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nik\ *adj* — **clo·nic·i·ty** \klō-'ni-sə-tē klä-\ *n*
cloot \'klüt\ *n* [prob. of Scand origin; akin to ON *klō* claw — more at CLAW] (1725) 1 *Scot* : a cloven hoof 2 *pl, cap, Scot* : CLOOTIE
Cloot·ie \'klü-tē\ *n* [dim. of *cloot*] chiefly *Scot* — used as a name of the devil
clop \'kläp\ *n* [imit.] (1899) : a sound made by or as if by a hoof or wooden shoe against the pavement — **clop vi**
clop-clop \'kläp-,kläp\ *n* (1901) : a sound of rhythmically repeated clops — **clop-clop vi**
clo·que also **clo·qué** \klō-'kā, 'klō-\ *n* [F *cloqué*, fr. pp. of *cloquer* to become blistered, fr. F dial. (Picard) *cloque* bell, bubble, fr. ML *clocca* bell — more at CLOCK] (1936) 1 : a fabric with an embossed design 2 : a fabric esp. of piqué with small woven figures
¹**close** \'klöz\ *vb* **closed; clos·ing** [ME, fr. OF *clos-*, stem of *clore*, fr. L *claudere* to shut, close; perh. akin to Gk *kleiein* to close — more at CLAVICLE] *vt* (13c) 1 **a** : to move so as to bar passage through something <~ the gate> **b** : to block against entry or passage <~ a street> **c** : to deny access to <the city *closed* the beach> **d** : SCREEN, EXCLUDE <~ a view> **e** : to suspend or stop the operations of <~ school> — often used with *down* 2 *archaic* : ENCLOSE, CONTAIN 3 **a** : to bring to an end or period <~ an account> **b** : to conclude discussion or negotiation about <the question is *closed*>; also : to consummate by performing something previously agreed <~ a transfer of real estate title> **c** : to terminate access to (a computer file) 4 **a** : to bring or bind together the parts or edges of <a *closed* book> **b** : to fill up (as an opening) **c** : to make complete by circling or enveloping or by making continuous <~ a circuit> **d** : to reduce to nil <*closed* the distance to the lead racer> ~ *vi* 1 **a** : to contract, fold, swing, or slide so as to leave no opening <the door *closed* quietly> **b** : to cease operation <the factory *closed* down> <the stores ~ at 9 p.m.> 2 **a** : to draw near <the ship was *closing* with the island> **b** : to engage in a struggle at close quarters : GRAPPLE <~ with the enemy> 3 **a** : to come together : MEET **b** : to draw the free foot up to the supporting foot in dancing 4 : to enter into or complete an agreement 5 : to come to an end or period 6 : to reduce a gap <*closed* to within two points> — **clos·able** or **close·able** \'klō-zə-bəl\ *adj* — **clos·er** *n* — **close one's doors** 1 : to refuse admission <the nation *closed* its doors to immigrants> 2 : to go out of busi-

\ə\ **abut** \ə\ **kitten**, F **table** \ər\ **further** \a\ **ash** \ā\ **ace** \ä\ **mop**, mar
 \au\ **out** \ch\ **chin** \e\ **bet** \ē\ **easy** \g\ **go** \i\ **hit** \ī\ **ice** \j\ **job**
 \ŋ\ **sing** \ō\ **go** \ó\ **law** \ói\ **boy** \th\ **thin** \th\ **the** \ü\ **loot** \ù\ **foot**
 \y\ **yet** \zh\ **vision** \á, k, ⁿ, œ, œ̄, œ, ū, \ see Guide to Pronunciation

ness — **close one's eyes to** : to ignore deliberately — **close ranks** : to unite in a concerted stand esp. to meet a challenge — **close the door** : to be uncompromisingly obstructive (<*closed the door* to further negotiation)

syn CLOSE, END, CONCLUDE, FINISH, COMPLETE, TERMINATE mean to bring or come to a stopping point or limit. CLOSE usu. implies that something has been in some way open as well as unfinished (<*close a debate*>). END conveys a strong sense of finality (<*ended his life*>). CONCLUDE may imply a formal closing (as of a meeting) (<the service *concluded* with a blessing>). FINISH may stress completion of a final step in a process (<after it is painted, the house will be *finished*>). COMPLETE implies the removal of all deficiencies or a successful finishing of what has been undertaken (<the resolving of this last issue *completes* the agreement>). TERMINATE implies the setting of a limit in time or space (<your employment *terminates* after three months>).

²**close** \ˈklōz\ *n* (14c) **1 a** : a coming or bringing to a conclusion (<at the ~ of the party> **b** : a conclusion or end in time or existence : CESSATION (<the decade drew to a ~> **c** : the concluding passage (as of a speech or play) **2** : the conclusion of a musical strain or period : CADENCE **3** *archaic* : a hostile encounter **4** : the movement of the free foot in dancing toward or into contact with the supporting foot

³**close** \ˈklōs, U.S. also ˈklōz\ *n* [ME *clos*, lit., enclosure, fr. OF *clos*, fr. L *clausum*, fr. neut. of *clausus*, pp.] (13c) **1 a** : an enclosed area **b** *chiefly Brit* : the precinct of a cathedral **2** *chiefly Brit* **a** : a narrow passage leading from a street to a court and the houses within or to the common stairway of tenements **b** : a road closed at one end

⁴**close** \ˈklōs\ *adj* **clos·er**; **clos·est** [ME *clos*, fr. MF, fr. L *clausus*, pp. of *claudere*] (14c) **1** : having no openings : CLOSED **2 a** : confined or carefully guarded (<~ arrest> **b** (1) *of a vowel* : HIGH 13 (2) : formed with the tongue in a higher position than for the other vowel of a pair **3** : restricted to a privileged class **4 a** : SECLUDED, SECRET **b** : SECRETIVE (<she could tell us something if she would . . . but she was as ~ as wax — A. Conan Doyle> **5** : STRICT, RIGOROUS (<keep ~ watch> **6** : hot and stuffy **7** : not generous in giving or spending : TIGHT **8** : having little space between items or units (<a ~ weave> **9 a** : fitting tightly or exactly **b** : very short or near to the surface (<a ~ haircut> **10** : being near in time, space, effect, or degree **11** : INTIMATE, FAMILIAR **12 a** : ACCURATE, PRECISE (<a ~ study> **b** : marked by fidelity to an original (<a ~ copy of an old master> **c** : TERSE, COMPACT **13** : decided or won by a narrow margin (<a ~ baseball game> **14** : difficult to obtain (<money is ~> **15** *of punctuation* : characterized by liberal use esp. of commas **syn** see STINGY — **close·ly** *adv* — **close·ness** *n* — **close to home** : within one's personal interests so that one is strongly affected (<the speaker's remarks hit *close to home*> — **close to the vest** : in a reserved or cautious manner

⁵**close** \ˈklōs\ *adv* (15c) : in a close position or manner

close call \ˈklōs-\ *n* (1881) : a narrow escape

close corporation \ˈklōs-\ *n* (ca. 1902) : a corporation whose stock is not publicly traded but held by a few persons (as those in management)

clipped short \ˈklōs-,kräpt\ *adj* (ca. 1893) **1** : clipped short **2** : hav-