

To *set* to, to apply one's self to.

*Gov. of the Tongue.*

To *set up*, to begin business or a scheme of life; as, to *set up* in trade; to *set up* for one's self.

2. To profess openly; to make pretensions. He *sets up* for a man of wit; he *sets up* to teach morality. *Dryden.*

SET, *pp.* Placed; put; located; fixed; adjusted; composed; studded or adorned; reduced, as a dislocated or broken bone.

2. *a.* Regular; uniform; formal; as a *set* speech or phrase; a *set* discourse; a *set* battle.

3. Fixed in opinion; determined; firm; obstinate; as a man *set* in his opinions or way.

4. Established; prescribed; as *set* forms of prayer.

SET, *n.* A number or collection of things of the same kind and of similar form, which are ordinarily used together; as a *set* of chairs; a *set* of tea cups; a *set* of China or other ware.

2. A number of things fitted to be used together, though different in form; as a *set* of dining tables.

A *set* implies more than two, which are called a *pair*.

3. A number of persons customarily or officially associated, as a *set* of men, a *set* of officers; or a number of persons having a similitude of character, or of things which have some resemblance or relation to each other. Hence our common phrase, a *set* of opinions.

This falls into different divisions or *sets* of nations connected under particular religions, &c. *Ward's Law of Nations.*

4. A number of particular things that are united in the formation of a whole; as a *set* of features. *Addison.*

5. A young plant for growth; as *sets* of white thorn or other shrub. *Encyc.*

6. The descent of the sun or other luminary below the horizon; as the *set* of the sun. *Atterbury.*

7. A wager at dice. That was but civil war, an equal *set*. *Dryden.*

8. A game. We will, in France, play a *set* Shall strike his father's crown into the hazard. *Shak.*

SETACEOUS, *a.* [*L. seta*, a bristle.] Bristly; set with strong hairs; consisting of strong hairs; as a stiff *setaceous* tail. *Derham.*

2. In *botany*, bristle-shaped; having the thickness and length of a bristle; as a *setaceous* leaf or leaflet. *Martyn.*

*Setaceous worm*, a name given to a water worm that resembles a horse hair, vulgarly supposed to be an animated hair. But this is a mistake. *Encyc.*

SET-FOIL. [See *Sept-foil*.]

SETIFORM, *a.* [*L. seta*, a bristle, and *form*.] Having the form of a bristle. *Journ. of Science.*

SET-OFF, *n.* [*set* and *off*.] The act of admitting one claim to counterbalance another. In a *set-off*, the defendant acknowledges the justice of the plaintiff's demand, but *sets up* a demand of his own to counterbalance it in whole or in part.

The right of pleading a *set-off* depends on statute. *Blackstone.*

NOTE.—In New England, *offset* is sometimes used for *set-off*. But *offset* has a different sense, and it is desirable that the practice should be uniform, wherever the English language is spoken.

SET/TON, *n.* [*Fr. from L. seta*, a bristle.] In *surgery*, a few horse hairs or small threads, or a twist of silk, drawn through the skin by a large needle, by which a small opening is made and continued for the discharge of humors. *Encyc. Quincy.*

SET/TOUS, *a.* [*It. setoso*; *L. setosus*, from *seta*, a bristle.]

In *botany*, bristly; having the surface set with bristles; as a *setous* leaf or receptacle. *Martyn.*

SETTEE, *n.* [from *set*.] A long seat with a back to it.

2. A vessel with one deck and a very long sharp prow, carrying two or three masts with lateen sails; used in the Mediterranean. *Mar. Dict. Encyc.*

SETTER, *n.* One that sets; as a *setter on*, or *inciter*; a *setter up*; a *setter forth*, &c.

2. A dog that beats the field and starts birds for sportsmen.

3. A man that performs the office of a setting dog, or finds persons to be plundered. *South.*

4. One that adapts words to music in composition.

5. Whatever sets off, adorns or recommends. [*Not used.*] *Whillock.*

SETTER-WORT, *n.* A plant, a species of *Helleborus*. *Fam. of Plants.*

SETTING, *ppr.* Placing; putting; fixing; studding; appointing; sinking below the horizon, &c.

SETTING, *n.* The act of putting, placing, fixing or establishing.

2. The act of sinking below the horizon. The setting of stars is of three kinds, *cosmical*, *acronical*, and *heliacal*. [See these words.]

3. The act or manner of taking birds by a setting dog.

4. Inclosure; as *settings* of stones. *Ex. xxviii.*

5. The direction of a current at sea.

SETTING-DOG, *n.* A setter; a dog trained to find and start birds for sportsmen.

SET/TLE, *n.* [*Sax. sett, settl*; *G. sessel*; *D. zetel*; *L. sedile*. See *Set*.]

A seat or bench; something to sit on. *Dryden.*

SET/TLE, *v. t.* [from *set*.] To place in a permanent condition after wandering or fluctuation.

I will *settle* you after your old estates. *Ezek. xxxvi.*

2. To fix; to establish; to make permanent in any place.

I will *settle* him in my house and in my kingdom forever. *1 Chron. xvii.*

3. To establish in business or way of life; as, to *settle* a son in trade.

4. To marry; as, to *settle* a daughter.

5. To establish; to confirm. Her will alone could *settle* or revoke. *Prior.*

6. To determine what is uncertain; to establish; to free from doubt; as, to *settle* questions or points of law. The supreme court have *settled* the question.

7. To fix; to establish; to make certain or permanent; as, to *settle* the succession to a throne in a particular family. So we speak of *settled* habits and *settled* opinions.

8. To fix or establish; not to suffer to doubt or waver.

It will *settle* the wavering and confirm the doubtful. *Swift.*

9. To make close or compact.

Cover ant-hills up that the rain may *settle* the turf before the spring. *Mortimer.*

10. To cause to subside after being heaved and loosened by frost; or to dry and harden after rain. Thus clear weather *settles* the roads.

11. To fix or establish by gift, grant or any legal act; as, to *settle* a pension on an officer, or an annuity on a child.

12. To fix firmly. *Settle* your mind on valuable objects.

13. To cause to sink or subside, as extraneous matter in liquors. In fining wine, we add something to *settle* the lees.

14. To compose; to tranquilize what is disturbed; as, to *settle* the thoughts or mind when agitated.

15. To establish in the pastoral office; to ordain over a church and society, or parish; as, to *settle* a minister. *U. States. Boswell.*

16. To plant with inhabitants; to colonize. The French first *settled* Canada; the Puritans *settled* New England. Plymouth was *settled* in 1620. Hartford was *settled* in 1636. Wethersfield was the first *settled* town in Connecticut.

17. To adjust; to close by amicable agreement or otherwise; as, to *settle* a controversy or dispute by agreement, treaty or by force.

18. To adjust; to liquidate; to balance, or to pay; as, to *settle* accounts.

To *settle* the land, among seamen, to cause it to sink or appear lower by receding from it.

SET/TLE, *v. i.* To fall to the bottom of liquor; to subside; to sink and rest on the bottom; as, lees or dregs *settle*. Slimy particles in water *settle* and form mud at the bottom of rivers.

This word is used of the extraneous matter of liquors, when it subsides spontaneously. But in chemical operations, when substances mixed or in solution are decomposed, and one component part subsides, it is said to be *precipitated*. But it may also be said to *settle*.

2. To lose motion or fermentation; to deposit, as feces.

A government on such occasions, is always thick before it *settles*. *Addison.*

3. To fix one's habitation or residence. Belgians had *settled* on the southern coast of Britain, before the Romans invaded the isle.

4. To marry and establish a domestic state. Where subsistence is easily obtained, children *settle* at an early period of life.

5. To become fixed after change or fluctuation; as, the wind came about and *settled* in the west. *Bacon.*

6. To become stationary; to quit a rambling or irregular course for a permanent or methodical one.