

SELF/ISH, *a.* Regarding one's own interest chiefly or solely; influenced in actions by a view to private advantage. *Speetator.*
SELF/ISHLY, *adv.* In a selfish manner; with regard to private interest only or chiefly. *Pope.*

SELF/ISHNESS, *n.* The exclusive regard of a person to his own interest or happiness; or that supreme self-love or self-preference, which leads a person in his actions to direct his purposes to the advancement of his own interest, power or happiness, without regarding the interest of others. Selfishness, in its worst or unqualified sense, is the very essence of human depravity, and stands in direct opposition to *benevolence*, which is the essence of the divine character. As God is love, so man, in his natural state, is selfishness.

SELF/NESS, *n.* Self-love; selfishness. [*Not in use.*] *Sidney.*

SELL, *for self*; and *sells for selves*. [*Scot.*]

SELL, *n.* [*Fr. selle*; *L. sella.*] A saddle, and a throne. *Obs.* *Spenser.*

SELL, *v. t.* pret. and pp. *sold*. [*Sax. selan, sellan, sylan or syltan*, to give, grant, yield, assign or sell; *syltan to bote*, to give in compensation, to give to boot; *Sw. sälja*; *Ice. selja*; *Dan. sælger*; *Basque, saldu*. The primary sense is to deliver, send or transfer, or to put off. The sense of *sell*, as we now understand the word, is wholly derivative; as we see by the Saxon phrases, *syltan to agenne*, to give for one's own; *syltan to gyfe*, to bestow for a gift, to bestow or confer gratis.]

1. To transfer property or the exclusive right of possession to another for an equivalent in money. It is correlative to *buy*, as one party *buys* what the other *sells*. It is distinguished from *exchange* or *barter*, in which one commodity is given for another; whereas in *selling* the consideration is money, or its representative in current notes. To this distinction there may be exceptions. "Esau sold his birthright to Jacob for a mess of pottage." But this is unusual. "Let us sell Joseph to the Ishmaelites—And they sold him for twenty pieces of silver." Gen. xxxvii.

Among the Hebrews, parents had power to sell their children.

2. To betray; to deliver or surrender for money or a reward; as, to sell one's country.

3. To yield or give for a consideration. The troops fought like lions, and sold their lives dearly; that is, they yielded their lives, but first destroyed many, which made it a dear purchase for their enemies.

4. In *Scripture*, to give up to be harassed and made slaves.

He sold them into the hands of their enemies. Judg. ii.

5. To part with; to renounce or forsake.

Buy the truth and sell it not. Prov. xxiii.

To sell one's self to do evil, to give up one's self to be the slave of sin, and to work wickedness without restraint. 1 Kings xxi. 2 Kings vii.

SELL, *v. i.* To have commerce; to practice selling. *Shak.*

2. To be sold. Corn sells at a good price.

SEL/LANDER, *n.* A dry scab in a horse's hough or pastern. *Ainsworth.*

SELL/ER, *n.* The person that sells; a vender.
SELL/ING, *ppr.* Transferring the property of a thing for a price or equivalent in money.

2. Betraying for money.

SELV/EDGE, *n.* [*D. zelf-kant*, self-border; *G. sahl-leiste*, hall-list. The first syllable appears to be *self*, and the last is *edge*.]

The edge of cloth, where it is closed by complicating the threads; a woven border, or border of close work. Ex. xxvii.

SELV/EDGED, *a.* Having a selvedge.

SELVES, *plu.* of *self*.

SEM/BLABLE, *a.* [*Fr.*] Like; similar; resembling. [*Not in use.*] *Shak.*

SEM/BLABLY, *adv.* In like manner. [*Not in use.*] *Shak.*

SEM/BLANCE, *n.* [*Fr. id.*; *It. sembianza*; *Sp. semeja* and *semejanza*; from the root of *similar*.]

1. Likeness; resemblance; actual similitude; as the *semblance* of worth; *semblance* of virtue.

The *semblances* and imitations of shells. *Woodward.*

2. Appearance; show; figure; form. Their *semblance* kind, and mild their gestures were. *Fairfax.*

SEMBLANT, *n.* Show; figure; resemblance. [*Not in use.*] *Spenser.*

SEMBLANT, *a.* Like; resembling. [*Not in use.*] *Prior.*

SEMBLATIVE, *a.* Resembling; fit; suitable; according to.

And all is *semblative* a woman's part. *Shak.* [*Not in use.*]

SEMBLE, *v. t.* [*Fr. sembler.*] To imitate; to represent or to make similar.

Where *sembling* art may carve the fair effect. [*Not in use.*] *Prior.*

SEM/I, *L. semi*, *Gr. ημι*, in composition, signifies half.

SEMI-ACID/IFIED, *a.* or *pp.* Half acidified. [*See Acidify.*]

SEMI-AMPLEX/ICAUL, *a.* [*L. semi*, amplexus, or amplexor, to embrace, and *caulis*, stem.]

In *botany*, embracing the stem half way, as a leaf. *Martyn.*

SEMI-AN/NUAL, *a.* [*semi* and *annual*.] Half yearly.

SEMI-AN/NUALLY, *adv.* Every half year.

SEMI-AN/NULAR, *a.* [*L. semi* and *annulus*, a ring.]

Having the figure of a half circle; that is, half round. *Grew.*

SEMI-AP/ERTURE, *n.* [*semi* and *aperture*.] The half of an aperture.

SEMI-A/RIAN, *n.* [*See Arian.*] In *ecclesiastical history*, the Semi-arians were a branch of the Arians, who in appearance condemned the errors of Arius, but acquiesced in some of his principles, disguising them under more moderate terms. They did not acknowledge the Son to be consubstantial with the Father, that is, of the same substance, but admitted him to be of a like substance with the Father, not by nature, but by a peculiar privilege. *Encyc.*
SEMI-A/RIAN, *a.* Pertaining to semi-arianism.

SEMI-A/RIANISM, *n.* The doctrines or tenets of the Semi-arians. The *semi-arianism* of modern times consists in maintaining the Son to have been from

all eternity begotten by the will of the Father. *Encyc.*

SEMI-BARBA/RIAN, *a.* [*semi* and *barbarian*.] Half savage; partially civilized. *Milford.*

SEM/IBREVE, *n.* [*semi* and *breve*; formerly written *semibref*.]

In *music*, a note of half the duration or time of the breve. It is now the measure note by which all others are regulated. It contains the time of two minims, four crotchets, eight quavers, sixteen semiquavers and thirty two demisemiquavers.

SEMI-CAL/CINED, *a.* [*semi* and *calceine*.] Half calined; as *semi-calced* iron. *Kirwan.*

SEMI-EAS/TRATE, *v. t.* To deprive of one testicle.

SEMI-CASTRA/TION, *n.* Half castration; deprivation of one testicle. *Brown.*

SEM/ICIRCLE, *n.* [*semi* and *circle*.] The half of a circle; the part of a circle comprehended between its diameter and half of its circumference. *Encyc.*

2. Any body in the form of a half circle.

SEM/ICIRCLED, *a.* Having the form of **SEM/ICIRCULAR**, *a.* a half circle. [*Semi-circular* is generally used.] *Addison.*

SEM/ICOLON, *n.* [*semi* and *colon*.] In *grammar* and *punctuation*, the point [*;*] the mark of a pause to be observed in reading or speaking, of less duration than the colon, double the duration of the comma, or half the duration of the period. It is used to distinguish the conjunct members of a sentence. *Encyc.*

SEMI-COLUM/NAR, *a.* [*semi* and *colum-nar*.]

Like a half column; flat on one side and round on the other; a term of botany, applied to a stem, leaf or petiole. *Martyn.*

SEMI-COM/PACT, *a.* [*semi* and *compact*.] Half compact; imperfectly indurated. *Kirwan.*

SEMI-CRUSTA/CEOUS, *a.* [*semi* and *crustaceous*.] Half crustaceous. *Nat. Hist.*

SEMI-CYL/INDRIC, *a.* [*semi* and *cylindric*.] Half cylindrical. *Lec.*

SEMI-DEIS/TICAL, *a.* Half deistical; bordering on deism. *S. Miller.*

SEMI-DIAM/ETER, *n.* [*semi* and *diameter*.]

Half the diameter; a right line or the length of a right line drawn from the center of a circle or sphere to its circumference or periphery; a radius. *Encyc.*

SEMI-DIAPA/SON, *n.* [*semi* and *diapason*.] In *music*, an imperfect octave, or an octave diminished by a lesser semitone. *Encyc.*

SEMI-DIAPEN/TE, *n.* An imperfect fifth; a hemi-diapente. *Busby.*

SEMI-DIAPHANE/ITY, *n.* [*See Semidiaphanous*.]

Half or imperfect transparency. [*Little used.*] *Boyle.*

[Instead of this, *translucency* is now used.]

SEMI-DIAPH/ANOUS, *a.* [*semi* and *diaphanous*.] Half or imperfectly transparent. *Woodward.*

[Instead of this, *translucent* is now used.]

SEMI-DIATES/SARON, *n.* [*semi* and *diatessaron*.]

In *music*, an imperfect or defective fourth.