

3. A separation from worldly objects; a reclus life; as a hermit's *abstraction*.
4. Absence of mind; inattention to present objects.

5. In the process of distillation, the term is used to denote the separation of the volatile parts, which rise, come over, and are condensed in a receiver, from those which are fixed. It is chiefly used, when a fluid is repeatedly poured upon any substance in a retort, and distilled off, to change its state, or the nature of its composition.

Nicholson.

**ABSTRACTIVE, a.** Having the power or quality of abstracting.

**ABSTRACTIVE, }** *a.* Abstracted, or  
**ABSTRACTIOUS, }** drawn from other substances, particularly from vegetables, without fermentation. *Cyc.*

**ABSTRACTLY, adv.** Separately; absolutely; in a state or manner unconnected with any thing else; as, matter *abstractly* considered.

**ABSTRACTNESS, n.** A separate state; a state of being in contemplation only, or not connected with any object.

**ABSTRUDE, v. t.** [*Infra.*] To thrust or pull away. [*Not used.*]

**ABSTRUSE, a.** [*L. abstrusus*, from *abstrudo*, to thrust away, to conceal; *abs* and

*trudo*; *Ar. اذخر* tarada; *Ch. שתר* to thrust; *Syr. Sam. id.*; *Eng. to thrust.*] *Idid*; concealed; hence, remote from apprehension; difficult to be comprehended or understood; opposed to what is obvious. [*Not used of material objects.*]

Metaphysics is an *abstruse* science. *Encyc.*  
**ABSTRUSELY, adv.** In a concealed manner; obscurely; in a manner not to be easily understood.

**ABTRUSENESS, n.** Obscurity of meaning; the state or quality of being difficult to be understood.

Boyle.

**ABSRD, a.** [*L. absurdus*, from *ab* and *surdus*, deaf, insensible.] Opposed to manifest truth; inconsistent with reason, or the plain dictates of common sense. An *absurd* man acts contrary to the clear dictates of reason or sound judgment. An *absurd* proposition contradicts obvious truth. An *absurd* practice or opinion is repugnant to the reason or common apprehension of men. It is *absurd* to say six and six make ten, or that plants will take root in stone.

**ABSRDITY, n.** The quality of being inconsistent with obvious truth, reason, or sound judgment. Want of judgment, applied to men; want of propriety, applied to things.

Johnson.

2. That which is absurd; in this sense it has a plural; the *absurdities* of men.

**ABSRDLY, adv.** In a manner inconsistent with reason, or obvious propriety.

**ABSRDNESS, n.** The same as *absurdity*, and less used.

**ABUNDANCE, n.** [*F. abundance. See Abund.*] Great plenty; an overflowing quantity; ample sufficiency; in strictness applicable to quantity only; but customarily used of number, as an *abundance* of peasants.

Addison.

In scripture, the *abundance* of the rich is great wealth. *Ecc. v. Mark. xii. Luke. xvi.*  
The *abundance* of the seas is great plenty of fish. *Deut. xxxiii.*

It denotes also fullness, overflowing, as the *abundance* of the heart. *Mat. xii. Luke. vi.*  
**ABUNDANT, a.** Plentiful; in great quantity; fully sufficient; as an *abundant* supply. In scripture, abounding; having in great quantity; overflowing with.

The Lord God is *abundant* in goodness and truth. *Ex. xxxiv.*

*Abundant* number, in arithmetic, is one, the sum of whose aliquot parts exceeds the number itself. Thus 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, the aliquot parts of 12, make the sum of 16. This is opposed to a *deficient* number, as 14, whose aliquot parts are 1, 2, 7, the sum of which is 10; and to a *perfect* number, which is equal to the sum of its aliquot parts, as 6, whose aliquot parts are 1, 2, 3.

**ABUNDANTLY, adv.** Fully; amply; plentifully; in a sufficient degree.

**ABUSAGE, n.** Abuse. [*Not used.*]

**ABUSE, v. t. s as z.** [*F. abuser; Sp. abusar; It. abusare; L. abutor, abusus, of ab and ulor, to use; Ir. idh; W. gweith, use; Gr. rho, to accustom. See Use.*]

1. To use ill; to maltreat; to misuse; to use with bad motives or to wrong purposes; as, to *abuse* rights or privileges.  
They that use this world as not *abusing* it. 1 Cor. vii.

2. To violate; to defile by improper sexual intercourse. *Spenser.*

3. To deceive; to impose on.  
Nor be with all these tempting words *abused*. *Pope.*

4. To treat rudely, or with reproachful language; to revile.  
He mocked and *abused* them shamefully. *Mat.*

5. To pervert the meaning of; to misapply; as to *abuse* words.

**ABUSE, n.** Ill use; improper treatment or employment; application to a wrong purpose; as an *abuse* of our natural powers; an *abuse* of civil rights, or of religious privileges; *abuse* of advantages, &c.

Liberty may be endangered by the *abuses* of liberty, as well as by the *abuses* of power.

Federalist, Madison.

2. A corrupt practice or custom, as the *abuses* of government.

3. Rude speech; reproachful language addressed to a person; contumely; reviling words. *Milton.*

4. Seduction.  
After the *abuse* he forsook me. *Sidney.*

5. Perversion of meaning; improper use or application; as an *abuse* of words.

**ABUSED, pp. s as z.** Ill-used; used to a bad purpose; treated with rude language; misemployed; perverted to bad or wrong ends; deceived; defiled; violated.

**ABUSEFUL, a.** Using or practicing abuse; abusive. [*Not used.*]

Bp. Barlow.

**ABUSER, n. s as z.** One who abuses, in speech or behavior; one that deceives; a ravisher; a sodomite. 1 Cor. vi.

**ABUSING, ppr. s as z.** Using ill; employing to bad purposes; deceiving; violating the person; perverting.

**ABUSION, n. abu'chion.** Abuse; evil or corrupt usage; reproach. [*Little used.*]

**ABUSIVE, a.** Practicing abuse; offering harsh words, or ill treatment; as an *abusive* author; an *abusive* fellow.

2. Containing abuse, or that is the instrument of abuse, as *abusive* words; rude;

reproachful. In the sense of deceitful, as an *abusive* treaty. [*Little used.*] *Bacon.*

**ABUSIVELY, adv.** In an abusive manner; rudely; reproachfully.

**ABUSIVENESS, n.** Ill-usage; the quality of being abusive; rudeness of language, or violence to the person. *Barlow.*

**ABUT, v. i.** [*Fr. aboutir. See About.*] To border upon; to be contiguous to; to meet; in strictness, to adjoin to at the end; but this distinction has not always been observed. The word is chiefly used in describing the bounds or situation of land, and in popular language, is contracted into *but*, as *butted* and *bounded*.

**ABUTMENT, n.** The head or end; that which unites one end of a thing to another; chiefly used to denote the solid pier or mound of earth, stone or timber, which is erected on the bank of a river to support the end of a bridge and connect it with the land.

2. That which abuts or borders on another. *Bryant.*

**ABUTTAL, n.** The butting or boundary of land at the end; a head-land. *Spelman. Cowel.*

**ABY, v. t. or i.** [Probably contracted from *abide*.] To endure; to pay dearly; to remain. *Obs. Spenser.*

**ABYSM, n. abyzm'.** [Old Fr., now *abime. See Abyss.*] A gulf. *Shak.*

**ABYSS, n.** [*Gr. Αβυσσος*, bottomless, from a priv. and *βυσος*, bottom, Ion. for *βυθος*. See *Bottom*.] A bottomless gulf; used also for a deep mass of waters, supposed by some to have encompassed the earth before the flood.

Darkness was upon the face of the deep, or *abyss*, as it is in the Septuagint. *Gen. 1. 2.*  
The word is also used for an immense cavern in the earth, in which God is supposed to have collected all the waters on the third day of the creation. It is used also for hell. *Erebus.*

2. That which is immeasurable; that in which any thing is lost.

Thy throne is darkness, in the *abyss* of light. *Milton.*

The *abyss* of time. *Dryden.*

3. In antiquity, the temple of Proserpine, so called from the immense treasures it was supposed to contain.

4. In heraldry, the center of an escutcheon. He bears azure, a fleur de lis, in *abyss*.

**ABYSSINIAN, a. Ar. ابيش** habashon,

Abyssinians, Ethiopians, from *ابيش* habasha, to collect, or congregate. A name denoting a mixed multitude or a black race. *Ludolf. Caillé.*

**ABYSSINIANS, n.** A sect of christians in Abyssinia, who admit but one nature in Jesus Christ, and reject the council of Chalcedon. They are governed by a bishop, or metropolitan, called *Abuna*, who is appointed by the Coptic patriarch of Cairo. *Encyc.*

**AC, in Saxon, oak,** the initial syllable of names, as *acton*, *oaktown*.

**ACACALOT, }** *n.* A Mexican fowl, the

**ACALOT, }** *n.* Tantalus Mexicanus, or

*Corvus aquaticus*, water raven. See *Jacalot*.

**ACACIA, n.** [*L. acacia, a thorn, from Gr. ακα, a point.*]