1. A form of data transfer and communications, most often used with printers. It is the opposite of and an alternative to serial communications. Printers and other devices are said to be either parallel or serial. Parallel means the device is capable of receiving more than one bit at a time (that is, it receives several bits in parallel). 2. A type of bus connection, transferring data in a similar means as a parallel printer connection. 3. In electronics, two components can be connected together in two different ways, series and parallel. Each component has two different ends or poles. They can be positive and negative but may not be. For identification, they are known as Alpha and Beta. While the nomenclature is not exactly original, it serves the purpose. If similar components, such as a resistor and another resistor, or a capacitor and another capacitor, are in parallel in a circuit, the alpha pole of one is connected to the alpha pole of the other, directly, while the beta pole and other beta pole also connect directly.

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