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o·yez  (ō yěs', ō yěz', ō'yā) also **o·yes** (ō yěs')

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interj.

Said loudly three times in succession to call a court to order when the session begins.

[Middle English, from Anglo-Norman French, hear ye, imperative pl. of *oyer*, to hear, from Latin *audīre*; see [au-](#) [in the Appendix of Indo-European roots](#).]

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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:

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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](#).

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