

PERSPICUITY, *n.* [Fr. *perspicuité*; *L. perspicuitas*, from *perspicio*.]

1. Transparency; clearness; that quality of a substance which renders objects visible through it. [*Little used.*] *Brown.*

2. Clearness to mental vision; easiness to be understood; freedom from obscurity or ambiguity; that quality of writing or language which readily presents to the mind of another the precise ideas of the author. *Perspicuity* is the first excellence of writing or speaking.

PERSPICUOUS, *a.* [*L. perspicuus*.] Transparent; translucent. [*Little used.*] *Peacham.*

2. Clear to the understanding; that may be clearly understood; not obscure or ambiguous. Language is *perspicuous* when it readily presents to the reader or hearer the precise ideas which are intended to be expressed. Meaning, sense or signification is *perspicuous*, when it is clearly and easily comprehended.

PERSPICUOUSLY, *adv.* Clearly; plainly; in a manner to be easily understood. *Bacon.*

PERSPICUOUSNESS, *n.* Clearness to intellectual vision; plainness; freedom from obscurity.

[We generally apply *perspicuous* to objects of intellect, and *conspicuous* to objects of ocular sight.]

PERSPIRABILITY, *n.* [from *perspirable*.] The quality of being perspirable.

PERSPIRABLE, *a.* [from *L. perspiro*. See *Perspire*.]

1. That may be perspired; that may be evacuated through the pores of the skin. *Arbuthnot.*

2. Emitting perspiration. [*Not proper.*] *Bacon.*

PERSPIRATION, *n.* [*L. perspiro*. See *Perspire*.]

1. The act of perspiring; excretion by the cuticular pores; evacuation of the fluids of the body through the pores of the skin. *Encyc. Arbuthnot.*

2. Matter perspired.

PERSPIRATIVE, *a.* Performing the act of perspiration.

PERSPIRATORY, *a.* Perspirative. *Berkeley.*

PERSPIRE, *v. i.* [*L. per* and *spiro*, to breathe.]

1. To evacuate the fluids of the body through the pores of the skin; as, a person *perspires* freely.

2. To be evacuated or excreted through the pores of the skin; as, a fluid *perspires*.

PERSPIRE, *v. t.* To emit or evacuate through the pores of the skin. *Smollett.*

PERSTRINGE, *v. t.* *perstringi*. [*L. perstringo*; *per* and *stringo*, to graze or brush.] To graze; to glance on. *Burton.*

PERSUADABLE, *a.* [See *Persuade*.] That may be persuaded.

PERSUADABLY, *adv.* So as to be persuaded.

PERSUADE, *v. t.* [*L. persuadeo*; *per* and *suadeo*, to urge or incite.]

1. To influence by argument, advice, intreaty or expostulation; to draw or incline the will to a determination by presenting motives to the mind.

I should be glad, if I could *persuade* him to write such another critick on any thing of mine. *Dryden.*

Almost thou *persuadest* me to be a christian. *Acts xxvi.*

2. To convince by argument, or reasons offered; or to convince by reasons suggested by reflection or deliberation, or by evidence presented in any manner to the mind.

Beloved, we are *persuaded* better things of you. *Heb. vi.*

3. To inculcate by argument or expostulation. [*Little used.*] *Taylor.*

4. To treat by persuasion. [*Not in use.*] *Shak.*

PERSUADED, *pp.* Influenced or drawn to an opinion or determination by argument, advice or reasons suggested; convinced; induced.

PERSUADER, *n.* One that persuades or influences another. *Bacon.*

2. That which incites.

Hunger and thirst at once, *Milton.*

PERSUADING, *ppr.* Influencing by motives presented.

PERSUASIBILITY, *n.* Capability of being persuaded. *Hallivell.*

PERSUASIBLE, *a.* [*L. persuasibilis*.] That may be persuaded or influenced by reasons offered.

PERSUASIBLENESS, *n.* The quality of being influenced by persuasion.

PERSUASION, *n.* *s* as *z*. [Fr. from *L. persuasio*.]

1. The act of persuading; the act of influencing the mind by arguments or reasons offered, or by any thing that moves the mind or passions, or inclines the will to a determination.

For thou hast all the arts of fine *persuasion*. *Otway.*

2. The state of being persuaded or convinced; settled opinion or conviction proceeding from arguments and reasons offered by others, or suggested by one's own reflections.

When we have no other certainty of being in the right, but our own *persuasion* that we are so— *Gov. of the Tongue.*

3. A creed or belief; or a sect or party adhering to a creed or system of opinions; as men of the same *persuasion*; all *persuasions* concur in the measure.

PERSUASIVE, *a.* Having the power of persuading; influencing the mind or passions; as *persuasive* eloquence; *persuasive* evidence. *Hooker. South.*

PERSUASIVELY, *adv.* In such a manner as to persuade or convince. *Milton.*

PERSUASIVENESS, *n.* The quality of having influence on the mind or passions. *Taylor.*

PERSUASORY, *a.* Having power or tendency to persuade. *Brown.*

PERSULPHATE, *n.* A combination of sulphuric acid with the peroxyd of iron. *Webster's Manual.*

PERT, *a.* [*W. pert*, smart, spruce; probably allied to *perk*, primarily erect, from shooting up or forward.]

1. Lively; brisk; smart.

Awake the *pert* and nimble spirit of mirth. *Shak.*

On the lawny sands and shelves,
Trip the *pert* fairies, and the dapper elves. *Milton.*

2. Forward; saucy; bold; indecorously free.

A lady bids me in a very *pert* manner mind my own affairs— *Addison.*

PERTAIN, *v. i.* [*L. pertineo*; *per* and *tenco*, to hold; *It. pertenerere*.]

1. To belong; to be the property, right or duty of.

Men hate those who affect honor by ambition, which *pertaineth* not to them. *Hayward.*

He took the fortified cities which *pertained* to Judah. *2 Kings xii.*

It *pertains* to the governor to open the ports by proclamation. *Anon.*

2. To have relation to. *Acts i.*

PERTEREBRATION, *n.* [*L. per* and *terebro*.] The act of boring through. *Ainsworth.*

PERTINACIOUS, *a.* [*L. pertinax*; *per* and *tenco*, to hold.]

1. Holding or adhering to any opinion, purpose or design with obstinacy; obstinate; perversely resolute or persistent; as *pertinacious* in opinion; a man of *pertinacious* confidence. *Walton.*

2. Resolute; firm; constant; steady. Diligence is a steady, constant, *pertinacious* study— *South.*

[This word often implies a censurable degree of firmness or constancy, like *obstinacy*.]

PERTINACIOUSLY, *adv.* Obstinate; with firm or perverse adherence to opinion or purpose. He *pertinaciously* maintains his first opinions.

PERTINACIOUSNESS, { *n.* [*L. pertinacia*.] Firm

PERTINACITY, { *n.* [*per* and *tenco*, to hold.] Justness of relation to the subject or matter in hand; fitness; appositeness; suitability.

2. Resolution; constancy.

PERTINACY, *n.* [*supra*.] Obstinacy; stubbornness; persistency; resolution; steadiness. [*Little used.*] *Taylor.*

PERTINENCE, { *n.* [*L. pertinens*, *pertineo*;

PERTINENCY, { *n.* [*per* and *tenco*, to hold.] Justness of relation to the subject or matter in hand; fitness; appositeness; suitability.

I have shown the fitness and *pertinency* of the apostle's discourse to the persons he addressed. *Bentley.*

PERTINENT, *a.* [*L. pertinens*.] Related to the subject or matter in hand; just to the purpose; adapted to the end proposed; apposite; not foreign to the thing intended. We say, he used an argument not *pertinent* to his subject or design. The discourse abounds with *pertinent* remarks. He gave *pertinent* answers to the questions.

2. Regarding; concerning; belonging. [*Little used.*] *Hooker.*

PERTINENTLY, *adv.* Appositely; to the purpose. He answered *pertinently*.

PERTINENTNESS, *n.* Appositeness.

PERTINGENT, *a.* [*L. pertingens*.] Reaching to.

PERTLY, *adv.* Briskly; smartly; with prompt boldness.

2. Saucily; with indecorous confidence or boldness. *Swift.*

PERTNESS, *n.* Briskness; smartness.

2. Sauciness; forward promptness or boldness; implying less than *effrontery* or *impudence*.