

in government; having the right of self-government. *Mifford.*

AUTONOMY, *n.* [Gr. *autos*, self, and *nomos*, law, rule.]

This word is rarely used. It signifies the power or right of self government, whether in a city which elects its own magistrates and makes its own laws, or in an individual who lives according to his own will. *Johnson. Encyc.*

AUTOPSY, *n.* [Gr. *autoptō*, *autos*, self, and *opsis*, sight.] Personal observation; ocular view. *Ray.*

AUTOPTICAL, *a.* Seen with one's own eyes. *Johnson.*

AUTOPTICALLY, *adv.* By means of ocular view, or one's own observation. *Brown.*

[Autopsy and its derivatives are rarely used.]

AUTUMN, *n.* *autūn*. [L. *autumnus*, "Erymon multum torquetur." *Jussieu.*] The third season of the year, or the season between summer and winter. Astronomically, it begins at the equinox, when the sun enters libra, and ends at the winter solstice; but in popular language, autumn comprises September, October and November.

The golden pomp of autumn. *Irving.*
AUTUMNAL, *a.* Belonging to autumn; produced or gathered in autumn; as *autumnal fruits*.

AUTUMNAL, *n.* A plant that flowers in Autumn. The autumnals form the third division of plants in Du Pas' arrangement. *Milne.*

AUXESIS, *n.* [Gr. *auxēs*, increase.]

In rhetoric, a figure by which any thing is magnified too much; an increasing, or exornation, when, for amplification, a more grave and magnificent word is put for the proper word. *Smith. Encyc.*

AUXILIAR, *a.* [L. *auxiliaris*, from *auxilium*, aid, *auxilior*, to aid.]

Helping; aiding; assisting; subsidiary; conferring aid or support by joint exertion, influence or use; as *auxiliary troops*.

AUXILIARIES, *n. plu.* Foreign troops in the service of nations at war.

AUXILIARY, *n.* A helper; an assistant; a confederate in some action, enterprise or undertaking.

3. In grammar, a verb which helps to form the modes and tenses of other verbs; as, *have, be, may, can, do, must, shall and will*, in English; *être and avoir*, in French; *avere and essere*, in Italian; *esse and habere*, in Spanish.

AVAIL, *v. t.* [Fr. *valoir*, to be worth; L. *valere*, to be strong or able, to profit, to be of force or authority; Sp. *valer*, to be valuable, to avail or prevail, to be binding, to be worth; It. *valere*, to be worth, to be useful; Eng. *well*; Ar. $\sqrt{2}$ *balla*. The primary sense is, to stretch or extend, whence strength, value.]

1. To profit one's self; to turn to advantage; followed by the pronouns, *myself, thyself, himself, herself, ourselves, yourselves, themselves*, with *of* before the thing used; as, let him *avail himself* of his license.

2. To assist or profit; to effect the object, or bring to a successful issue; as, what will

skill *avail us* against numbers. Artifices will not *avail* the sinner in the day of judgment.

AVAIL, *v. i.* To be of use, or advantage; to answer the purpose; as, strength without judgment will rarely *avail*. Generally, it signifies to have strength, force or efficacy sufficient to accomplish the object; as, the plea in bar must *avail*, that is, be sufficient to defeat the suit; this scheme will not *avail*; medicines will not *avail* to check the disease; suppositions, without proof, will not *avail*.

AVAIL, *n.* Profit; advantage towards success; benefit; as, labor without economy is little *avail*. It seems usually to convey the idea of efficacious aid or strength.

AVAILABLE, *a.* Profitable; advantageous; having efficacy; as, a measure is more or less *available*. *Artibury.*

2. Having sufficient power, force, or efficacy, for the object; valid; as, an *available* plea.

Laws are *available* by consent. *Hooker.*

AVAILABLENESS, *n.* Power or efficacy, in promoting an end in view.

2. Competent power; legal force; validity; as the *availableness* of a title.

AVAILABLY, *adv.* Powerfully; profitably; advantageously; validly; efficaciously.

AVAILING, *pp.* Turning to profit; using to advantage or effect.

AVAILMENT, *n.* Profit; efficacy; successful issue. [*Little used.*]

AVAILS, *n. plu.* Profits or proceeds. It is used in New-England, for the proceeds of goods sold, or for rents, issues or profits.

AVANCHÉ, *n.* [Fr. from *avancer*, to advance.] *n.* [fall.]

A snow-slip; a vast body of snow sliding down a mountain.

AVANT, *n.* The front of an army. [*Not used.*] [See *Van*.]

AVANT GUARD, *n.* The van or advanced body of an army. [See *Vanguard*.]

AVANTURINE, *n.* A variety of quartz rock containing spangles. *Ure.*

AVARICE, *n.* [L. *avaritia*, from *avarus*, from *avere*, to covet.]

An inordinate desire of gaining and possessing wealth; covetousness; greediness or insatiable desire of gain. *Shak.*

Avarice sheds a blasting influence over the finest affections and sweetest comforts of mankind. *Buckminster.*

AVARICIOUS, *a.* Covetous; greedy of gain; immoderately desirous of accumulating property.

AVARICIOUSLY, *adv.* Covetously; with inordinate desire of gaining wealth. *Goldsmith.*

AVARICIOUSNESS, *n.* The quality of being avaricious; insatiable or inordinate passion for property. [*Not used.*]

AVAROUS, *a.* Covetous. [*Not used.*]

AVAST, *exclam.* [Ger. *basta*, stop; *bastant*, sufficient; from It. *basta*, enough; Pr. *baz*, enough.]

In seamen's language, cease; stop; stay.

AVANT, *excl.* [W. *ibant*, begone.] Begone; depart; a word of contempt or abhorrence, equivalent to the phrase, "Get thee behind me."

AVE MARY, *n.* [from the first words of Gabriel's salutation to the Virgin Mary; L. *ave, hail*.]

A form of devotion in the Romish Church. Their chaplets and rosaries are divided into a certain number of ave-marys and paternosters.

AVENACEOUS, *a.* [L. *avenaceus*, from *avena*, oats; Fr. *avoine*.]

Belonging to, or partaking of the nature of oats.

AVENAGE, *n.* [Fr.] A certain quantity of oats paid by a tenant to a landlord in lieu of rent or other duty. *Spelman.*

AVENER, *n.* [Norm. French.]

AVENOR, *n.* [In English feudal law, an officer of the king's stable whose duty was to provide oats.]

AVENGE, *v. t.* *avenj*. [Fr. *venger*; Sp. *vengar*; Port. *vingar*; L. *vindex*. In Sax. *veinnan*, to contend, to gain, to win.]

1. To take satisfaction for an injury by punishing the injuring party; to vindicate by inflicting pain or evil on the wrong doer. Shall not God *avenge* his own elect. *Luke xviii.*

Avenge me of my adversary. Id. v. 3.

In these examples, *avenge* implies that the evil inflicted on the injuring party is a satisfaction or justice done to the injured, and the party vindicated is the object of the verb.

2. To take satisfaction for, by pain or punishment inflicted on the injuring party. He will *avenge* the blood of his servants.

Deut. xxvii.

Here the thing for which satisfaction is taken is the object of the verb.

3. To revenge. To *avenge* and *revenge*, radically, are synonymous. But modern usage inclines to make a valuable distinction in the use of these words, restricting *avenge* to the taking of just punishment, and *revenge* to the infliction of pain or evil, maliciously, in an illegal manner.

4. In the *passive form*, this verb signifies to have or receive just satisfaction, by the punishment of the offender.

Shall not my soul be *avenged* on such a nation as this? *Jer. 5.*

AVENG'ANCE, *n.* Punishment. [*Not used.*] [See *Vengeance*.]

AVENG'ED, *pp.* Satisfied by the punishment of the offender; vindicated; punished.

AVENGEMENT, *n.* Vengeance; punishment; the act of taking satisfaction for an injury by inflicting pain or evil on the offender; satisfaction taken; revenge.

AVENGER, *n.* One who avenges or vindicates; a vindicator; a revenger.

AVENG'ERESS, *n.* A female avenger. *Spenser.*

AVENG'ING, *ppr.* Executing vengeance; taking satisfaction for an injury by the punishment of the offender; vindicating.

AVENS, *n.* The herb benet. *Miller.*

AVENTINE, *a.* Pertaining to *Mons Aventinus*, one of the seven hills on which Rome stood. *Bryant.*

AVENTURE, *n.* [Fr. *aventure*, from L. *venio*, to come.]

A mischance causing a person's death without felony; as by drowning, or falling from a house. [See *Adventure*.] *Cowel.*

AVENUE, *n.* [Fr. from *venir*, to come or go; L. *venio*.]