

DIADELPHIAN, a. Having its stamens united into two bodies by their filaments.

DIADREM, n. [*Gr. διαδρέμα*, from *diadrem*, to gird; *dia* and *drema*, to bind; *L. diadema*.]

1. Anciently, a head-band or fillet worn by kings as a badge of royalty. It was made of silk, linen or wool, and tied round the temples and forehead, the ends being tied behind and let fall on the neck. It was usually white and plain; sometimes embroidered with gold, or set with pearls and precious stones.

2. In modern usage, the mark or badge of royalty, worn on the head; a crown; and figuratively, empire; supreme power. *Gibban.*

3. A distinguished or principal ornament. *A diadem of beauty.* Is. xxvii.

DIADEMED, a. Adorned with a diadem; crowned; ornamented. *Pope.*

DIADROM, n. [*Gr. διαδρόμη*, a running about; *διαδρομέω*; *dia* and *δρομή*, to run.]

A course or passing; a vibration; the time in which the vibration of a pendulum is performed. *Locke.*

DIAGNOSTIC, a. [*Gr. διαγνωστικός*; *διαγνωστικός*; *dia* and *γνωσκω*, to know.]

Distinguishing; characteristic; indicating the nature of a disease.

DIAGNOSTIC, n. The sign or symptom by which a disease is known or distinguished from others. *Diagnostics* are of two kinds; the *adjunct*, or such as are common to several diseases; and the *pathognomonic*, which always attend the disease, and distinguish it from all others. *Encycy.*

DIAGONAL, a. [*Gr. διαγώνιος*; *dia* and *γωνία*, a corner.]

1. In geometry, extending from one angle to another of a quadrilateral figure, and dividing it into two equal parts.

2. Being in an angular direction.

DIAGONAL, n. A right line drawn from angle to angle of a quadrilateral figure, as a square or parallelogram, and dividing it into two equal parts. It is sometimes called the *diameter*, and sometimes the *diameter*. *Encycy.*

DIAGONALLY, adv. In a diagonal direction.

DIAGRAM, n. [*Gr. διαγραμμα*; *dia* and *γραφω*, to write.]

In geometry, a figure, draught or scheme delineated for the purpose of demonstrating the properties of any figure, as a square, triangle, circle, &c. Anciently, a musical scale.

DIAGRAPHIC, } a. [*Gr. δια and γραφω*, to describe.] Descriptive.

DIAGRAPHICAL, }

DIAL, n. [*Fr. dial*; probably from *day, dies*.]

An instrument for measuring time, by the aid of the sun; being a plate or plain surface, on which lines are drawn in such a manner, that the shadow of a wire, or of the upper edge of another plane, erected perpendicularly on the former, may show the true time of the day. The edge of the plane, which shows the time, is called the *style* of the dial, and this must be parallel to the axis of the earth. The line on which this plane is erected, is called the *substyle*; and the angle included between the *substyle* and *style*, is called the *elevation* or *height* of the *style*. A dial may be horizontal, vertical, or inclining. *Encycy.*

DIAL-PLATE, n. The plate of a dial on which the lines are drawn, to show the hour or time of the day.

DIALECT, n. [*Gr. διάλεκτος*; *dia* and *λέγω*, to speak; *It. dialetto*; *Fr. dialecte*; *Sp. dialecto*.]

1. The form or idiom of a language, peculiar to a province, or to a kingdom or state; consisting chiefly in differences of orthography or pronunciation. The Greek language is remarkable for four dialects, the Attic, Ionic, Doric and Eolic. A dialect is the branch of a parent language, with such local alterations as time, accident and revolutions may have introduced among descendants of the same stock or family, living in separate or remote situations. But in regard to a large portion of words, many languages, which are considered as distinct, are really dialects of one common language.

2. Language; speech; or manner of speaking. *South.*

DIALECTICAL, a. Pertaining to a dialect, or dialects; not radical.

2. Logical; argumental. *Boyle.*

DIALECTICALLY, adv. In the manner of dialect.

DIALECTICIAN, n. A logician; a reasoner.

DIALECTICS, n. That branch of logic which teaches the rules and modes of reasoning. *Encycy.*

DIALING, n. The art of constructing dials, or of drawing dials on a plane. The scientific science, or knowledge of showing the time by shadows. *Johnson.*

DIALIST, n. A constructor of dials; one skilled in dialing.

DIALLAGE, n. [*Gr. διάλλαγή*, difference, alluding to the difference of luster between its natural points.]

A mineral, the smaragdite of Saussure, of a lamellar or foliated structure. Its subspecies are green diallage, metalloidal diallage and bronzoite. *Cleveland.*

The metalloidal subspecies is called schillerstein, or schiller spar.

DIALOGISM, n. A feigned speech between two or more.

DIALOGIST, n. [See *Dialogue*.] A speaker in a dialogue; also, a writer of dialogues. *Johnson.*

DIALOGISTIC, a. Having the form of a dialogue.

DIALOGISTICALLY, adv. In the manner of dialogue.

DIALOGIZE, v.i. [See *Dialogue*.] To discourse in dialogue. *Folgerby.*

DIALOGUE, n. [*Fr. dialogue*; *It. dialogo*; *Sp. id.*; from *Gr. διαλογος*, from *διαλογος*, to dispute; *dia* and *λέγω*, to speak.]

1. A conversation or conference between two or more persons; particularly, a formal conversation in theatrical performances; also, an exercise in colleges and schools, in which two or more persons carry on a discourse.

2. A written conversation, or a composition in which two or more persons are represented as conversing on some topic; as the *dialogues* of Cicero de Oratore, and de Nono Torquato.

DIALOGUE, v.t. To discourse together; to confer. [Not used.] *Shak.*

DIALOGUE-WRITER, n. A writer of dialogues or feigned conversations.

DIALYSIS, n. [*Gr. διάλυσις*; *dia*, to dissolve; *dia* and *λύω*, to dissolve.]

A mark in writing or printing, consisting of two points placed over one of two vowels, to dissolve a diphthong, or to show that the two vowels are to be separated in pronunciation; as, *ae, uer, mosaic*.

2. In medicine, debility; also, a solution of continuity. *Parr.*

DIAMANTINE, for adamantine. [Not in use.]

DIAMETER, n. [*Gr. διάμετρος*; *dia* and *μετρον*, measure through.]

1. A right line passing through the center of a circle or other curvilinear figure, terminated by the circumference, and dividing the figure into two equal parts.

2. A right line passing through the center of a piece of timber, a rock or other object, from one side to the other; as the *diameter* of a tree, or of a stone.

DIAMETRICAL, a. Diametrical, which see.

DIAMETRICALLY, adv. Diametrically.

DIAMETRICAL, a. Describing a diameter.

2. Observing the direction of a diameter; direct; as *diametrically* opposition.

DIAMETRICALLY, adv. In a diametrical direction; directly; as *diametrically* opposite.

DIAMOND, n. d'mond. [*Fr. diamant*; *It. and Sp. diamante*; *G. and D. diamant*; *L. adamas*; *Gr. ἀδάμας, ἀδάμαντος*, whence *adamant*, from the Celtic; *W. chedvan*, moving stone; *ched*, to fly or move, and *men*, stone; a name first given to the loadstone. See *Adamant*.]

1. A mineral, gem or precious stone, of the most valuable kind, remarkable for its hardness, as it scratches all other minerals. When pure, the diamond is usually clear and transparent, but it is sometimes colored. In its rough state, it is commonly in the form of a roundish pebble, or of octahedral crystals. It consists of carbon, and when heated to 14° Wedgewood, and exposed to a current of air, it is gradually, but completely combustible. When pure and transparent, it is said to be of the first water. *Encycy. Kirwan. Cleveland.*

2. A very small printing letter.

3. A figure, otherwise called a rhombus.

DIAMOND, a. Resembling a diamond, as a diamond color; or consisting of diamonds, as a diamond chain.

DIAMONDED, a. Having the figure of an oblique angled parallelogram, or rhombus. *Fulder.*

DIAMOND-MINE, n. A mine in which diamonds are found.

DIAN, DER, n. [*Gr. δῆς, δῆς, twice, and ἀντρον, a male.*] In botany, a plant having two stamens.

DIAN, BRIAN, a. Having two stamens.

DIAPASM, n. [*Gr. διαπάσσω*, to sprinkle.] A perfume. *Obs. B. Jonson.*

DIAPASON, n. [*Gr. διαπάσσω*, through all.]

DIAPASE, n. [*Gr. διαπάσσω*, through all.]

2. Among musical instrument-makers, a rule or scale by which they adjust the pipes of organs, the holes of flutes, &c., in due proportion for expressing the several tones and semitones. *Busby.*