

that may produce the same effect upon the body by a different process.

2. Existing in act; real; in opposition to speculative, or existing in theory only; as an *actual* crime.

3. In *theology*, *actual* sin is that which is committed by a person himself, opposed to *original* sin, or the corruption of nature supposed to be communicated from Adam.

4. That includes action.

Besides her walking and other actual performances. [*Hardly legitimate.*] *Shak.*

ACTUALITY, *n.* Reality. *Havew.*

ACTUALLY, *adv.* In fact; really; in truth.

ACTUARY, *n.* [*L. actuarius.*]

A register or clerk; a term of the civil law, and used originally in courts of civil law jurisdiction; but in Europe used for a clerk or register generally.

ACTUATE, *a.* Put in action. [*Little used.*]

ACTUATE, *v. t.* [from *act.*]

To put into action; to move or incite to action; as, men are *actuated* by motives, or passions. It seems to have been used formerly in the sense of *invigorate*, noting increase of action; but the use is not legitimate.

ACTUATED, *pp.* Put in action; incited to action.

ACTUATING, *ppr.* Putting in action; inciting to action.

ACTUATION, *n.* The state of being put in action; effectual operation. *Glavew.*

ACTUS, *n.* Among the Romans, a measure in building equal to 120 Roman feet. In *agriculture*, the length of one furrow.

ACUATE, *v. t.* [*L. acuo*, to sharpen. See *Acid.*]

To sharpen; to make pungent, or corrosive. [*Little used.*] *Harvey.*

ACUBENE, *n.* A star of the fourth magnitude in the southern claw of Cancer.

ACUTION, *n.* [from *L. acuo*, to sharpen.] The sharpening of medicines to increase their effect.

ACULEATE, *a.* [*L. aculeus*, from *acus*, Gr. *ax*, a point, and the diminutive *ul*. See *Acid.*]

In *botany*, having prickles, or sharp points; pointed; used chiefly to denote prickles fixed in the bark, in distinction from thorns, which grow from the wood.

*Milne.*

2. In *zoology*, having a sting.

ACULEI, *a.* [*L.*] In *botany* and *zoology*, prickles or spines.

ACULON, or ACULOS, *n.* [Gr. *axalos*, probably from *ac*, an oak.]

The fruit or acorn of the ilex, or scarlet oak.

ACUMEN, *n.* [*L. acumen*, from *acus* or *acuo*.]

A sharp point; and figuratively, quickness of perception, the faculty of nice discrimination.

ACUMINATE, *a.* [*L. acuminatus*, from *acumen*.]

Ending in a sharp point; pointed.

ACUMINATED, *a.* Sharpened to a point.

ACUMINATION, *n.* A sharpening; termination in a sharp point.

ACUPUNCTURE, *n.* [*L. acus*, needle, and *punctura*, or *punctus*, a pricking.]

Among the Chinese, a surgical operation, performed by pricking the part affected with a needle, as in head-aches and lethargies. *Encyc.*

ACURU, *n.* The name in India of a fragrant aloes-wood. *Is. Researches.*

ACUS, *n.* [*L.*] The needle-fish, or gar-fish.

2. The ammonio-lyte or sand eel. *Cyc.*

3. The oblong cimeter. *Cyc.*

ACUTE, *a.* [*L. acutus*, sharp-pointed; Qu. from *acus*, *acus*, or from the Oriental *ḥ* had or elad, sharp. Heb. Ch. Ar.]

Sharp at the end; ending in a sharp point; opposed to *blunt* or *obtus*. An *acute angle* in geometry, is one which is less than a right angle, or which subtends less than ninety degrees. An *acute angled triangle* is one whose three angles are all acute, or less than ninety degrees each.

2. *Figuratively*, applied to mental powers; penetrating; having nice discernment; perceiving or using minute distinctions; opposed to *dull* or *stupid*; as an *acute* reasoner.

3. *Applied to the senses*; having nice or quick sensibility; susceptible of slight impressions; having power to feel or perceive small objects; as, a man of *acute* eyesight, hearing, or feeling.

4. An *acute* disease, is one which is attended with violent symptoms, and comes speedily to a crisis, as a pleurisy; opposed to *chronic*.

5. An *acute* accent, is that which elevates or sharpens the voice.

6. In *music*, *acute* is applied to a tone which is sharp, or high; opposed to *grave*.

7. In *botany*, ending in an acute angle, as a leaf or perianth. *Martyn.*

ACUTELY, *adv.* Sharply; keenly; with nice discrimination.

ACUTENESS, *n.* Sharpness; but seldom used in this literal sense, as applied to material things.

2. *Figuratively*, the faculty of nice discernment or perception; applied to the senses, or the understanding. By an *acuteness* of feeling, we perceive small objects or slight impressions; by an *acuteness* of intellect, we discern nice distinctions.

3. Sharpness, or elevation of sound, in rhetoric or music. *Boyle.*

4. Violence of a disease, which brings it speedily to a crisis.

ACUTIATOR, *n.* In the middle ages, a person whose office was to sharpen instruments. Before the invention of fire-arms, such officers attended armies, to sharpen their instruments. *Encyc.*

AD, A Latin preposition, signifying to. It is probably from Heb. Ch. Syr. *Sum*. Eth. *ἄ*.

אָדָה, Ar. *ἄδῃ*, to come near, to approach; from which root we may also deduce *ad*. In composition, the last letter is usually changed into the first letter of the word to which it is prefixed. Thus for *adclamo*, the Romans wrote *acclamo*; for *agredior*, *aggredior*; for *adfirmo*, *affirmo*; for *adlego*, *allego*; for *adpono*, *appono*; for *adripio*, *arripio*; for *adscribo*, *ascribo*; for *adlineo*, *atlineo*. The reason of this change is found in the ease of pronunciation, and agreeableness of the sounds.

*Ad hominem*, to the man, in logic, an argument, adapted to touch the prejudices of the person addressed.

*Ad inquisitionem*, in law, a judicial writ commanding inquiry to be made.

*Ad libitum*, [*L.*] at pleasure.

*Ad valorem*, according to the value, in commerce and finance, terms used to denote duties or charges laid upon goods, at a certain rate per cent, upon their value, as stated in their invoices; in opposition to a specific sum upon a given quantity or number.

AD-AGE, *n.* [*L. adagium*, or *adagio*; It. *adagio*.]

A proverb; an old saying, which has obtained credit by long use; a wise observation handed down from antiquity.

AD-AGIO, *n.* [It. *adagio*, a compound of *ad* and *agio*, leisure; Sp. and Port. *ocio*; L. *otium*; Fr. *aise*; Eng. *ease*.]

In *music*, a slow movement. As an adverb, slowly, leisurely, and with grace. When repeated, *adagio*, *adagio*, it directs the movement to be very slow.

AD-AM, *n.* In Heb. Ch. Syr. Eth. Ar., *Man*; primarily, the name of the human species, mankind; appropriately, the first Man, the progenitor of the human race. The word signifies form, shape, or suitable form; hence, species. As a verb, the word signifies, in Ethiopic, to please or be agreeable; in Arabic, to join, unite, or be accordant, to agree. It is evidently connected with דָּמָה *damah*, Heb. Ch. Syr., to be like or equal, to form an image, to assimilate. Whence the sense of likeness, image, form, shape; Gr. *δῆμος*, a body, like. [See *Man*.]

*Adam's apple*, a species of citron, [see *Citron*]; as also the prominent part of the throat.

*Adam's needle*, the popular name of the yucca, a plant of four species, cultivated in gardens. Of the roots, the Indians make a kind of bread. [See *Yucca*.]

ADAMANT, *n.* [Gr. *ἀδάμαν*; L. *adamans*; a word of Celtic origin; W. *chedvaen*, a load stone, from *ched*, to fly or move, and *vaen*, or *maen*, a stone. Chaucer uses *adamant* for the load stone. *Roman of the Rose*, l. 1182. Gr. *diamant*, is *adamant* and *diamond*; Sp. *diamante*; Sw. *diamant*; Fr. *amant*, loadstone. See *Diamond*.]

A very hard or impenetrable stone; a name given to the diamond and other substances of extreme hardness. The name has often been given to the load stone; but in modern mineralogy, it has no technical signification.

ADAMANTEAN, *a.* Hard as adamant. *Milton.*

ADAMANTINE, *a.* Made of adamant; having the qualities of adamant; that cannot be broken, dissolved, or penetrated; as *adamantine* bonds, or chains.

*Adamantine Spar*, a genus of earths, of three varieties. The color of the first is gray, with shades of brown or green; the form when regular, a hexangular prism, two sides large and four small, without a pyramid; its surface striated, and with a thin covering of white mica, interspersed with particles of red felspar; its fracture, foliaceous and sparry. The second variety is whiter, and the texture more foliaceous. The third variety is of a reddish brown color. This stone is very hard, and of difficult fusion. *Encyc.*

A variety of corundum. *Cleveland.*

ADAMIC, *a.* Pertaining to Adam. *Adamic* earth, is the term given to common red clay, so called by means of a mistaken opinion that Adam means red earth.