lobby noun  \\ˈlä-bē\

plural -es

1 a : a corridor or hall connected with a larger room or series of rooms and used as a passageway or waiting room

<ignorant where the narrow lobbies led — Emily Brontë>

<this lobby of many doors at the head of the windowed staircase — Elizabeth Bowen>

<the small lobby of the post office — Willard Robertson>

: such as

(1) : one of the two corridors or anterooms of the British House of Commons to which members go to vote when the House divides on a motion

<time and again, on issues of foreign policy, Labor and Conservative MPs have gone into the same lobby — New Republic>

(2) : a large hall serving as a foyer or anteroom

<a hotel lobby>

<a theater lobby>

(3) : an anteroom of a capitol

b archaic : a small room or enclosure: such as (1) : a small apartment on board ship (2) : a small enclosed pen for cattle (3) : a watchman’s enclosure in or outside a factory

2 a : the persons who frequent the lobbies of a legislative house to do business with the members; specifically: persons not members of a legislative body and not holding government office who attempt to influence legislators or other public officials through personal contact

b : a particular group of such persons representing a special interest

Origin of LOBBY

Medieval Latin lobium, lobia, laubia covered walk, gallery, portico, of Germanic origin; akin to Old High German lōuba, lōuppea protective roof, porch — more at LODGE

First Known Use: 1593 (sense 1a)

Related to LOBBY

Synonyms: hall, foyer

Related Words: entranceway, entry, entryway, hallway, vestibule; concourse, corridor, gallery, passageway; antechamber, anteroom, chamber, waiting room
1 **political** adjective \pə-ˈli-ti-kəl, pō-

1 **a** : of or relating to government, a government, or the conduct of governmental affairs

**b** : of or relating to matters of government as distinguished from matters of law

*<political sovereignty>*

*<political recognition of a new nation>*

—compare LEGAL 3a

**c** : engaged in civil as distinguished from military functions

*<a political officer>*

— see POLITICAL AGENT

**d** : of, relating to, or concerned with the making as distinguished from the administration of governmental policy

2 archaic : POLITIC 2

*<whether it would be political to interfere — James Mill>*

3 **a** : of, relating to, or concerned with politics

**b** : of, relating to, or involved in party politics

*<political activity>*

*<political party>*

— compare ADMINISTRATIVE, NONPARTISAN

4 : organized in governmental terms — see POLITICAL UNIT

**Origin of POLITICAL**

Latin * politicus* political + English -al

First Known Use: 1529 (sense 1a)

**Pronunciation Symbols**

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