

PREFERRED, *pp.* Regarded above others; elevated in station.

PREFERER, *n.* One who prefers.

PREFERING, *ppr.* Regarding above others; advancing to a higher station; offering; presenting.

PREFIGURATE, *v. t.* [See *Prefigure*.] To show by antecedent representation. [Little used.]

PREFIGURATION, *n.* Antecedent representation by similitude.

A variety of prophecies and *prefigurations* had their punctual accomplishment in the author of this institution. *Norris.*

PREFIGURATIVE, *a.* Showing by previous figures, types or similitude. The sacrifice of the paschal lamb was *prefigurative* of the death of Christ.

PREFIGURE, *v. t.* [L. *præ*, before, and *figuro*, to fashion.]

To exhibit by antecedent representation, or by types and similitude.

In the Old Testament, things are *prefigured*, which are performed in the New. *Hooker.*

PREFIGURED, *pp.* Exhibited by antecedent signs, types or similitude.

PREFIGURING, *ppr.* Showing antecedently by similitude.

PREFINE, *v. t.* [L. *præfinio*; *præ*, before, and *finio*, to limit; *finis*, limit.] To limit beforehand. [Little used.] *Knolles.*

PREFINITION, *n.* Previous limitation. [Little used.] *Fotherby.*

PREFIX, *v. t.* [L. *præfigo*; *præ*, before, and *figo*, to fix.]

1. To put or fix before, or at the beginning of another thing; as, to *prefix* a syllable to a word; to *prefix* an advertisement to a book.

2. To set or appoint beforehand; as, to *prefix* the hour of meeting.

A time *prefix*, and think of me at last.

3. To settle; to establish.

I would *prefix* some certain boundary between the old statutes and the new. *Hale.*

PREFIX, *n.* A letter, syllable or word put to the beginning of a word, usually to vary its signification. A *prefix* is united with the word, forming a part of it; hence it is distinguished from a preposition; as *pre*, in *prefix*; *con*, in *conjure*; *with*, in *withstand*. *Prefixes* are sometimes called particles, or inseparable prepositions.

PREFIXED, *pp.* Set before; appointed beforehand; settled.

PREFIXING, *ppr.* Putting before; previously appointing; establishing.

PREFIXION, *n.* The act of prefixing.

PREFORM, *v. t.* [*pre* and *form*.] To form beforehand. *Shak.*

PREFORMATIVE, *n.* [L. *præ*, before, and *formative*.]

A formative letter at the beginning of a word. *M. Stuart.*

PREFULGENCY, *n.* [L. *præfulgens*; *præ*, before, and *fulgeo*, to shine.]

Superior brightness or effulgency. *Barrow.*

PREGNABLE, *a.* [Fr. *prenable*.] That may be taken or won by force; expugnable. [Little used.] *Cotgrave.*

PREGNANCY, *n.* [See *Pregnant*.] The state of a female who has conceived, or is with child. *Ray.*

2. Fertility; fruitfulness; inventive power; as the *pregnancy* of wit or invention. *Prior.*

Pregnance, in a like sense, is not used.

PREGNANT, *a.* [L. *prægnans*; supposed to be compounded of *præ*, before, and *geno*, Gr. *γενναω*, to beget; It. *pregnante*; Sp. *preñado*.]

1. Being with young, as a female; breeding; teeming.

2. Fruitful; fertile; impregnating; as *pregnant* streams. *Dryden.*

3. Full of consequence; as a *pregnant* instance of infatuation.

An egregious and *pregnant* instance how far virtue surpasses ingenuity. *Woodward.*

4. Easy to admit or receive.

I am *pregnant* to good pity. [Not proper.] *Shak.*

5. Free; kind; ready; witty; apt. [Not proper.] *Shak.*

6. Plain; clear; evident; full. [Not in use.] *Shak.*

PREGNANTLY, *adv.* Fruitfully.

2. Fully; plainly; clearly. [Not used.] *Shak. South.*

PREGRAVATE, *v. t.* [L. *prægravo*.] To bear down; to depress. [Not in use.] *Hall.*

PREGRAVITATE, *v. i.* To descend by gravity. *Boyle.*

PREGUSTATION, *n.* [L. *præ* and *gusto*, to taste.] The act of tasting before another. *Diet.*

PREHENSILE, *a.* [L. *prehendo*, to take or seize; *prehensurus*.]

Seizing; grasping; adapted to seize or grasp. The tails of some monkeys are *prehensile*. *Nat. Hist. Encyc.*

PREHENSION, *n.* A taking hold; a seizing; as with the hand or other limb. *Lawrence.*

PREHENTE, *n.* [from *Prehn*, the name of the person who first brought this stone from the Cape of Good Hope.]

A mineral of the silicious kind, of an apple green or greenish gray color. It has been called short, emerald, chrysoprase, feldspath, chrysolite, and zeolite. It has some resemblance to zeolite, but differs from it in several particulars, and is therefore considered to be a particular species. *Kirwan.*

Prehnite is near to stilbite, and is classed by the French with the family of zeolites.

It is massive or crystalized, but the form of its crystals cannot be determined in consequence of their aggregation. *Cleveland.*

PREINSTRUCT, *v. t.* [*pre* and *instruct*.] To instruct previously. *More.*

PREINSTRUCTED, *pp.* Previously instructed or directed.

PREINSTRUCTING, *ppr.* Previously instructing.

PREINTIMATION, *n.* [*pre* and *intimation*.]

Previous intimation; a suggestion beforehand. *T. Scott.*

PREJUDGE, *v. t.* *prejud'*. [Fr. *prejuger*; L. *præ* and *judico*, to judge.]

1. To judge in a cause before it is heard, or before the arguments and facts in the case are fully known.

The committee of council hath *prejudged* the whole case, by calling the united sense of both houses of parliament an universal clamor. *Swift.*

2. To judge and determine before the cause is heard; hence sometimes, to condemn beforehand or unheard. *Milton.*

PREJUDGED, *pp.* Judged beforehand; determined unheard.

PREJUDGING, *ppr.* Judging or determining without a hearing or before the case is fully understood.

PREJUDGMENT, *n.* Judgment in a case without a hearing or full examination. *Knor.*

PREJUDICACY, *n.* Prejudice; prepossession. [Not used.] *Blount.*

PREJUDICATE, *v. t.* [L. *præ*, before, and *judico*, to judge.]

To prejudice; to determine beforehand to disadvantage.

Our dearest friend

Prejudicates the business. *Shak.*

PREJUDICATE, *v. i.* To form a judgment without due examination of the facts and arguments in the case. *Sidney.*

PREJUDICATE, *a.* Formed before due examination. *Watts.*

2. Prejudiced; biased by opinions formed prematurely; as a *prejudicate* reader. [Little used.] *Brown.*

PREJUDICATED, *pp.* Prejudged.

PREJUDICATING, *ppr.* Prejudging.

PREJUDICATION, *n.* The act of judging without due examination of facts and evidence. *Sherwood.*

2. In *Roman oratory*, prejudications were of three kinds; first, precedents or adjudged cases, involving the same points of law; second, previous decisions on the same question between other parties; third, decisions of the same cause and between the same parties, before tribunals of inferior jurisdiction. *Adams' Lect.*

PREJUDICATIVE, *a.* Forming an opinion or judgment without examination. *More.*

PREJUDICE, *n.* [Fr. from L. *prejudicium*; *præ* and *judico*.]

1. Prejudgment; an opinion or decision of mind, formed without due examination of the facts or arguments which are necessary to a just and impartial determination. It is used in a good or bad sense. Innumerable are the *prejudices* of education; we are accustomed to believe what we are taught, and to receive opinions from others without examining the grounds by which they can be supported. A man has strong *prejudices* in favor of his country or his party, or the church in which he has been educated; and often our *prejudices* are unreasonable. A judge should disabuse himself of *prejudice* in favor of either party in a suit.

My comfort is that their manifest *prejudice* to my cause will render their judgment of less authority. *Dryden.*

2. A previous bent or bias of mind for or against any person or thing; prepossession.

There is an unaccountable *prejudice* to projectors of all kinds. *Addison.*

3. Mischievous; hurt; damage; injury. Violent factions are a *prejudice* to the authority of the sovereign.