

with us the day when a legal instrument is dated, begins and ends at midnight.

3. Light; sunshine.

Let us walk honestly as in the day. *Rom. xiii.*

4. Time specified; any period of time distinguished from other time; age; time, with reference to the existence of a person or thing.

He was a useful man in his day.
In the day thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die. *Gen. ii.*

In this sense, the plural is often used; as, from the days of the judges; in the days of our fathers. In this sense also, the word is often equivalent to life, or earthly existence.

5. The contest of a day; battle; or day of combat.

The day is his own.

He won the day, that is, he gained the victory.

6. An appointed or fixed time.

If my debtors do not keep their day. *Dryden.*

7. Time of commemorating an event; anniversary; the same day of the month, in any future year. We celebrate the day of our Savior's birth.

Day by day, daily; every day; each day in succession; continually; without intermission of a day.

Day by day, we magnify thee. *Common Prayer.*

But only from day to day, without certainty of continuance; temporarily. *Shak.*

To-day, *adv.* [*Sax. to-dæg*]. On the present day; this day; or at the present time.

Days of grace, in theology, the time when mercy is offered to sinners.

To-day, if ye will hear his voice, harden not your hearts. *Ps. xcv.*

Days of grace, in law, are days granted by the court for delay, at the prayer of the plaintiff or defendant. *Encyc.*

Three days, beyond the day named in the writ, in which the person summoned may appear and answer. *Blackstone.*

Days of grace, in commerce, a customary number of days, in Great Britain and America, three, allowed for the payment of a note or bill of exchange, after it becomes due. A note due on the seventh of the month is payable on the tenth.

The days of grace are different in different countries. In France, they are ten; at Naples, eight; at Venice, Amsterdam and Antwerp, six; at Hamburg, twelve; in Spain, fourteen; in Genoa, thirty. *Encyc.*

Days in bank, in England, days of appearance in the court of common bench. *Blackstone.*

DAYBED, *n.* A bed used for illness, indigence, or rest during the day. *Shak.*

DAYBOOK, *n.* A journal of accounts; a book in which are recorded the debts and credits or accounts of the day.

DAYBREAK, *n.* The dawn or first appearance of light in the morning.

DAYCOAL, *n.* A name given by miners to the upper stratum of coal. *Encyc.*

DAYDREAM, *n.* A vision to the waking senses. *Mason.*

DAYFLOWER, *n.* A genus of plants, the *Comnelina*. *Muhlenberg.*

DAYFLY, *n.* A genus of insects that live one day only, or a very short time, called

Ephemera. The species are numerous, some of which live scarcely an hour, others, several days. *Encyc.*

DAYLABOR, *n.* Labor hired or performed by the day.

DAYLABORER, *n.* One who works by the day.

DAYLIGHT, *n.* The light of the day; the light of the sun, as opposed to that of the moon or of a lamp or candle.

DAY-LILY, *n.* The same with asphodel. *Johnson.*

A species of Hemerocallis. *Bot.*

DAVLY, *a.* The more regular orthography of *daily*.

DAYSMAN, *n.* An umpire or arbiter; a mediator.

Neither is there any daysman betwixt us. *Job ix.*

DAYSPRING, *n.* The dawn; the beginning of the day, or first appearance of light.

Whereby the dayspring from on high hath visited us. *Luke i.*

DAYSTAR, *n.* The morning star, Lucifer, Venus; the star which precedes the morning light. *Milton.*

DAYTIME, *n.* The time of the sun's light on the earth; opposed to night.

DAYWEARIED, *a.* Wearied with the labor of the day. *Shak.*

DAYWORK, *n.* Work by the day; day-labor.

DAYS-WORK, *n.* The work of one day. Among seamen, the account or reckoning of a ship's course for 24 hours, from noon to noon. *Encyc.*

DAZE, *v. t.* [*Qu. Sax. dæwas, dysi, dysig, Eng. dizzy. See Dazzle.*]

To overpower with light; to dim or blind by too strong a light, or to render the sight unsteady. [*Vot now used, unless in poetry.*]

Dryden.

DAZE, *n.* Among miners, a glittering stone.

DAZZLE, *v. t.* [*In Sax. dæwas is dull, stupid, foolish; dæscan, to extinguish; dysi or dysig, dizzy.*]

1. To overpower with light; to hinder distinct vision by intense light; or to cause to shake; to render unsteady, as the sight.

We say, the brightness of the sun dazzles the eyes or the sight.

2. To strike or surprise with a bright or intense light; to dim or blind by a glare of light, or by splendor, in a literal or figurative sense; as, to be dazzled by resplendent glory, or by a brilliant expression.

DAZZLE, *v. i.* To be overpowered by light; to shake or be unsteady; to waver, as the sight.

I dare not trust these eyes;

They dance in mists, and dazzle with surprise. *Dryden.*

DAZZLED, *pp.* Made wavering, as the sight; overpowered or dimmed by a too strong light.

DAZZLEMENT, *n.* The act or power of dazzling. [*Vot used.*]

DAZZLING, *ppr.* Rendering unsteady or wavering, as the sight; overpowering by a strong light; striking with splendor.

DAZZLINGLY, *adv.* In a dazzling manner.

DE, a Latin prefix, denoting a moving from, separation; as in *debars, decline, decess, defect, decamp*. Hence it often expresses a

negative; as in *derange*. Sometimes it augments the sense, as in *deprave, despoil*. It coincides nearly in sense with the French *des* and *de*.

DEACON, *n.* *de'ka*. [*L. diaconus, from Gr. diaconos, a minister or servant; dia, by, and cono, to serve; Fr. diacre; Arm. diacon; It. Sp. diacono; D. diaken.*]

A person in the lowest degree of holy orders. The office of deacon was instituted by the apostles. Acts 6, and seven persons were chosen at first, to serve at the feasts of Christians and distribute bread and wine to the communicants, and to minister to the wants of the poor.

In the *Romanish Church*, the office of the deacons is to incense the officiating priest; to lay the corporal on the altar; to receive the cup from the subdeacon and present it to the person officiating; to incense the choir; to receive the pax from the officiating prelate, and carry it to the subdeacon; and at the pontifical mass, to put the miter on the bishop's head. *Encyc.*

In the church of England, the office of deacons is declared to be to assist the priest in administering the holy communion; and their office in presbyterian and independent churches is to distribute bread and wine to the communicants. In the latter, they are elected by the members of the church.

2. In Scotland, an overseer of the poor, and the master of an incorporated company.

DEACONESS, *n.* *de'kness*. A female deacon in the primitive church. *Encyc.*

DEACONRY, *n.* The office, dignity, or DEACONSHIP, *n.* ministry of a deacon or deaconess. *Encyc.*

DEAD, *a. dead*. [*Sax. dead, probably contracted from dægd; D. dood; G. tod; Sw. dod; Dan. dod. See Die.*]

1. Deprived or destitute of life; that state of a being, animal or vegetable, in which the organs of motion and life have ceased to perform their functions, and have become incapable of performing them, or of being restored to a state of activity.

The men are dead who sought thy life. *Ex. iv.*

It is sometimes followed by *of* before the cause of death; as, *dead of hunger, or of a fever*.

2. Having never had life, or having been deprived of vital action before birth; as, the child was born dead.

3. Without life; inanimate.

All, all but truth, drops dead-born from the press. *Pope.*

4. Without vegetable life; as a *dead tree*.

5. Imitating death; deep or sound; as a *dead sleep*.

6. Perfectly still; motionless as death; as a *dead calm; a dead weight*.

7. Empty; vacant; not enlivened by variety; as a *dead void space; a dead plan*. *Dryden.*

We say also, a *dead level*, for a perfectly level surface.

8. Unemployed; useless; unprofitable. A man's faculties may be *dead*, or his goods remain *dead* on his hands. *So dead capital or stock is that which produces no profit.*

9. Dull; inactive; as a *dead sale of commodities*.