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aux·il·ia·ry  (ôg-zîl yə-rē, -zîl ə-rē)

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adj.

1. Giving assistance or support; helping.
2. Acting as a subsidiary; supplementary: *the main library and its auxiliary branches.*
3. Held in or used as a reserve: *auxiliary troops; an auxiliary power generator.*
4. *Nautical* Equipped with a motor as well as sails.
5. *Grammar* Of, relating to, or being an auxiliary verb.

n. pl. aux·il·ia·ries

1. An individual or group that assists or functions in a supporting capacity: *a volunteers' auxiliary at a hospital.*
2. A member of a foreign body of troops serving a country in war.
3. *Grammar* An auxiliary verb.
4. *Nautical*
 - a. A sailing vessel equipped with a motor.
 - b. A vessel, such as a supply ship or a tug, that is designed for and used in instances and services other than combat.

[Middle English, from Latin *auxiliārius*, from *auxilium*, help; see **aug-** [in the Appendix of Indo-European roots.](#)]

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