use as a medicinal drug. ■ (**pharmaceuticals**) companies manufacturing medicinal drugs. ▶ mid 17th cent.: via late Latin from Greek *pharmakēutikos* (from *pharmakēutēs* 'druggist', from *pharmakon* 'drug') + *-AL*. —**phar-ma-ceu-ti-cal-ly** /-(ə)lɪ/ *adv.* —**phar-ma-ceu-tics** /-sɪdɪks/ *n.*

phar-ma-cist /'fɑːmɑːsɪst/ ▶ *n.* a person who is professionally qualified to prepare and dispense medicinal drugs.

pharmacology ▶ *comb. form* relating to drugs: *pharmacology*. ▶ from Greek *pharmakon* 'drug, medicine.'

phar-ma-co-dy-nam-ics /,fɑːmɑːkɔːdɪ'næmɪks/ ▶ *plural n.* [treated as *sing.*] the branch of pharmacology concerned with the effects of drugs and the mechanism of their action. —**phar-ma-co-dy-nam-ic** /-mɪk/ *adj.*

phar-ma-co-ge-net-ics /,fɑːmɑːkɔːdʒə'netɪks/ ▶ *plural n.* [treated as *sing.*] the branch of pharmacology concerned with the effect of genetic factors on reactions to drugs.

phar-ma-cog-no-sy /,fɑːmɑːkɔːɡnəsɪ/ ▶ *n.* the branch of knowledge concerned with medicinal drugs obtained from plants or other natural sources. ▶ mid 19th cent.: from **PHARMACO-** 'of drugs' + *gnōsis* 'knowledge.' —**phar-ma-cog-no-sist** /-sɪst/ *n.*

phar-ma-co-ki-net-ics /,fɑːmɑːkɔːkɪ'netɪks/ ▶ *plural n.* [treated as *sing.*] the branch of pharmacology concerned with the movement of drugs within the body. —**phar-ma-co-ki-net-ic** /-tɪk/ *adj.*

phar-ma-col-o-gy /,fɑːmɑːkɔːlədʒɪ/ ▶ *n.* the branch of medicine concerned with the uses, effects, and modes of action of drugs. ▶ early 18th cent.: from modern Latin *pharmacologia*, from Greek *pharmakon* 'drug.' —**phar-ma-col-og-ic** /,fɑːmɑːkɔː'lɔːdʒɪk/ *adj.* —**phar-ma-col-og-i-cal** /-lɔːdʒɪkəl/ *adj.* —**phar-ma-col-og-i-cal-ly** *adv.* —**phar-ma-col-o-gist** /-kɔːlədʒɪst/ *n.*

phar-ma-co-pe-ia /,fɑːmɑːkɔː'piːə/ (also **phar-ma-co-poe-ia**) ▶ *n.* a book, esp. an official publication, containing a list of medicinal drugs with their effects and directions for their use. ■ a stock of medicinal

drugs. ▶ early 17th cent.: modern Latin, from Greek *pharmakopoiia* 'art of preparing drugs,' based on *pharmakon* 'drug' + *-poiia* 'making.'

phar-ma-co-phore /'fɑːmɑːkɔːfɔːr/ ▶ *n.* a part of a molecular structure that is responsible for a particular biological or pharmacological interaction that it undergoes.

phar-ma-co-ther-a-py /,fɑːmɑːkɔː'therəpi/ ▶ *n.* medical treatment by means of drugs.

phar-ma-cy /'fɑːmɑːsɪ/ ▶ *n.* (*pl.* **-cies**) a store where medicinal drugs are dispensed and sold. ■ the science or practice of the preparation and dispensing of medicinal drugs. ▶ late Middle English (denoting the administration of drugs): from Old French *farmacie*, via medieval Latin from Greek *pharmakeia* 'practice of the druggist,' based on *pharmakon* 'drug.'

Pharos /'feɪrɔːs/ a lighthouse, often considered one of the Seven Wonders of the World, erected by Ptolemy II (308–246 BC) in c.280 BC on the island of Pharos, off the coast of Alexandria. ■ [as *n.*] (**pharos**) a lighthouse or a beacon to guide sailors.

Pharr /fɑːr/ a city in southern Texas, in the Rio Grande valley; pop. 32,921.

phar-yn-ge-al /fɑː'rɪŋ(ə)l/; /fɑːrɪn'ʒeəl/ ▶ *adj.* of or relating to the pharynx. ■ **Phonetics** (of a speech sound) produced by articulating the root of the tongue with the pharynx, a feature of certain consonants in Arabic, for example.

▶ *n.* **Phonetics** a pharyngeal consonant. ▶ early 19th cent.: from modern Latin *pharyngeus* (from Greek *pharynx*, *pharyng-* 'throat') + *-AL*.

phar-yn-ge-al-ize /fɑː'rɪŋ(ə)lɪz/ ▶ *v.* [*trans.*] **Phonetics** articulate (a speech sound) with constriction of the pharynx. —**phar-yn-ge-al-iza-tion** /fɑː'rɪŋ(ə)lɪzə'siən/ *n.*

phar-yn-gitis /fɑːrɪn'jɪtɪs/ ▶ *n.* **Medicine** inflammation of the pharynx, causing a sore throat.

pharyngo- ▶ *comb. form* of or relating to the pharynx: *pharyngotomy*. ▶ from modern Latin *pharynx*, *pharyng-*.

pharynx /'fɑːrɪŋks/ ▶ *n.* (*pl.* **phar-yn-ges** /fɑː'rɪŋ(ə)z/ or **phar-ynx-es**) **Anatomy & Zoology** the membrane-lined cavity behind the nose and mouth, connecting them to the esophagus. ■ **Zoology** the part of the alimentary canal immediately behind the mouth in invertebrates. ▶ late 17th cent.: modern Latin, from Greek *pharynx*, *pharyng-*.

phase /fɑːz/ ▶ *n.* 1 a distinct period or stage in a process of change or forming part of something's development: *the final phases of the war* [as *adj.*] *phase two of the development is in progress.* ■ a stage in a person's psychological development, esp. a period of temporary unhappiness or difficulty during adolescence or a particular stage during childhood: *you are not obsessed, but you are going through a phase.* ■ each of the aspects of the moon or a planet, according to the amount of its illumination, esp. the new moon, the first quarter, the full moon, and the last quarter. ■ **Riding** each of the separate events in an eventing competition. 2 **Zoology** a genetic or seasonal variety of an animal's coloration. ■ a stage in the life cycle or annual cycle of an animal. 3 **Chemistry** a distinct and homogeneous form of matter (i.e., a particular solid, liquid, or gas) separated by its surface from other forms. 4 **Physics** the relationship in time between the successive states or cycles of an oscillating or repeating system (such as an alternating electric current or a light or sound wave) and either a fixed reference point or the states or cycles of another system with which it may or may not be in synchrony.

▶ *v.* [*trans.*] (usu. **be phased**) 1 carry out (something) in gradual stages: *the work is being phased over a number of years* [as *adj.*] (**phased**) *a phased withdrawal of troops.* ■ (**phase something in/out**) introduce into (or withdraw from) use in gradual stages: *our armed forces policy was to be phased in over 10 years.* 2 **Physics** adjust the phase of (something), esp. so as to synchronize it with something else. ▶ early 19th cent. (denoting each aspect of the moon): from French *phase*, based on Greek *phasis* 'appearance,' from the base of *phaínein* 'to show.'

▶ **PHRASE** □ in (or out of) **phase** being or happening in (or out of) synchrony or harmony: *the cabling work should be carried out in phase with the building work.*

phase angle ▶ *n.* **Physics** an angle representing a difference in phase, 360 degrees (2π radians) corresponding to one complete cycle. ■ **Astronomy** the angle between the lines joining a given planet to the sun and to the earth.

phase contrast ▶ *n.* the technique in microscopy of introducing a phase difference between parts of the light supplied by the condenser so as to enhance the

outlines of the sample, or the boundaries between parts differing in optical density.

phase dia-gram ▶ *n.* **Chemistry** a diagram representing the limits of stability of the various phases in a chemical system at equilibrium, with respect to variables such as composition and temperature.

phase-lock ▶ *v.* [*trans.*] **Electronics** fix the frequency of (an oscillator or a laser) relative to a stable oscillator of lower frequency by a method that utilizes a correction signal derived from the phase difference generated by any shift in the frequency.

phase mod-u-la-tion /,mæjə'læʃən/ ▶ *n.* **Electronics** variation of the phase of a radio or other wave as a means of carrying information such as an audio signal.

phase-out /'fɑːzəʊt/ ▶ *n.* an act of discontinuing a process, project, or service in phases.

phas-er /'fæzər/ ▶ *n.* 1 an instrument that alters a sound signal by phasing it. 2 (in science fiction) a weapon that delivers a beam that can stun or annihilate.

phase rule ▶ *n.* **Chemistry** a rule relating the possible numbers of phases, constituents, and degrees of freedom in a chemical system.

phase shift ▶ *n.* **Physics** a change in the phase of a waveform.

phase space ▶ *n.* **Physics** a multidimensional space in which each axis corresponds to one of the coordinates required to specify the state of a physical system, all the coordinates being thus represented so that a point in the space corresponds to a state of the system.

phas-ic /'fæzɪk/ ▶ *adj.* of or relating to a phase or phases. ■ chiefly **Physiology** characterized by occurrence in phases rather than continuously: *phasic and tonic stretch reflexes.*

phas-ing /'fæzɪŋ/ ▶ *n.* the relationship between the timing of two or more events, or the adjustment of this relationship: *graphical techniques were used to investigate the phasing of traffic lights.* ■ the modification of the sound signal from an electric guitar or other electronic instrument by introducing a phase shift into either of two copies of it and then recombining them. ■ the action of dividing a large task or process into several stages: *the phasing of the overall project.*

Phas-mi-da /'fæzɪmɪdɑː/ 1 **Entomology** an order of insects that comprises the stick insects and leaf insects. They have very long bodies that resemble twigs or leaves. 2 **Zoology** a class of nematodes that includes the parasitic hookworms and roundworms. Also called **SECERNENTEA**. ▶ modern Latin (plural), from Latin *phasma* 'apparition,' from Greek. —**phas-mid n. & adj.**

pha-sor /'fæzər/ ▶ *n.* **Physics** a line used to represent a complex electrical quantity as a vector. ▶ 1940s: from **PHASE**, on the pattern of *vector*.

phat /fæt/ ▶ *adj.* *informal* excellent: *a phat and funky sound.* ▶ 1970s (originally used to describe a woman, in the sense 'sexy, attractive'): of uncertain origin.

phatic /'fæɪtɪk/ ▶ *adj.* denoting or relating to language used for general purposes of social interaction, rather than to convey information or ask questions. Utterances such as *hello, how are you?* and *nice morning, isn't it?* are phatic. ▶ 1920s: from Greek *phatos* 'spoken' or *phatikos* 'affirming.'

Ph.B. ▶ *abbr.* Bachelor of Philosophy. ▶ Latin *Philosophiae Baccalaureus*.

Ph.C. ▶ *abbr.* Pharmaceutical Chemist.

PhD ▶ *abbr.* Doctor of Philosophy. ▶ from Latin *philosophiae doctor*.

pheasant /'fezənt/ ▶ *n.* a large long-tailed game bird native to Asia, the male of which typically has very showy plumage. • Family *Phasianidae*: several genera and many species, in particular the **ring-necked**



ring-necked pheasant

Pronunciation Key ə ago; ɔ over; 'ə or 'ə up; 'ər or 'ər fur; a hat; ʌ rate; ɑ car; CH chew; e let; ê see; e(ə) air; ɪ fit; i by; i(ə) ear; NG sing; ɔ go; ɔ fur; ɔ boy; ɔō good; ɔō goo; ou out; SH she; TH thin; ʒ the; (h)w why; ʒH vision