

Chambers
Pocket
Dictionary

Chambers Pocket Dictionary

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Abbreviations used in the dictionary

<i>abbrev.</i>	abbreviation	<i>i.e.</i>	(L. <i>id est</i>) that is	<i>pl.</i>	plural
<i>adj(s).</i>	adjective(s)	<i>imit.</i>	imitative	<i>pr.p.</i>	present participle
<i>adv(s).</i>	adverb(s)	<i>imper.</i>	imperative	<i>pr.t.</i>	present tense
<i>and/or</i>	'and' or 'or'— both or either	<i>incl.</i>	including	<i>prep.</i>	preposition
<i>cap.</i>	capital	<i>infin.</i>	infinitive	<i>prob.</i>	probably
<i>cent.</i>	century	<i>infl.</i>	influenced	<i>pron.</i>	pronounced
<i>coll.</i>	colloquial(ly)	<i>interj.</i>	interjection	<i>pron(s).</i>	pronoun(s)
<i>comp.</i>	comparative	<i>masc.</i>	masculine	<i>R.C.</i>	Roman Catholic
<i>conj.</i>	conjunction	<i>mod.</i>	modern	<i>S.</i>	South
<i>conn.</i>	connected (with), connection	<i>N.</i>	North	<i>sing.</i>	singular
<i>contr.</i>	contracted	<i>n(s).</i>	noun(s)	<i>sq.</i>	square
<i>dial.</i>	dialect	<i>neut.</i>	neuter	<i>sfx.</i>	suffix
<i>Dict.</i>	dictionary	<i>n.pl.</i>	noun plural	<i>superl.</i>	superlative
<i>dim.</i>	diminutive	<i>opp.</i>	opposed, opposite	<i>usu.</i>	usual(ly)
<i>E.</i>	East	<i>orig.</i>	origin, original(ly)	<i>v(s).</i>	verb(s)
<i>e.g.</i>	(L. <i>exempli gratia</i>) for example	<i>p.</i>	penny, pence	<i>vb(s).</i>	
<i>esp.</i>	especially	<i>pa.p.</i>	past participle	<i>v(s).i.</i>	verb(s) intransitive
<i>fem.</i>	feminine	<i>pass.</i>	passive	<i>v(s).t.</i>	verb(s) transitive
<i>fol.</i>	following	<i>pa.t.</i>	past tense	<i>vulg.</i>	vulgar(ly)
		<i>perh.</i>	perhaps	<i>W.</i>	West
		<i>px.</i>	prefix		

Abbreviations of names of languages or regions

<i>Afr.</i>	African	<i>Heb.</i>	Hebrew	<i>Pers.</i>	Persian
<i>Amer.</i>	American	<i>Ir.</i>	Irish	<i>Port.</i>	Portuguese
<i>Austr.</i>	Australian	<i>It.</i>	Italian	<i>Russ.</i>	Russian
<i>Celt.</i>	Celtic	<i>Jap.</i>	Japanese	<i>S. Afr.</i>	South African
<i>Dan.</i>	Danish	<i>L.</i>	Latin	<i>Scand.</i>	Scandinavian
<i>Du.</i>	Dutch	<i>M.</i>	Middle	<i>Scot.</i>	Scottish
<i>Engl.</i>	English	<i>M.E.</i>	Middle English	<i>Sp.</i>	Spanish
<i>Fr.</i>	French	<i>Norw.</i>	Norwegian	<i>Swed.</i>	Swedish
<i>Gael.</i>	Gaelic	<i>N.Z.</i>	New Zealand	<i>Turk.</i>	Turkish
<i>Ger.</i>	German	<i>O.</i>	Old	<i>U.S.(A.).</i>	United States
<i>Gk.</i>	Greek	<i>O.E.</i>	Old English	<i>W.</i>	Welsh

In etymologies, a dash (—) means 'from'.

Pronunciation guide

Accented syllables are shown by putting a stress mark after the accented syllable, thus: *ban'dit*, *dis-pel'*, *dis-gust'ing*.

Vowels and diphthongs in accented syllables

Sound	Examples	Pronunciation
<i>ā</i> as in	fate, bare	<i>nām, hār</i>
<i>ā</i> as in	father, far	<i>grās, hārm</i>
<i>a</i> as in	sat	<i>bad, hav</i>
<i>ē</i> as in	me, fear	<i>lēn, hēr</i>
<i>e</i> as in	pet	<i>red, sed</i>
<i>ī</i> as in	mine, sire	<i>sīd, hīr</i>
<i>i</i> as in	bid	<i>pin, biz'i</i>
<i>ō</i> as in	mote, more	<i>bōn, flōr</i>
<i>o</i> as in	got	<i>shot, shon</i>
<i>ō</i> as in	all, for, more	<i>lōn, hōrn, flōr</i>
<i>oo</i> as in	moon, poor	<i>fōol, tōor</i>
<i>oo</i> as in	foot	<i>fool, wood</i>
<i>ū</i> as in	mute, pure	<i>tūn, in-dūr'</i>
<i>u</i> as in	bud	<i>run, luv</i>
<i>ū</i> as in	her	<i>hūrd, būrd, wūrd, āb-sūrd'</i>
<i>ow</i> as in	house, hour	<i>movnt, sowr</i>
<i>oi</i> as in	boy	<i>boi, soil</i>

Vowels of unaccented syllables

These are marked with a dot to show that they are not pronounced as distinctly as in accented syllables: *in'fānt*, *sī'lēnt*, *bish'ōp*, *om'ni-būs*.

Consonants.

b, d, f, h, j, k, l, m, n, p, r, s, t, v, w, and *z* are pronounced as in standard English.

The following other symbols are used:

Sound	Examples	Pronunciation
<i>ch</i> as in	cheap	<i>chūrch</i>
<i>g</i> as in	good	<i>gām</i>
<i>H</i> as in	loch	<i>pē'broH</i>
<i>hw</i> as in	where	<i>hwot</i>
<i>ng</i> as in	sing	<i>rang, long'gēr</i>
<i>sh</i> as in	shine	<i>shāp, shoog'ār</i>
<i>th</i> as in	thin	<i>thēm, helth</i>
<i>TH</i> as in	then	<i>THō, bāTH</i>
<i>y</i> as in	yet	<i>yung, fē'tyūr (or fē'chūr)</i>
<i>zh</i> as in	azure	<i>mez'hūr, vizh'(ò)n</i>

Additional sounds in foreign words

an' and *on'* are French nasal vowels, as in *vin blanc*. ' is used where a pronunciation with *é* is possible, but not obligatory, in French, as in *timbre tan'br'*.

Preface

Chambers Pocket Dictionary provides in a concise but easy-to-read form a wide selection of the words most likely to be met with in everyday life. It is completely up-to-date, and reflects, as far as its scope allows, the latest trends and developments in science and technology and in the world at large.

The definitions are clear and simple, and many examples have been added which show the words in use in phrases and sentences.

Help has been given with the spelling of parts of verbs, plurals of nouns, and comparatives and superlatives of adjectives:

- (a) where a letter is doubled (as in *grin, grinning, grinned; big, bigger, biggest*) or where doubt about doubled letters could arise (as in *benefit, benefiting, benefited*);
- (b) where a final *-y* or *-o* might cause difficulty (as *fairy, fairies; silly, sillier, silliest; potato, potatoes*);
- (c) with all present participles of verbs ending in *-e*, most of which simply drop the *-e* before *-ing* (as in *smile, smiling*; but *die, dying, and singe, singeing*).

Where the past tense of an irregular verb is different from the past participle, both forms are of course given in the dictionary. Where only the past participle is given, the past tense is to be understood as being the same as the past participle.

In this dictionary, words such as *realise* and *realisation* are spelled *-ise* and *-isation*, but it is equally correct to spell them *-ize* and *-ization*.

Finally, the editors would like to thank Catherine Schwarz and John Simpson for their assistance with the preparation of the *Pocket Dictionary*.

A

a, an *à, àn*, or emphatic *ā, an*, *adjs.* the indefinite article (*a* is used before words starting with the sound of a consonant, e.g. *a dog, a year, a ewe*; *an* is used before words beginning with the sound of a vowel, e.g. *an ear, an honour*) 1 one. 2 any. 3 each, every.

[O.E. *ān*, one.]

A1 *ā'wun'*, *adj.* 1 classed as A1 in Lloyd's Register of ships. 2 (*coll.*) very good.

aback *à-bak'*, *adv.* (of sails) pressed backward against the mast by the wind.

taken **aback** taken by surprise and rather upset.

abacus *ab'ā-kūs*, *n.* a counting-frame. [L.]

abaft *ā-bāft'*, *adv.* 1 on the stern part of a ship. 2 behind.—*prep.* behind.

[O.E. *bæftan*, behind.]

abandon *à-ban'dòn*, *v.t.* 1 to give up. 2 to desert. 3 to yield (oneself) without restraint (to): *to abandon oneself to despair*.—*n.* careless freedom of action.

aban'doned *adj.* 1 completely deserted. 2 very wicked.

aban'donment *n.* the act of abandoning.

[O.Fr. *à bandon*, at the disposal (of).]

abase *à-bās'*, *v.t.* to humble:—*pr.p.* *abas'ing*.

abāsement *n.*

[Through O.Fr.—same L. root as *base*².]

abash *à-bash'*, *v.t.* to make ashamed or confused; to disconcert.

[O.Fr. *esbahir*, to be amazed—*interj.* *bah!*]

abate *à-bāt'*, *v.t.* 1 to make less. 2 to deduct.—*v.i.* to grow less:—*pr.p.* *abat'ing*.

abate'ment *n.* 1 the act of abating. 2 the sum or quantity abated.

[O.Fr. *abatre*, to beat down.]

abattoir *a'bāt-wār, -bāt', -wār'*, *n.* a public slaughterhouse. [Fr.]

abbacy *ab'ā-si*, *n.* 1 the office of an abbot. 2 an abbey:—*pl.* *abb'acies*.

abbé *ab'ā*, *n.* 1 orig. the French name for an abbot. 2 a priest or clergyman.

abbess *ab'es*. See *abbot*.

abbey *ab'i*, *n.* 1 a convent under an abbot or abbess. 2 the church now or formerly attached to it:—*pl.* *abb'eys*.

abbot *ab'òt*, *n.* the male head of an abbey:—*fem.* *abb'ess*.

[Late L. *abbātia*, abbey; L. *abbās*, abbot (from Palestine word for 'father').]

abbreviate *à-brē'vi-āt*, *v.t.* 1 to shorten. 2 to abridge:—*pr.p.* *abbrē'viating*.

abbreviā'tion *n.* 1 the act of shortening. 2 a part of a word used for the whole.

[L. *abbreviāre*—*brevis*, short.]

ABC *ā-bē-sē*, *n.* 1 the alphabet. 2 a table of information alphabetically arranged, e.g. a railway timetable. 3 a course of basic instruction: *the ABC of bicycle maintenance*.

abdicate *ab'di-kāt*, *v.t.* and *v.i.* formally to give up (office or dignity):—*pr.p.* *ab'dicating*.

abdica'tion *n.*

[L. *ab*, from, *dicāre*, to proclaim.]

abdomen *ab-dō'mèn*, or *ab'*, *n.* 1 the belly. 2 the part of the body below the chest.

abdom'inal (*-dom'-'*) *adj.*

[L.]

abduct *ab-dukt'*, *v.t.* 1 to take away by fraud or violence. 2 to kidnap.

abduc'tion *n.*

[L. *abducere*—*ab*, from, *dūcere*, to draw, lead.]

abeam *à-bēm'*, *adv.* on the beam, or in a line at right angles to a vessel's length.

aberration *ab-ēr-ā'sh(ō)n*, *n.* 1 act of wandering from the right path or from the normal way of behaving. 2 a mental lapse.

[L. *aberrare*—*errare*, to wander.]

abet *à-bet'*, *v.t.* to give encouragement or aid to (used chiefly in a bad sense):—*pr.p.* *abetting*; *pa.p.* *abetted*.

abetter, *abetter* *ns.*

[O.Fr. *abeter*.]

abeyance *à-bā'āns*: In **abeyance** 1 undecided for the present: *The matter was left in abeyance.* 2 left unfilled for the time being: *The office of president was in abeyance.*

[O.Fr. *abeance*—*beer*, *baer*, to gape.]

abhor *àb-hōr'*, *v.t.* 1 to detest, loathe. 2 to shun, reject utterly:—*pr.p.* *abhorring*; *pa.p.* *abhorred*.

abhorrence *n.*

abhorrent *adj.* hateful: *Deceit was abhorrent to him.*

[L. *abhorrere*—*ab*, from; same root as *horror*.]

abide *à-bīd'*, *v.t.* to endure, tolerate: *I cannot abide an unpunctual person.*—*v.i.* (old-fashioned) to dwell; to stay:—*pr.p.* *abiding*; *pa.t.* *abode* or *abided*.

abide by to adhere to, act according to: *to abide by one's promise; to abide by the terms of the treaty.*

[O.E. *ābīdan*—*bīdan*, to wait.]

ability. See **able**.

abject *ab'jekt*, *adj.* cowering, miserable.

abjectly *adv.* *abjectness* *n.*

[L. *abjectus*, cast away—*jacere*, to throw.]

abjure *àb-jōor'*, *v.t.* to swear to give up or to leave for ever:—*pr.p.* *abjuring*.

[L. *ab*, from, *jurare*, to swear.]

ablaze *à-blāz'*, *adv.*, *adj.* (not used before a noun) 1 burning strongly. 2 very bright.

able *ā'bl*, *adj.* 1 having enough strength, power, or means (to do a thing). 2 skilful, talented, clever.

ability *à-bil'i-ti*, *n.* 1 the quality of being able. 2 power (physical or mental). 3 sufficient strength, skill, etc. (to do something):—*pl.* *abilities*; *opp.* *inability*.

ably *adv.*

able-bodied *adj.* having a strong body. **able seaman**, **able-bodied seaman** (*abbrev.* *A.B.*) one able to perform all the duties of seamanship and having a higher rating than the ordinary sailor.

See also **disable**.

[O.Fr. (*h*)*able*—L. *habere*, to have.]

ablution *à-blōō'sh(ō)n*, *n.* (often in *pl.*, usu. *humorous*) act of washing, esp. the body.

[L. *ablutio*—*ab*, away, *luere*, to wash.]

abnormal *ab-nōr'māl*, *adj.* 1 not normal. 2 very unusual.

abnormality *n.* (*pl.* *-ies*).

abnormally *adv.*

[Fr. *anormal*—Gk. *anōmalos*, uneven; see **anomaly**.]

aboard *à-bōrd'*, *-bōrd'*, *adv.* or *prep.* 1 on board. 2 in, or into (a ship, a train, etc.).

abode *à-bōd'*, *n.* a dwelling-place, house.

of no fixed abode without a permanent address.

[O.E. *ābīdan* (*pa.t.* *ābād*), to wait.]

abode². See **abide**.

abolish *à-bol'ish*, *v.t.* 1 to put an end to, to do away with. 2 to annul.

abolition *n.*

abolitionist *n.* one who seeks to abolish anything, e.g. capital punishment or (*history*) slavery.

[Fr. *abolir*; from L.]

A-bomb *ā'bom*, *n.* an atomic bomb.

abominate *à-bom'in-āt*, *v.t.* to loathe, detest extremely:—*pr.p.* *abominating*.

abominable *adj.* hateful, detestable.

abominably *adv.*

abominā'tion *n.* 1 loathing. 2 anything disgusting or detestable.

abominable snowman a large ape-like creature supposed to inhabit the snows of Tibet (also *yeti*).

[L. *abōmināri*, turn from as of bad omen.]

aborigines *ab-ō-rij'in-ēz*, *n.pl.* the original or native inhabitants of a country:—*sing.*

aborigine (*-rij'i-nē*), *slang abbrev.*

ab'ō:—*pl.* *ab'ōs*.

aboriginal *adj.* earliest, primitive.—*n.* one of the aborigines.

[L.—*ab origine*, from the beginning.]

abort *à-bōrt'*, *v.i.* 1 to miscarry in birth. 2 to cease to develop before development is complete. 3 to come to nothing.—*v.t.*

1 to terminate the development of (a foe-

tus), or a pregnancy in (a female). 2 to put a stop to, abandon (a project, etc.).

abor'tion *n.*

abor'tive *adj.* unsuccessful: *an abortive attempt.*

[L. *ab*, opposite to, *oriri*, rise.]

abound *à-bownd'*, *v.i.* 1 to be in plentiful supply. 2 to be rich (in), well supplied (with).

See also **abundance**.

[L. *abundare*, to overflow—*unda*, a wave.]

about *à-bowt'*, *prep.* 1 round on the outside of. 2 all round. 3 here and there in. 4 on (one's person). 5 belonging to, as a quality. 6 near (place, time, size, etc.). 7 concerning.—*adv.* 1 around. 2 near. 3 nearly. 4 here and there. 5 on the opposite tack. 6 in the opposite direction: *to face about.*

be about to to be on the point of.

time, turn, **about** alternately, in turn.

week, day, etc. **about** every alternate week, day, etc.

[O.E. *on būtan*.]

above *à-buv'*, *prep.* 1 on or to the upper side of. 2 higher than. 3 more than. 4 too proud or too good to descend to.—*adv.* 1 overhead. 2 in a higher position, order, or power. 3 at an earlier point in a writing.

above-board *adj.* open, honourable.

[O.E. *ābūfan*.]

abrade *à-brād'*, *v.t.* 1 to rub off (skin, etc.). 2 to wear down by friction:—*pr.p.* **abrad'ing**.

abrasion *à-brāzh'(ō)n*, *n.* 1 the act of rubbing off. 2 an injury caused by scraping or rubbing.

abrā'sive (*-ziv*, *-siv*) *adj.* 1 scraping. 2 of speech, behaviour, etc., tending to hurt other people's feelings.—*n.* something that abrades (as emery).

[L. *ab*, off, *rādere*, to scrape.]

abreast *à-brest'*, *adv.* 1 with fronts in a line. 2 side by side. 3 up with: *abreast of the times.*

abridge *à-brij'*, *v.t.* to shorten:—*pr.p.* **abridg'ing**.

abridg'ement (sometimes **abridge'ment**) *n.* [From O.Fr.; L. root as *abbreviate*.]

abroad *à-brōd'*, *adv.* 1 over a wide area. 2 out of doors; at large. 3 in, or to, another country or other countries.—*n.* another

country or other countries: *letters from abroad.*

[O.E. *on*, *on*, and *broad*.]

abrogate *ab'rò-gāt*, *v.t.* to set aside, to do away with (e.g. a law):—*pr.p.* **ab'rogating**.

abrogā'tion *n.*

[L. *ab*, away, *rogāre*, to ask, propose a law.]

abrupt *à-brupt'*, *adj.* 1 the opposite of gradual. 2 steep. 3 sudden, hasty. 4 (of style) passing suddenly from one thought to another. 5 (of manners) ungracious, rude.

abrupt'ly *adv.* **abrupt'ness** *n.*

[L. *abruptus*—*ab*, off, *rumpere*, *ruptum*, break.]

abscess *ab'ses*, *n.* an inflamed area or swelling, containing pus, formed within a tissue of the body.

[L. *abscessus*—*abs*, away, *cēdere*, *cessum*, go.]

abscond *àb-skond'*, *v.i.* to run away secretly, esp. in order to escape the law.

[L. *abscondere*—*abs*, away, *condere*, to hide.]

absent *ab'sent*, *adj.* 1 away, not present. 2 not existing. 3 inattentive.—*v.t.* (*àb-sent'*) to keep (oneself) away (from e.g. a meeting).

ab'sence *n.* 1 the state of being away. 2 want (of). 3 inattention.

absentee (*-iē'*) *n.* 1 one who is absent. 2 one who makes a habit of being away from his estate, office or employment.—*Also adj.* (used only before a noun).

absentee'ism *n.* the practice of being absent from duty.

ab'sently *adv.*

ab'sent-mind'ed *adj.* inattentive to what is happening round one.

absence of mind forgetfulness, inattention.

[L. *absens*, *pr.p.* of *abesse*, to be away.]

absinth(e) *ab'sinth*, *n.* 1 wormwood. 2 a liqueur containing (orig. at least) extract of wormwood.

[Fr. *absinthe*; from L.]

absolute *ab'sòl-ūt*, or *-ōt*, *adj.* 1 free from limits or restrictions. 2 not limited by rules or laws: *an absolute monarch*. 3 complete, certain: *absolute proof*.

ab'solutely *adv.* 1 without restriction. 2 completely.—*interj.* (-ūt', -ōōt') certainly, I agree.

absolute alcohol water-free alcohol.

absolute zero the lowest possible temperature, approximately -273°C.

[L. *absolutus*; same root as *absolve*.]

absolution. See *absolve*.

absolve *āb-zolv'*, or *-solv'*, *v.t.* 1 to set free, release (from a promise or duty, or from blame). 2 to pardon. 3 to acquit:—*pr.p.* *absol'ving*.

absolution *āb-sōl-ū'sh(ō)n*, or *-ōō'*, *n.* 1 setting free from punishment. 2 forgiveness, esp. forgiveness of sins formally declared by a priest.

[L. *absolvēre*—*ab*, from, *solvēre*, *solūtum*, free.]

absorb *āb-sōrb'*, or *-zōrb'*, *v.t.* 1 to suck in, soak up (liquids, etc.). 2 to take in (information, etc.). 3 to take up the whole attention of. 4 to use fully (a person's energies, etc.). 5 to take over (other businesses, etc.).

absorb'ent *adj.* and *n.* (something) able to absorb (*def.* 1).

absorb'ency *n.*

absorp'tion *n.* 1 the act of absorbing. 2 entire occupation of mind.

[L. *ab*, from, *sorbēre*, to suck in.]

abstain *āb-stān'*, *v.i.* to keep oneself away (from), refrain (from).

abstain'er *n.* one who abstains, esp. from drinking alcohol.

absten'tion *n.* the act of refraining (from).

abstinent *āb'stīn-ēnt*, *adj.* keeping oneself from indulgence (e.g. in alcohol).

ab'stinance *n.*

[L. *abs*, from, *tenēre*, to hold.]

abstemious *āb-stēm'i-ūs*, *adj.* taking little food or drink, indulging in few pleasures.

abstem'iously *adv.*

abstem'iousness *n.*

[L. *abstēmius*—*abs*, from, *tēmētum*, wine.]

abstention, abstinence, etc. See *abstain*.

abstract *āb-strakt'*, *v.t.* 1 to draw away or out. 2 to remove quietly. 3 to summarise.—*adj.* (*āb'strakt*) 1 (of a noun) denoting a quality or condition: *Redness, courage, justice, poverty, are abstract nouns.* 2 (of art) concerned more with

design, colour, shape, etc., than with faithful representation.—*n.* a summary.

abstract'ed *adj.* absent-minded.

abstract'edly *adv.*

abstrac'tion *n.* 1 the act of abstracting. 2 absence of mind.

in the abstract in theory.

[L. *abs*, away, *trahēre*, to draw.]

abstruse *āb-strōōs'*, *adj.* difficult to understand, obscure: *abstruse reasoning.*

abstruse'ness *n.*

[L. *abstrusus*—*abs*, from, *trūdēre*, to thrust.]

absurd *āb-sūrd'*, *adj.* 1 unreasonable. 2 ridiculous.

absurd'ness, absurd'ity (*pl.* -ies) *ns.*

absurd'ly *adv.*

[L. *absurdus*—*ab*, very, *surdus*, deaf, dull.]

abundance *ā-bun'dāns*, *n.* plentiful supply.

abund'ant *adj.* 1 plentiful. 2 rich (in).

abund'antly *adv.* more than sufficiently: *abundantly obvious.*

[Same root as *abound*.]

abuse *ā-būz'*, *v.t.* 1 to use wrongly. 2 to betray (e.g. a confidence). 3 to injure. 4 to reproach, scold violently:—*pr.p.* *abus'ing*.—*n.* (*āb-ūs'*) 1 ill or wrong use. 2 unjust use. 3 harsh, offensive language. 4 an evil practice or custom.

abus'ive (-ūs'-) *adj.* rudely scolding or reproachful.

abus'ively *adv.* **abus'iveness** *n.*

See also *misuse*.

[L. *ab*, away (from what is right), *ūtī*, to use.]

abut *ā-but'*, *v.i.* 1 to be joined at end or side (with *on* (*to*), *upon*, *against*). 2 to border (on):—*pr.p.* *abutt'ing*; *pa.p.* *abutt'ed*.

[Fr. *à*, to, *bout*, end.]

abysmal *ā-biz'māl*, *adj.* 1 very deep or great: *abysmal ignorance.* 2 (*coll.*) very bad: *abysmal behaviour.*

[L. *abyssimus*; same root as *abyss*.]

abyss *ā-bis'*, *n.* a bottomless depth, chasm.

[Gk. *abyssos*, bottomless.]

acacia *ā-kā'sh(y)ā*, *n.* a thorny plant, a wattle.

[Gk. *akē*, a sharp point.]

academic, etc. See *academy*.

academy *ā-kad'em-i*, *n.* 1 a college giving special training: *a military, naval academy.* 2 a society for the encouragement

of science or art. 3 esp. in Scotland, a (usu. secondary) school:—*pl.* acad'emies.

academ'ic *adj.* 1 of a college or university. 2 scholarly. 3 theoretical as opposed to practical.—*n.* one pursuing a scholarly career, e.g. as a university teacher.

academ'ical *adj.* academic.—*n.* (in *pl.*) university cap and gown.

academ'ically *adv.*

academician *â-kad-è-mish'an*, *n.* (esp. with *cap.*) a member of an academy (*def.* 2), e.g. an artist elected to the Royal Academy in London.

[Gk. *Akadēmia*, the name of the garden near Athens where Plato taught.]

acanthus *â-kan'this*, *n.* 1 a prickly-leaved plant. 2 an ornament resembling its leaves, used in architecture.

[L.—Gk. *akantha*, thorn.]

accede *ak-sēd'*, *v.i.* 1 to come into office. 2 to give consent: *I cannot accede to your request*:—*pr.p.* *acced'ing*.

See also accession.

[L. *accēdere*—*ad*, to, *cēdere*, *cessum*, go.]

accelerate *ak-sel'ēr-āt*, *v.t.* 1 to increase the speed of. 2 to cause to happen sooner.—*v.i.* to move faster:—*pr.p.* *accel'erating*.

accelerā'tion *n.* 1 increase of speed. 2 the rate of change of velocity.

accel'erator *n.* 1 something that accelerates, e.g. a lever, pedal, etc. for regulating the speed of a machine. 2 an apparatus for giving high energy to atomic particles.

[L. *accelerāre*—*ad*, to, *celer*, swift.]

accent *ak'sent*, *n.* 1 (usu. in *pl.*) tone of the voice. 2 a stress on a syllable or word. 3 a mark (') to show this stress. 4 in certain languages, any of several marks placed over letters to indicate quality of sound. 5 the kind of pronunciation typical of a particular region, class, etc. 6 emphasis.—*v.t.* (*âk-sent'*) 1 to stress. 2 to mark with an accent (*defs.* 3, 4).

accent'uate *v.t.* 1 to emphasise. 2 to make more obvious:—*pr.p.* *accent'uating*.

accentuā'tion *n.*

[L. *accentus*—*ad*, to, *cantus*, song.]

accept *âk-sept'*, *v.t.* 1 to take (something offered). 2 to take upon oneself (e.g. responsibility). 3 to acknowledge as true: *I accept your story of what happened*. 4

to agree to. 5 to undertake to pay: *to accept a bill of exchange*.

accept'able *adj.* 1 satisfactory (to someone). 2 pleasing.

accept'ably *adv.*

accept'ance *n.* 1 act of accepting. 2 approval.

acceptā'tion *n.* a meaning, esp. the generally understood meaning of a word, etc.

accept'ed *adj.* generally approved of or believed in.

[L. *accipere*—*ad*, to, *capere*, to take.]

access *ak'ses*, *n.* 1 a means or right of approach, contact, or use. 2 entrance. 3 an increase. 4 an attack or fit: *an access of rage*.

access'ible *adj.* 1 able to be reached. 2 open or available (to):—*opp.* *inaccessible*.

accessibil'ity *n.*

accession *âk-sesh'(ò)n*, *n.* 1 a coming into esp. high office, e.g. the position of king or queen: *Charles II's accession to the throne*. 2 an addition: *accessions to the library*.

[Same root as accede.]

accessory *âk-ses'âr-i*, *adj.* 1 additional. 2 (*law*; also *access'ary*) taking part as a helper in a crime.—*n.* 1 anything additional (*esp.* in *pl.*): *her handbag, scarf and other accessories*; *The car was fitted with useful accessories*. 2 (*law*; also *access'ary pl. -ies*) one who aids a crime:—*pl.* *access'ories*.

[Same root as accede.]

accident *ak'si-dent*, *n.* 1 an unexpected event. 2 chance. 3 a mishap or disaster.

accident'al *adj.* happening by chance.—*n.* (*music*) a sharp, flat, or natural not in the key signature.

accident'ally *adv.*

chapter of accidents a series of unfortunate happenings.

[L. *accidere*, to happen—*cadere*, to fall.]

acclaim *â-klām'*, *v.t.* 1 to applaud. 2 to hail: *He was acclaimed as the finest sprinter of his generation*.—*n.* enthusiastic approval.

acclamā'tion *n.* (a shout of) applause, enthusiastic agreement or approval.

[L. *acclamāre*—*ad*, to, *clāmāre*, to shout.]

acclimatise *â-klī-mā-tīz*, *v.t.* to accustom to a new climate or new surroundings:—*pr.p.* *acclim'ating*.

acclimatisā'tion *n.*

[Fr. *à*, to, *climat*, climate.]

acclivity *à-kliv'i-ti*, *n.* an upward slope:—*pl.* *accliv'ities*.

[L. *ad*, to, *clivus*, a slope.]

accolade *ak'ò-lād*, *n.* 1 orig. an embrace, now a light touch on each shoulder with the flat of a sword performed in making a man a knight. 2 any recognition of merit.

[Fr.—L. *ad*, to, *collum*, neck.]

accommodate *à-kom'òd-āt*, *v.t.* 1 to make suitable. 2 to adjust. 3 to supply (with). 4 to oblige. 5 to provide with a place to stay. 6 to find, or be, a place for (something):—*pr.p.* *accomm'odating*.

accomm'odating *adj.* obliging.

accommodā'tion *n.* 1 lodging. 2 room, space (for).

[L. *accommodāre*—*ad*, to, *commodus*, suitable.]

accompany *à-kum'pān-i*, *v.t.* 1 to go with. 2 to escort. 3 to exist or occur along with. 4 to perform a musical accompaniment to or for:—*pr.p.* *accom'panying*; *pa.p.* *accom'panied*.

accompaniment *n.* 1 something that accompanies. 2 music played to support a soloist, etc.

accompanist *n.* one who plays music for a soloist.

[Fr. *à*, to, *compagne*, companion.]

accomplice *à-kum'plis*, or *-kom'*, *n.* a helper, esp. in crime.

[Same root as *complicity*.]

accomplish *à-kum'plish*, or *-kom'*, *v.t.* 1 to finish. 2 to fulfil; to achieve.

accomplished *adj.* highly skilled.

accomplishment *n.* 1 finishing, completion. 2 achievement. 3 a special skill.

[O.Fr. *acomplir*—L. *ad*, to, *complere*, to fill up.]

accord *à-körd'*, *v.i.* to agree (with), be in keeping (with).—*v.t.* to grant, give to (a person).—*n.* agreement.

accord'ance *n.* agreement.

accord'ingly *adv.* therefore.

according to 1 in agreement with: *He acted according to his promise.* 2 as said or told by: *according to the witness.*

of one's own accord without being prompted to do it by someone else.

with one accord with spontaneous unanimity.

[L. *ad*, to, *cor*, *cordis*, heart.]

accordion *à-kör'di-ön*, *n.* a musical instrument with bellows, keyboard, and metal reeds.

accord'ion-pleat'ing *n.* pleating with very narrow folds.

[From *accord*.]

accost *à-kost'*, *v.t.* to go up to and speak to, esp. in an unfriendly, or a sexually suggestive, way.

[L. *ad*, to, *costa*, a side.]

account *à-kownt'*, *v.i.* 1 to give a reason (for). 2 to be a reason (for). 3 to deal with, get rid of (with *for*).—*n.* 1 a counting. 2 a statement of money due. 3 (usu. in *pl.*) a record of money received and spent. 4 a person's money, deposited in a bank or post-office, that he can add to or withdraw. 5 an arrangement with a shop, etc., by which one pays a bill e.g. monthly, rather than at the time of purchase. 6 story; report. 7 sake: *on my account* (for my sake, because of me).

account'able *adj.* 1 able to be explained. 2 responsible (*for* something, *to* someone).

account'ant *n.* one who is trained to keep accounts.

account'ancy *n.* the work of an accountant.

bring, call, to account to demand an explanation from.

by all accounts in everyone's opinion.

on account of because of.

on no account not for any reason.

take into account to consider as part of the problem: *I'll take his illness into account when marking his test.*

take (no) account of (not) to take into consideration.

turn to (good) account to turn to one's advantage.

[L. *ad*, to, *computāre*, to reckon.]

accoutrements *à-kōō'tèr-mènts*, *n.pl.* 1 dress. 2 military equipment.

[Fr. *accouter*, to equip.]

accredit *à-kred'it*, *v.t.* to give authority to.

accred'ited *adj.* having power to act on behalf of some person or group of persons.

[Fr. *accréditer*—*à*, to, *crédit*, credit.]

accrue *à-krōō'*, *v.t.* 1 to come as a natural result (from). 2 to fall naturally (to a

person) as a right:—*pr.p.* **accru'ing**; *pa.p.* **accrued'**.

[Through O.Fr.—L. *accrescere*, to grow.]

accumulate *à-kūm'ūl-āt*, *v.t.* to pile up, to amass.—*v.i.* to increase or pile up greatly through time:—*pr.p.* **accum'ulating**.

accumulā'tion *n.* 1 the act of piling up. 2 a mass or pile.

accum'ulative *adj.* heaping up.

accum'ulātor *n.* 1 a thing or person that accumulates. 2 an electric battery that can be recharged by sending a reverse current through it. 3 the part of a computer, etc. that stores numbers.

[From L. *ad*, to, *cumulus*, a heap.]

accurate *ak'ūr-it*, *adj.* 1 exactly right. 2 exact:—*opp.* **inaccurate**.

acc'uracy *n.* **acc'urately** *adv.*

[L. *accūrātus*—*ad*, to, *cūra*, care.]

accursed *à-kūrs'id*, *adj.* 1 lying under a curse. 2 doomed. 3 extremely wicked.

[O.E. *cursian*, to curse.]

accuse *à-kūz'*, *v.t.* to make, or bring, a charge against: *They accused him of stealing*:—*pr.p.* **accus'ing**.

accusā'tion *n.* the charge brought against anyone.

accused *à-kūzd'*, *n.* or *n.pl.* the person(s) accused in a court of law.

[L. *accūsāre*—*ad*, to, *causa*, cause.]

accustom *à-kus'tòm*, *v.t.* to make (someone, oneself) used (to): *I've had to accustom myself to getting up early*.

accus'tomed *adj.* 1 usual. 2 used (to).

[O.Fr. *acostumer*.]

ace *ās*, *n.* 1 the one in dice, cards, dominoes, etc. 2 an outstanding expert: *He's an ace with a rifle; a flying ace*. 3 in tennis, a serve that cannot be returned.—*adj.* (used only before a noun) expert: *an ace snooker-player*.

within an ace of barely avoiding.

[Fr. *as*—L. *as*, unity.]

acerbity *à-sūr'bi-ti*, *n.* 1 bitterness, sourness. 2 harshness.

[L. *acerbus*, bitter.]

acetic acid *à-sē'tik* (or *set'*) *as'id*, vinegar.

[L. *acetum*, vinegar.]

acetylene *à-set'i-lēn*, *n.* a gas used for welding, etc., made from water and calcium carbide.

[*acetic*, and Gk. *hyiē*, matter.]

ache *āk*, *n.* a continued pain.—*v.i.* 1 to be in continued pain or continuously painful. 2 to long, pine (for, to do):—*pr.p.* **ach'ing**.

ach'ing *n.* and *adj.*

[O.E. *acan*, to ache.]

achieve *à-chēv'*, *v.t.* 1 to carry out, perform. 2 to gain, win:—*pr.p.* **achiev'ing**.

achieve'ment *n.* 1 performance. 2 gaining. 3 a deed to be admired.

[Fr. *achever*.]

acid *as'id*, *adj.* 1 sharp; sour. 2 sarcastic.—*n.* 1 a sour substance. 2 (*chemistry*) a substance that turns blue litmus red, combines with a base to form a salt, etc.

acid'ify *v.t.* and *v.i.* to (cause to) become acid (*def. 1*):—*pr.p.* **acid'ifying**; *pa.p.* **acid'ified**.

acid'ity, **ac'idness** *ns.*

acid'ulate *v.t.* to make slightly acid:—*pr.p.* **acid'ulating**.

acid test 1 a test for gold by acid. 2 a searching test.

[L. *acidus*—*acēre*, to be sour.]

acknowledge *àk-nol'ij*, *v.t.* 1 to own as true. 2 to confess. 3 to announce receipt of: *to acknowledge a letter*:—*pr.p.* **acknowl'edging**.

acknowl'edg(e)ment *n.* 1 admission. 2 confession. 3 (a sign of) recognition. 4 (an expression of) thanks.

[O.E. *on*, *on*, and *knowledge*.]

acme *ak'mē*, *-mī*, *n.* the top or highest point: *the acme of perfection*.

[Gk. *akmē* (also *akē*), a point.]

acne *ak'nē*, *-nī*, *n.* a common skin disease with pimples.

[Prob. same origin as *acme*.]

acolyte *ak'ò-līt*, *n.* 1 a minor church officer. 2 an attendant; a follower.

[Gk. *akolouthos*, an attendant.]

aconite *ak'òn-īt*, *n.* a plant of the buttercup family.

[L. *aconitum*.]

acorn *ā'körn*, *n.* the fruit of the oak.

[O.E. *æcern*.]

acoustic *à-kōōs'tik*, *adj.* (usu. used before a noun) 1 having to do with hearing, or with sound. 2 used in hearing. 3 worked, set off, by sound: *an acoustic mine*. 4 (of musical instruments) not electric: *an acoustic guitar*.

acous'tics *n. pl.* properties (e.g. of a room or hall) which make hearing in it good or bad.—*n. sing.* the science of sound.

[Gk. *akouein*, to hear.]

acquaint *ā-kwānt'*, *v. t.* (with *with*) 1 to make (oneself) familiar with: *New members should acquaint themselves with the club rules.* 2 to inform (a person) about: *Acquaint her with your plans.*

acquaint'ance *n.* 1 (slight) personal knowledge of, familiarity with, someone or something. 2 a person, or the persons, known (slightly) to one.

acquaint'anceship *n.* acquaintance (*def. 1*).

be acquainted 1 to know one another (slightly). 2 (with *with*) to have some personal knowledge of.

[Through O.Fr.—L. *ad*, to, *cognitus*, known.]

acquiesce *ak-wi-es'*, *v. i.* 1 to agree. 2 (with *in*) to accept: *to acquiesce in this plan*:—*pr. p.* *acquiesc'ing*.

acquies'cence *n.* **acquies'cent** *adj.*

[L. *ad*, *quies*, quiet.]

acquire *ā-kwīr'*, *v. t.* to gain; to get.

acquire'ment *n.* something learned or got by effort.

acquisition *a-kwi-zi'sh(ō)n*, *n.* 1 the act of acquiring. 2 something acquired. 3 a useful gain.

acquis'itive *adj.* eager to get possessions.

acquis'itiveness *n.*

[L. *ad*, to, *quaerere*, *quaesitum*, seek.]

acquit *ā-kwit'*, *v. t.* to declare innocent:—*pr. p.* *acquitt'ing*; *pa. p.* *acquitt'ed*.

acquitt'al *n.* 1 freeing from an accusation. **acquit oneself** to conduct oneself, do one's part: *He acquitted himself well in the debate.*

[O.Fr. *acquiter*—L. *ad*, with same root as *quit*.]

acre *ā-kēr*, *n.* 1 a measure of land, 4840 sq. yards (0.405 hectare). 2 (in *pl.*) lands, estates.

acreage *ā-kēr-ij*, *n.* the number of acres in a piece of land.

[O.E. *æcer*.]

acrid *ak'rid*, *adj.* 1 unpleasantly bitter in taste or smell. 2 angry, bitter.

acrid'ity, **ac'ridness** *ns.*

[L. *acer*, sharp.]

acrimony *ak'ri-mōn-i*, *n.* bitterness of feeling or speech.

acrimōn'ious *adj.*

[L. *acrimonia*; same root as *acrid*.]

acrobat *ak'rō-bat*, or *-rō-*, *n.* one who performs gymnastic feats.

acrobat'ic *adj.*

acrobat'ics *n. pl.* acrobatic feats.

[Gk. *akrobatos*, walking on tiptoe.]

across *ā-kros'*, *prep.* 1 from side to side of.

2 on, or to, the other side of.—Also *adv.*

[O.E. *on*, *on*, and *cross*.]

acrostic *ā-kros'tik*, *n.* a poem or puzzle in which the first or last letters of each line, taken in order, spell a word or a sentence.

[Gk. *akros*, extreme, *stichos*, a line.]

acrylic *ā-kril'ik*, *adj.* (of a material) synthetically produced from acrylic acid.—

Also *n.*

[From *acrolein*, a chemical; same root as *acrid*.]

act *akt*, *v. i.* 1 to do something. 2 to produce an effect (on). 3 to behave: *If this happened, how would you act?* 4 to perform

(e.g. on the stage). 5 to pretend. 6 to serve (as). 7 (with *for*; *law*, etc.) to represent.—*v. t.* 1 to perform. 2 to imitate

or play the part of.—*n.* 1 a deed. 2 the very process (of doing something). 3 a law. 4 a section of a play.

act'ing *n.* 1 action. 2 performing.—*adj.* carrying out the duties of, esp. for a time:

the acting president.

action *ak'sh(ō)n*, *n.* 1 a deed. 2 operation: *The machine is not in action.* 3 a battle.

4 a gesture. 5 a lawsuit. 6 the events (of a play; etc.). 7 the mechanism (e.g. of a watch).

ac'tionable *adj.* liable to be the subject of a lawsuit.

act'ivate *v. t.* 1 to make active. 2 to make radioactive:—*pr. p.* *act'ivating*.

active *ak'tiv*, *adj.* 1 energetic; nimble. 2 busy. 3 causing action. 4 in force:—*opp.*

inactive.

act'ively *adv.* **act'iveness** *n.*

act'ivist *n.* one who believes in strong political action.

activ'ity *n.* 1 activeness. 2 action, motion. 3 occupation:—*pl.* **activ'ities**; *opp.* **inactivity**.

act'or *n.* one who performs in plays, etc.:—*fem.* **act'ress**.

action station a post to be manned during, or in readiness for, battle or other operation.

[L. *agere, actum.*]

actual *ak'tū-əl, adj.* 1 real; existing in fact. 2 present, current.

actual'ity *n.* 1 reality. 2 (in *pl.*) present conditions or facts:—*pl.* **actual'ities.**

act'ually *adv.* really; in fact.

[L. *actuālis*; same root as *act.*]

actuary *ak'tū-ār-i, n.* one who makes the calculations in an insurance office:—*pl.* **act'uaries.**

actuarial *ak-tū-ā'ri-əl, adj.*

[L. *actuārius (scriba)*, a clerk.]

actuate *ak'tū-āt, v.t.* 1 to put in motion. 2 to move (a person) to a particular action:—*pr.p.* **act'uating.**

[Same root as *act.*]

acumen *ak'ū-mèn, or à-kū', n.* sharpness, quickness of understanding.

[L. *acūmen*; same root as *acute.*]

acupuncture *ak'ū-punk-chūr, n.* a method of relieving pain, etc. by sticking pins into the patient's skin at various points.

[L. *acus*, needle, *puncture.*]

acute *à-kūt', adj.* 1 sharp-pointed. 2 keen: *acute hearing.* 3 shrewd. 4 very great, severe: *acute disappointment.* 5 (of a disease) coming to a crisis rather than lasting.

acute'ly *adv.* **acute'ness** *n.*

acute accent a mark (') over a vowel.

acute angle an angle less than a right angle.

[L. *acuere, acutum*, to sharpen.]

ad ad, n. Short for **advertisement.**

adage *ad'ij, n.* an old saying, proverb.

[Fr.—L. *adagium*—*ad*, to, *aiō*, I say.]

adamant *ad'à-mànt, n.* orig. diamond or other very hard material.—*adj.* refusing to yield.

[Gk. *adamas*—*a-*, not, *damaein*, to break, tame.]

Adam's apple *ad'amz ap'l, n.* the hard projection in front of the throat.

adapt *à-dapt', v.t.* 1 to make suitable (*for*, e.g. a purpose; *to*, e.g. circumstances). 2 to alter so as to fit new circumstances, environment, etc.—Also *v.i.*

adapt'able *adj.* 1 that may be adapted. 2 (of a person) able and willing to fit in with different circumstances.

adaptabil'ity *n.*

adaptā'tion *n.* 1 the act of adapting. 2 something adapted.

adapt'er, adapt'or *n.* an attachment enabling a piece of apparatus to be put to a new use, or to be fitted to something else when it is not otherwise the right size or shape.

[L. *adaptāre*—*ad*, to, *aptāre*, to fit.]

add ad, v.t. 1 to put (one thing) to (another). 2 to find the sum of (also *v.i.*). 3 to say further: *He apologised, adding that it would not happen again.*

addi'tion *n.* 1 the act of adding. 2 the thing added.

addi'tional *adj.* 1 that is added. 2 extra.

add'i'tive *n.* a substance added to food, etc.

adden'dum *n.* something added to e.g. a statement, book:—*pl.* **adden'da.**

add to to increase.

add up 1 to calculate the sum of. 2 to come (to) in total. 3 to make sense.

[L. *addere*—*ad*, to, *dāre*, to put, give.]

adder *ad'èr, n.* a small poisonous snake found wild in Britain, a viper.

[O.E. *nædre*; an adder was orig. a nadder.]

addict *ad'ikt, n.* one who is dependent on, finds it impossible to give up, a habit, vice, etc., e.g. drug-taking.

addict'ed *adj.* enslaved to, dependent on (with *to*).

addic'tion *n.*

addict'ive *adj.* inclined to cause dependence.

[L. *addicere*, to consent, devote.]

addition, additive, etc. See **add.**

addle *ad'l, v.t.* 1 to make rotten. 2 to confuse:—*pr.p.* **add'ling.**

add'led *adj.* 1 rotten. 2 confused.

[O.E. *adela*, mud.]

address *à-dres', v.t.* 1 to speak or write to: *Address him by his first name, as George, as 'Doctor'; Address your remarks to the chairman.* 2 to put a name and address on (an envelope, etc.).—*n.* 1 a speech. 2 (*old-fashioned*) manner, bearing. 3 (in *pl.*) (*old-fashioned*) courtship. 4 the number (or name) of the house, the name of the street, town, etc. where one lives, and to which mail is directed.

addressee' (-ē') *n.* the person to whom a letter is addressed.

address oneself to 1 to turn one's energies to. **2** to address (a person).

[L. *addirectiāre*—*ad*, to, *directum*, straight.]

adduce *à-dūs'*, *v.t.* to quote as proof, evidence or example:—*pr.p.* adduc'ing.

[L. *adducere*—*ad*, to, *ducere*, to bring.]

adenoids *ad'èn-oidz*, *n.pl.* swollen tissue at the back of the nose.

[Gk. *adēn*, a gland, *eidōs*, form.]

adept *ad'ept*, *à-dept'*, *adj.* completely skilled.—*n.* an expert.

[L. *adeptus*, *pa.p.* of *adipisci*, to attain.]

adequate *ad'i-kwit*, *adj.* **1** sufficient (for). **2** equal (to a task, etc.). **3** satisfactory:—*opp.* inadequate.

ad'equacy *n.*

ad'equately *adv.* **ad'equateness** *n.*

[L. *adaequatus*, made equal—*ad*, to, *aequus*, equal.]

adhere *ad'hēr'*, *v.i.* **1** to stick (to). **2** to remain loyal (to):—*pr.p.* adher'ing.

adher'ence *n.* steady loyalty.

adher'ent *n.* a follower, supporter.

adhesion *ad'hē'zh(ō)n*, *n.* the process or state of sticking.

adhes'ive (*-hēs'* or *-hēz'*) *adj.* sticky.—*n.* a substance (e.g. gum, glue) used to make substances stick to each other.

[L. *ad*, to, *haerere*, *haesum*, to stick.]

ad hoc *ad hok*, *adj.* (of a committee or other body) set up for this very purpose.

[L. *ad hoc*, to this.]

adieu *à-dū'*, *interj.* farewell.—*n.* a farewell:—*pl.* adieus or adieux (*à-dūz'*).

[Fr. *à Dieu*, (I commend you) to God.]

ad infinitum *ad in'fin-itūm*, for ever. [L.]

adipose *ad'i-pōs*, *adj.* fatty.

[L. *adeps*, *adipis*, soft fat.]

adjacent *à-jā'sent*, *adj.* lying next (to).

adjac'ency *n.*

[L. *ad*, to, *jacere*, to lie.]

adjective *aj'ik-tiv*, *n.* a word that describes a noun (e.g. a red flower; an upper room; The air is cool).

adjectiv'al *adj.*

[L. *adjective*, to add—*ad*, to, *jacere*, throw.]

adjoin *à-join'*, *v.t.* to lie next to.—*v.i.* to lie side by side, in contact.

[L. *ad*, to, *jungere*, to join.]

adjourn *à-jûrn'*, *v.t.* to discontinue (a meeting) in order to continue it at another time or place.—Also *v.i.*

adjourn'ment *n.*

[Through O.Fr.—L. *diurnus*, daily.]

adjudge *à-juj'*, (esp. law) *v.t.* **1** to pronounce; to decide. **2** to award, assign (costs, etc.)

[Same origin as adjudicate.]

adjudicate *à-jōō'di-kāt*, *v.t.* to give judgment on.—*v.i.* **1** to pronounce judgment. **2** to act as judge in a competition:—*pr.p.* adju'dicating.

adjudicā'tion *n.* **adju'dicātor** *n.*

[L. *adjudicare*, to judge.]

adjunct *a'jungkt*, *n.* a thing joined or added.

[L. *adjunctus*; same root as *adjoin*.]

adjure *à-jōōr'*, *v.t.* to command solemnly, request earnestly:—*pr.p.* adjur'ing.

[L. *adjurare*—*ad*, to, *jurare*, to swear.]

adjust *à-just'*, *v.t.* **1** to rearrange or alter to suit new circumstances. **2** to regulate (a machine, etc.).—*v.i.* to alter one's behaviour, adapt (to a new environment, etc.).

adjust'able *adj.* **adjust'ment** *n.*

[Late L. *adjutare*, to put side by side.]

adjutant *a'joo-tānt*, *n.* an officer who assists a commanding officer.

adjutancy *a'joo-tān-si*, *n.* rank of an adjutant.

[L. *adjutare*, *adjuvare*, to assist.]

ad-lib *ad-lib'*, *v.i.* to say something in a speech, play, etc. without preparation, esp. to fill up time.—Also *v.t.*:—*pr.p.* ad-libb'ing; *pa.p.* ad-libbed'.—*adv.* (ad lib) without limit; freely.—*adj.* and *adv.* (done) without preparation.

[L. *ad libitum*, at pleasure.]

administer *ad-min'is-tēr*, *v.t.* **1** to govern. **2** to manage. **3** to carry out (the law, justice, etc.). **4** to give (e.g. medicine, a rebuke).

admin'istrate *v.t.* to govern, manage:—*pr.p.* admin'istrating.

administrā'tion *n.* **1** the process of administering. **2** (the people responsible for) management or government.

admin'istrative (*-trā-*) *adj.*

admin'istrātor *n.*

[L. *administrare*—*ad*, to, *ministrare*, to minister.]

admirable, etc. See *admire*.

admiral *ad'mir-əl, n.* (an officer of) the highest naval rank (see also *Appendices*).

Ad'miralty *n.* the government office that manages the navy and its business.

[Through Fr.—Arabic *amir*, a lord.]

admire *ād-mīr', v.t.* 1 to have a high opinion of. 2 to look at with approval:—*pr.p.* admir'ing.

ad'mirable (*-mir-*) *adj.* 1 worthy of approval. 2 extremely good.

ad'mirably *adv.* extremely well.

admirā'tion (*-mir-*) *n.*

admir'er *n.* 1 one who admires someone or something. 2 a lover or suitor.

admir'ing *adj.* admir'ingly *adv.*

[Fr. *admirer*—L: *ad*, at, *mīrārī*, to wonder.]

admission. See *admit*.

admit *ād-mit', v.t.* 1 to allow to enter. 2 to have room for. 3 to acknowledge, confess.—*v.i.* to allow (with *of*): *This admits of no other explanation*:—*pr.p.* admitt'ing; *pa.p.* admitt'ed.

admiss'ible (*esp. law*) *adj.* allowable:—*opp.* inadmissible.

admiss'ion *n.* 1 the act of admitting. 2 admittance. 3 something confessed or acknowledged.

admitt'ance *n.* the right to enter.

admitt'edly *adv.* unquestionably.

[L. *admittere*—*ad*, to, *mittere*, *missum*, to send.]

admixture *ād-miks'chūr, n.* (the act of mixing in) an additional ingredient.

[L. *ad*, to, and *mix*.]

admonish *ād-mon'ish, v.t.* 1 to reprove. 2 to warn.

admoni'tion *n.* 1 reproof. 2 warning.

admon'itory *adj.*

[Through Fr.—L. *admonēre*, to warn.]

ado *ā-dōō', n.* trouble, fuss:—*pl.* ados'.

[*at do* = to do; Scand. form of *infin.*]

adobe *ā-dō'bi, n.* 1 a sun-dried brick. 2 a house made of such bricks.

[Sp. *adobar*, to plaster.]

adolescent *ad-ō-les'ent, adj.* growing out of childhood, becoming adult.—*n.* a person at this stage of life.

adoles'cence *n.* the period between childhood and maturity.

[L. *adolescere*, to grow up.]

adopt *ā-dopt', v.t.* 1 to take (a child of other parents) as one's own. 2 to take up (e.g.

an opinion, a habit). 3 to choose. 4 to approve.

adop'tion *n.*

adop'tive *adj.* by adoption: *his adoptive father*.

[L. *adoptāre*—*ad*, to, *optāre*, to choose.]

adore *ā-dōr', -dōr', v.t.* 1 to love intensely. 2 to worship:—*pr.p.* ador'ing.

ador'able *adj.* worthy of being adored.

adorā'tion *n.* 1 great love. 2 worship.

ador'er *n.*

ador'ing *adj.* ador'ingly *adv.*

[L. *ad*, to, *ōrāre*, to pray.]

adorn *ā-dōrn', v.t.* to deck, make beautiful.

adorn'ment *n.* decoration; ornament.

[L. *adornāre*—*ad*, to, *ornāre*, to furnish.]

adrenaline *ā-dren'ā-līn, n.* a hormone produced in response to fear, anger, etc., preparing the body for quick action.

[L. *ad*, to, *rēnēs*, kidneys (near which the hormone is produced).]

adrift *a-drift', adj.* (not used before a noun) and *adv.* drifting, floating.

adroit *ā-droit', adj.* skilful.

adroit'ly *adv.* adroit'ness *n.*

[Fr. *à droit*, according to right.]

adulation *ad-ū-lā'sh(ō)n, n.* excessive praise.

ad'ulātory *adj.*

[L. *adulāri*, *adulātus*, to fawn upon.]

adult *ad'ult, ā-dult', adj.* 1 fully grown. 2 mature.—*n.* a grown-up person.

[L. *adolescere*, *adultum*, to grow.]

adulterate *ā-dul'tēr-āt, v.t.* to make impure by mixing in something else:—*pr.p.*

adult'erating.

adulterā'tion *n.*

[L. *adulterāre*, to corrupt; same root as *adultery*.]

adultery *ā-dul'tēr-i, n.* sexual intercourse between a husband and a woman who is not his wife, or between a wife and a man who is not her husband.

adul'terer *n.*:—*fem.* adul'teress.

adul'terous *adj.*

[From L.; prob.—*ad*, to, *alter*, another.]

advance *ād-pāns', v.t.* 1 to propose, suggest, put forward. 2 to promote. 3 to encourage the progress of. 4 to supply or pay beforehand. 5 to make earlier (the time of an appointment, etc.).—*v.i.* 1 to go forward. 2 to make progress:—*pr.p.* advanc'ing.—*n.* 1 progress. 2 improvement. 3 a