

An instrument of music played by striking brass wires with little sticks. Daniel iii. 5. *Johnson*.

DULCINESS, *n.* [*L. dulcis*.] Softness; easiness of temper. [*Not used.*] *Bacon*.

DULCORATE, *v. t.* [*L. dulcor, sweet*; *Low L. dulco*, to sweeten.] To sweeten. *Bacon*.

2. To make less acrimonious. *Johnson*. *Wiseman*.

DULCORATION, *n.* The act of sweetening. *Bacon*.

DULIA, *n.* [*Gr. δουλία, service*.] An inferior kind of worship or adoration. [*Not an English word.*] *Stillingfleet*.

DULL, *a.* [*W. dol, dull*; *Sax. dol*, a wandering; also *dull*, foolish, stupid; *D. dol*, mad; *G. toll*, and *töpel*, a dolt; *Sax. duolian*, to wander, to rave. *Qu. Dan. dwaler*, to loiter; *Sw. dölitas*, id., or *deala*, a trance.]

1. Stupid; doltish; blockish; slow of understanding; as a lad of dull genius.

2. Heavy; sluggish; without life or spirit; as, a surfeit leaves a man very dull.

3. Slow of motion; sluggish; as a dull stream.

4. Slow of hearing or seeing; as dull of hearing; *dull* of seeing.

5. Slow to learn or comprehend; unread; awkward; as a dull scholar.

6. Sleepy; drowsy.

7. Sad; melancholy.

8. Gross; cloggy; insensible; as the dull earth.

9. Not pleasing or delightful; not exhilarating; cheerless; as, to make dictionaries is dull work. *Johnson*.

10. Not bright or clear; clouded; tarnished; as, the mirror is dull.

11. Not bright; not briskly burning; as a dull fire.

12. Dim; obscure; not vivid; as a dull light.

13. Blunt; obtuse; having a thick edge; as a dull knife or ax.

14. Cloudy; overcast; not clear; not enlivening; as dull weather.

15. With *seamen*, being without wind; as, a ship has a dull time.

16. Not lively or animated; as a dull eye.

DULL, *v. t.* To make dull; to stupify; as, to dull the senses. *Shak.*

2. To blunt; as, to dull a sword or an ax.

3. To make sad or melancholy.

4. To hebetate; to make insensible or slow to perceive; as, to dull the ears; to dull the wits. *Spenser*. *Ascham*.

5. To damp; to render lifeless; as, to dull the attention. *Hooker*.

6. To make heavy or slow of motion; as, to dull industry. *Bacon*.

7. To sully; to tarnish or cloud; as, the breath dully a mirror.

DULL, *r. i.* To become dull or blunt; to become stupid.

DULL-BRAINED, *a.* Stupid; of dull intellect.

DULL-BROWED, *a.* Having a gloomy look. *Quarles*.

DULL-DISPOSED, *a.* Inclined to dullness or sadness. *B. Jonson*.

DULL-EYED, *a.* Having a downcast look. *Shak.*

DULL-HEAD, *n.* A person of dull understanding; a dolt; a blockhead.

DULL-SIGHTED, *a.* Having imperfect sight; purblind.

DULL-WITTED, *a.* Having a dull intellect; heavy.

DULL/ARD, *a.* Doltish; stupid. *Hall*.

DULL/ARD, *n.* A stupid person; a dolt; a blockhead; a dunce. *Shak.*

DULLED, *pp.* Made dull; blunted.

DULLER, *n.* That which makes dull.

DULLING, *pp.* Making dull.

DULLNESS, *n.* Stupidity; slowness of comprehension; weakness of intellect; indolence; as the dullness of a student. *South*.

2. Want of quick perception or eager desire.

3. Heaviness; drowsiness; inclination to sleep.

4. Heaviness; disinclination to motion.

5. Sluggishness; slowness.

6. Dimness; want of clearness or luster.

7. Bluntness; want of edge.

8. Want of brightness or vividness; as dullness of color.

DULLY, *adv.* Stupidly; slowly; sluggishly; without life or spirit.

DULY, *adv.* [from *due*.] Properly; fitly; in a suitable or becoming manner; as, let the subject be duly considered.

2. Regularly; at the proper time; as, a man duly attended church with his family.

DUMB, *a.* *dum*. [*Sax. dumb*; *Goth. dumbs*, dumb; *G. dum*; *D. dom*; *Sw. dum*; *or dumbe*; *Dan. dum*; *Heb. Ch. דם*, to be silent; *Ar. دَم* to continue or be permanent, to appease, to quiet. *Class Dm. No. 3*. In this word, *b* is improperly added.]

1. Mute; silent; not speaking. I was dumb with silence; I held my peace. *Ps. xxxix*.

2. Destitute of the power of speech; unable to utter articulate sounds; as the dumb brutes. The asylum at Hartford in Connecticut was the first institution in America for teaching the deaf and dumb to read and write.

3. Mute; not using or accompanied with speech; as a dumb show; dumb signs. To strike dumb, is to confound; to astonish; to render silent by astonishment; or it may be, to deprive of the power of speech.

DUMB, *v. t.* To silence. *Shak.*

DUMBLY, *adv.* *dum/ly*. Mutely; silently; without words or speech.

DUMBNESS, *n.* *dum/ness*. Muteness; silence or holding the peace; omission of speech. This is voluntary dumbness.

2. Incapacity to speak; inability to articulate sounds. This is involuntary dumbness.

DUM FOUND, *r. t.* To strike dumb; to confuse. [*A low word.*] *Spectator*.

DUMMERER, *n.* One who feigns dumbness. [*Not in use.*]

DUMP, *n.* [from the root of *dumb*; *D. dom*; *G. dum*.]

1. A dull gloomy state of the mind; sadness; melancholy; sorrow; heaviness of heart. In doloful dumps. *Gay*.

2. Absence of mind; reverie. *Locke*.

3. A melancholy tune or air. *Shak.*

[This is not an elegant word, and in America, I believe, is always used in the plural; as, the woman is in the dumps.]

DUMP/ISH, *a.* Dull; stupid; sad; melancholy; depressed in spirits; as, he lives a dumpish life.

DUMP/ISHLY, *adv.* In a mooping manner.

DUMP/ISHNESS, *n.* A state of being dull, heavy and mooping.

DUMP/LING, *n.* [from *dump*.] A kind of pudding or mass of paste in cookery; usually, a cover of paste inclosing an apple and boiled, called *apple-dumping*.

DUMP/Y, *a.* Short and thick.

DUN, *a.* [*Sax. dun*; *W. duen*; *Ir. donn*; *qu. tan*, lumpy. See *Class Dn. No. 3*. 24. 28. 35.]

1. Of a dark color; of a color partaking of a brown and black; of a dull brown color; swarthy.

2. Dark; gloomy.

In the *dun* air sublime. *Milton*.

DUN, *v. t.* To cure, as fish, in a manner to give them a dun color. [See *Dunning*.]

DUN, *v. t.* [*Sax. dynan*, to clamor, to din. See *Din*. *Qu. Gr. δοειν*.]

1. Literally, to clamor for payment of a debt. Hence, to urge for payment; to demand a debt in a pressing manner; to urge for payment with importunity. But in common usage, *dun* is often used in a milder sense, and signifies to call for, or ask for payment.

2. To urge importunately, in a general sense, but not an elegant word.

DUN, *n.* An importunate creditor who urges for payment. *Philips*. *Arbuthnot*.

2. An urgent request or demand of payment in writing; as, he sent his debtor a *dun*.

3. An eminence or mound. [See *Doun* and *Town*.]

DUNCE, *n.* *duns*. [*G. duns*. *Qu. Pers. دُنْ* a stupid man.]

A person of weak intellects; a dullard; a dolt; a thickskull.

I never knew this town without dunces of figure. *Steyl*.

DUN/CERY, *n.* Dullness; stupidity. *Smith*.

DUN/CIFY, *v. t.* To make stupid in intellect. [*Not used.*] *Warburton*.

DUN/DER, *n.* [*Sp. redundar*, to overflow; *L. redundo*.]

Lees; dregs; a word used in Jamaica.

The use of *dunder* in the making of rum answers the purpose of yeast in the fermentation of flour. *Edwards*. *W. Ind.*

DUNE, *n.* A hill. [See *Dowen*.]

DUN-FISH, *n.* Codfish cured in a particular manner. [See *Dunning*.]

DUNG, *n.* [*Sax. dung*, or *dung*, or *divig*; *G. dung*, dung; *Dan. dynd*; *Sw. dyng*.] The excrement of animals. *Bacon*.

DUNG, *v. t.* To manure with dung. *Dryden*.

DUNG, *n. i.* To void excrement.

DUNG/ED, *pp.* Manured with dung.

DUN/GEON, *n.* [*Fr. dongeon*, or *donjon*, a tower or platform in the midst of a castle, a turret or closet on the top of a house. In one Armoric dialect it is *domjou*, and Gregoire suggests that it is compounded of *dom*, lord or chief, and *jou*, Jupiter, Jove, an elevated or chief tower consecrated to Jupiter. In Scottish, it is written *doungeon*, and denotes the keep or strongest tower of a fortress, or an inner tower sur-