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dictionary

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pre·emp·tion  (prē-ěmp shən)

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n.

1.

a. The right to purchase something before others, especially the right to purchase public land that is granted to one who has settled on that land.

b. A purchase made by such a right.

2. Prior seizure of, appropriation of, or claim to something, such as property.

3. The action of preempting, as the use of military force in a preemptive attack.

4. Law The doctrine that federal law takes precedence over state law.

[[PRE-](#) + Latin *ēemptiō*, *ēemptiōn-*, buying (from *ēemptus*, past participle of *emere*, to buy; see [em-](#) [in the Appendix of Indo-European roots](#)).]

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Indo-European & Semitic Roots Appendices

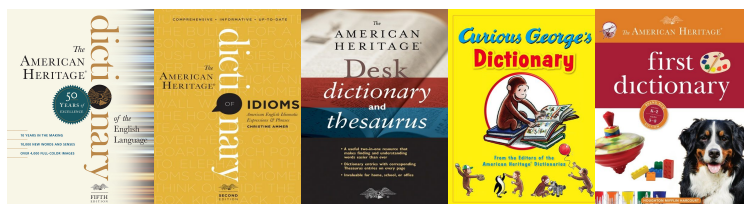
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