American Heritage Dictionary Entry: ventures



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ven ture 1 (věn chər)

- 1. An undertaking that is dangerous, daring, or of uncertain outcome.
- A business enterprise involving some risk in expectation of gain.
 Something, such as money or cargo, at hazard in a risky enterprise.
- v. ven·tured, ven·tur·ing, ven·tures
- vtr
- 1. To expose to danger or risk: ventured her entire fortune on a single stock
- 2. To brave the dangers of: ventured the high seas in a small boat
- 3. To express at the risk of denial, criticism, or censure: "I would venture to guess that Anon., who wrote so many poems without signing them, was often a woman" (Virginia Woolf). v.intr
- 1. To take a risk; dare.
- 2. To proceed despite possible danger or risk: *ventured into the wilderness*. *Idiom*:

at a venture

By mere chance or fortune; at random

[Middle English, chance, short for *aventure*, adventure; see ADVENTURE.]

ven⊡tur∙er n.

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Indo-European & Semitic Roots Appendices

Thousands of entries in the dictionary include etymologies that trace their origins back to reconstructed proto-languages. You can obtain more information about these forms in our online appendices

Indo-European Roots

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Semitic Roots
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The Indo-European appendix covers nearly half of the Indo-European roots that have left their mark on English words. A more complete treatment of Indo-European roots and the English words derived from them is available in our Dictionary of Indo-European Roots.

This website is best viewed in Chrome, Firefox, Microsoft Edge, or Safari. Some characters in pronunciations and etymologies cannot be displayed properly in Internet Explorer.

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