

Hence, a license or permission to hold intercourse and trade with the inhabitants of a place, after having performed quarantine, or upon a certificate that the ship did not come from an infected place; a term used particularly in the south of Europe, where vessels coming from countries infected with contagious diseases, are subjected to quarantine.

**PRA/TING**, *ppr.* Talking much on a trifling subject; talking idly.

**PRA/TINGLY**, *adv.* With much idle talk; with loquacity.

**PRAT/TLE**, *v. i.* [*dim.* of *prate*.] To talk much and idly; to be loquacious on trifling subjects. *Locke. Addison.*

This word is particularly applied to the talk of children.

**PRAT/TLE**, *n.* Trifling talk; loquacity on trivial subjects.

Mere *prattle* without practice, is all his soldiiership. *Shak.*

**PRAT/TLEMENT**, *n.* Prattle. *Hayley.*

**PRAT/TLER**, *n.* An idle talker. *Herbert.*

**PRAT/TLING**, *ppr.* Talking much on trivial affairs.

**PRAV/ITY**, *n.* [*L. pravitas*, from *pravus*, crooked, evil.]

Deviation from right; moral perversion; want of rectitude; corrupt state; as the *pravity* of human nature; the *pravity* of the will. *Milton. South.*

**PRAWN**, *n.* A small crustaceous fish of the genus *Cancer*, with a serrated snout bending upwards. *Encyc.*

**PRAX/IS**, *n.* [*L.* from the Gr. See *Practice*.] Use; practice. *Coventry.*

2. An example or form to teach practice. *Lowth.*

**PRAY**, *v. i.* [*Fr. prier*; *It. pregare*; *L. precor*; *Russ. prochu*; allied perhaps to the *Sax. frægnan*, *G. fragen*, *D. vraagen*, *Sw. fråga*, to ask, *L. proco*. This word belongs to the same family as *preach* and *reproach*, *Heb. Ch. Syr. Eth. Ar. בָּרַךְ* to bless, to *reproach*; rendered in *Job ii. 9*, to curse; properly, to reproach, to rail at or upbraid, *W. rhegu*. The primary sense is to throw, to pour forth sounds or words; for the same word in Arabic,

بَرَكَ baraka, signifies to pour out water,

as in violent rain, *Gr. βρέχω*. See *Rain*.

As the oriental word signifies to bless, and to reproach or curse, so in Latin the same word *precor* signifies to supplicate good or evil, and *precis* signifies a prayer and a curse. See *Imprecate*. *Class Brg. No. 3.* and see *No. 4. 6. 7. 8.*

1. To ask with earnestness or zeal, as for a favor, or for something desirable; to entreat; to supplicate.

*Pray* for them who despitefully use you and persecute you. *Matt. v.*

2. To petition; to ask, as for a favor; as in application to a legislative body.

3. In *worship*, to address the Supreme Being with solemnity and reverence, with adoration, confession of sins, supplication for mercy, and thanksgiving for blessings received.

When thou *prayest*, enter into thy closet, and when thou hast shut thy door, *pray* to thy Father who is in secret, and thy Father who seeth in secret, shall reward thee openly. *Matt. vi.*

4. I *pray*, that is, I *pray* you tell me, or let me know, is a common mode of introducing a question.

**PRAY**, *v. t.* To supplicate; to entreat; to urge.

We *pray* you in Christ's stead, be ye reconciled to God. *2 Cor. v.*

2. In *worship*, to supplicate; to implore; to ask with reverence and humility.

Repeat therefore of this thy wickedness, and *pray* God, if perhaps the thought of thy heart may be forgiven thee. *Acts viii.*

3. To petition. The plaintiff *prays* judgment of the court.

He that will have the benefit of this act, must *pray* a prohibition before a sentence in the ecclesiastical court. *Ayliffe.*

4. To ask or intreat in ceremony or form.

*Pray* my colleague Antonius I may speak with him. *B. Jonson.*

[In most instances, this verb is transitive only by ellipsis. To *pray* God, is used for to *pray* to God; to *pray* a prohibition, is to *pray* for a prohibition, &c.]

To *pray* in aid, in law, is to call in for help one who has interest in the cause.

**PRAY/ER**, *n.* In a general sense, the act of asking for a favor, and particularly with earnestness.

2. In *worship*, a solemn address to the Supreme Being, consisting of adoration, or an expression of our sense of God's glorious perfections, confession of our sins, supplication for mercy and forgiveness, intercession for blessings on others, and thanksgiving, or an expression of gratitude to God for his mercies and benefits. A *prayer* however may consist of a single petition, and it may be extemporaneous, written or printed.

3. A formula of church service, or of worship, public or private.

4. Practice of supplication.

As he is famed for mildness, peace and *prayer*. *Shak.*

5. That part of a memorial or petition to a public body, which specifies the request or thing desired to be done or granted, as distinct from the recital of facts or reasons for the grant. We say, the *prayer* of the petition is that the petitioner may be discharged from arrest.

**PRAY/ER-BOOK**, *n.* A book containing prayers or the forms of devotion, public or private. *Swift.*

**PRAY/ERFUL**, *a.* Devotional; given to prayer; as a *prayerful* frame of mind.

2. Using much prayer.

**PRAY/ERFULLY**, *adv.* With much prayer.

**PRAY/ERLESS**, *a.* Not using prayer; habitually neglecting the duty of prayer to God; as a *prayerless* family.

**PRAY/ERLESSNESS**, *n.* Total or habitual neglect of prayer. *T. H. Skinner.*

**PRAY/ING**, *ppr.* Asking; supplicating.

**PRAY/INGLY**, *adv.* With supplication to God.

**PRE**, an English prefix, is the *L. pre*, before, probably a contracted word; *Russ. pred*. It expresses priority of time or rank. It may be radically the same as the Italian *proda*, the *pro* of a ship; *prode*, profit, also valiant, whence *proress*, from some root signifying to advance. It sometimes signifies beyond, and may be rendered very, as in *prepotent*.

**PREACH**, *v. i.* [*D. precken*; *Fr. prêcher*, for *prescher*; *Arm. pregaciu* or *prezecq*; *W. preg*, a greeting; *pregelh*, a sermon; *pregethu*, to preach, derived from the noun, and the noun from *rheg*, a sending out, utterance, a gift, a curse, imprecation; *rhegu*, to send out, to give or consign, to curse; *Heb. Ch. Ar. בָּרַךְ*; *L. præco*, a crier, *Sax. fricca* or *frycecca*, a crier. This is from the same root as *pray*, *L. precor*, and with *s* prefixed, gives the *G. sprechen*, *D. spreken*, *Sw. språka*, to speak; *Dan. sprog*, speech. *Class Brg. No. 2. 3. 4. 5.*

1. To pronounce a public discourse on a religious subject, or from a text of Scripture. The word is usually applied to such discourses as are formed from a text of Scripture. This is the modern sense of *preach*.

2. To discourse on the gospel way of salvation and exhort to repentance; to discourse on evangelical truths and exhort to a belief of them and acceptance of the terms of salvation. This was the extemporaneous manner of preaching pursued by Christ and his apostles. *Matt. iv. x. Acts x. xiv.*

**PREACH**, *v. t.* To proclaim; to publish in religious discourses.

What ye hear in the ear, that *preach* ye on the house-tops. *Matt. x.*

The Lord hath anointed me to *preach* good tidings to the meek. *Is. lxi.*

2. To inculcate in public discourses.

I have *preached* righteousness in the great congregation. *Psal. xl.*

He oft to them *preach'd* Conversion and repentance. *Milton.*

To *preach* Christ or Christ crucified, to announce Christ as the only Savior, and his atonement as the only ground of acceptance with God. *1 Cor. i.*

To *preach* up, to discourse in favor of. Can they *preach* up equality of birth? *Dryden.*

**PREACH**, *n.* A religious discourse. [*Not used.*] *Hooker.*

**PREACHED**, *pp.* Proclaimed; announced in public discourse; inculcated.

**PREACHER**, *n.* One who discourses publicly on religious subjects. *Bacon.*

2. One that inculcates any thing with earnestness.

No *preacher* is listened to but time. *Swift.*

**PREACHERSHIP**, *n.* The office of a preacher. [*Not used.*] *Hall.*

**PRE/ACHING**, *ppr.* Proclaiming; publishing in discourse; inculcating.

**PRE/ACHING**, *n.* The act of preaching; a public religious discourse. *Milner.*

**PRE/ACHMAN**, *n.* A preacher; in contempt. *Howell.*

**PRE/ACHMENT**, *n.* A discourse or sermon; in contempt; a discourse affectedly solemn. *Shak.*

**PREACQUA/INTANCE**, *n.* Previous acquaintance or knowledge. *Harris.*

**PREACQUA/INTED**, *a.* Previously acquainted. *Sheridan.*

**PREAD/AMITE**, *n.* [*pre*, before, and *Adam*.] An inhabitant of the earth that lived before Adam. *Pereyra.*

**PREADAMIT/IC**, *a.* Designating what existed before Adam; as fictitious *preadamitic* periods. *Kirwan.*