

tricity and galvanism in communicating magnetic properties.

ELECTROMETER, *n.* [*L. electrum*, Gr. *ἤλεκτρον*, amber, and *μέτρον*, to measure.] An instrument for measuring the quantity or intensity of electricity, or its quality; or an instrument for discharging it from a jar.

Encyc. Henry. Ure.
ELECTROMETRIC, *a.* Pertaining to an electrometer; made by an electrometer; as an *electrometric* experiment.

ELECTRO-MOTION, *n.* The motion of electricity or galvanism, or the passing of it from one metal to another, by the attraction or influence of one metal plate in contact with another.

Volta.
ELECTRO-MOTIVE, *a.* Producing electro-motion; as *electro-motive* power.

Henry.
ELECTROMOTOR, *n.* [*electrum* and *motor*.] A mover of the electric fluid; an instrument or apparatus so called.

Volta.
ELECTRON, *n.* Amber; also, a mixture of gold with a fifth part of silver.

Corr.
ELECTRO-NEGATIVE, *a.* Repelled by bodies negatively electrified, and attracted by those positively electrified.

Henry.
ELECTROPHOR, *n.* [*electrum* and *ἑλκω*, to bear.] An instrument for preserving electricity a long time.

Dict. Nat. Hist.
ELECTRO-POSITIVE, *a.* Attracted by bodies negatively electrified, or by the negative pole of the galvanic arrangement.

Henry.
ELECTRUM, *n.* [*L. amber*.] In *mineralogy*, an argenterous gold ore, or native alloy, of a pale brass yellow color.

Dict.
ELECTUARY, *n.* [*Low L. electarium*, *electuarium*; Gr. *ἐλεγκτήριον*, or *ἐλεγκτήριον*, from *ἐλεγειν*, to lick. *Vossius*.]

In *pharmacy*, a form of medicine composed of powders, or other ingredients, incorporated with some conserve, honey or sirup, and made into due consistence, to be taken in doses, like boluses.

Quincy. Encyc.
ELEEMOSYNARY, *a.* [*Gr. ἐλεημοσύνη*, alms, from *ἐλεειν*, to pity, *ἔλεος*, compassion; *W. elus*, charitable; *elusen*, alms, benevolence. See *Alms*.] It would be well to omit one *e* in this word.]

1. Given in charity; given or appropriated to support the poor; as *eleemosynary* rents or taxes.

Encyc.
2. Relating to charitable donations; intended for the distribution of alms, or for the use and management of donations, whether for the subsistence of the poor or for an *eleemosynary* corporation. A hospital founded by charity is an *eleemosynary* institution for the support of the poor, sick and impotent; a college founded by donations is an *eleemosynary* institution for the promotion of learning. The corporation entrusted with the care of such institutions is *eleemosynary*.

ELEEMOSYNARY, *n.* One who subsists on charity.

South.
ELEGANCE, *n.* [*L. elegantia*; Fr. *élégance*; *It. eleganza*. Probably from *L. elego*, to choose, though irregularly formed.]

In its primary sense, this word signifies that which is choice or select, as distinguished from what is common.

1. "The beauty of propriety, not of greatness," says Johnson.

Applied to *manners* or *behavior*, elegance is that fine polish, politeness or grace, which is acquired by a genteel education, and an association with wellbred company.

Applied to *language*, elegance respects the manner of speaking or of writing. *Elegance of speaking* is the propriety of diction and utterance, and the gracefulness of action or gesture; comprehending correct, appropriate and rich expressions, delivered in an agreeable manner. *Elegance of composition* consists in correct, appropriate and rich expressions, or well chosen words, arranged in a happy manner. *Elegance* implies neatness, purity, and correct, perspicuous arrangement, and is calculated to please a delicate taste, rather than to excite admiration or strong feeling. *Elegance* is applied also to form. *Elegance in architecture*, consists in the due symmetry and distribution of the parts of an edifice, or in regular proportions and arrangement. And in a similar sense, the word is applied to the person or human body. It is applied also to penmanship, denoting that form of letters which is most agreeable to the eye. In short, in a looser sense, it is applied to many works of art or nature remarkable for their beauty; as *elegance* of dress or furniture.

2. That which pleases by its nicety, symmetry, purity or beauty. In this sense it has a plural; as the nicer *elegancies* of art.

Spectator.
ELEGANT, *a.* [*L. elegans*.] Polished; polite; refined; graceful; pleasing to good taste; as *elegant* manners.

1. Polished; neat; pure; rich in expressions; correct in arrangement; as an *elegant* style or composition.

2. Uttering or delivering elegant language with propriety and grace; as an *elegant* speaker.

1. Symmetrical; regular; well formed in its parts, proportions and distribution; as an *elegant* structure.

2. Nice; sensible to beauty; discriminating beauty from deformity or imperfection; as an *elegant* taste. [This is a loose application of the word; elegant being used for delicate.]

3. Beautiful in form and colors; pleasing; as an *elegant* flower.

4. Rich; costly and ornamental; as *elegant* furniture or equipage.

ELEGANTLY, *adv.* In a manner to please; with elegance; with beauty; with pleasing propriety; as a composition *elegantly* written.

1. With due symmetry; with well formed and duly proportioned parts; as a house *elegantly* built.

2. Richly; with rich or handsome materials well disposed; as a room *elegantly* furnished; a woman *elegantly* dressed.

ELEGIAC, *a.* [*Low L. elegiacus*. See *Elegy*.] Belonging to elegy; plaintive; expressing sorrow or lamentation; as an *elegiac* lay; *elegiac* strains.

2. Used in elegies. Pentameter verse is *elegiac*.

Roscommon.
ELEGIST, *a.* A writer of elegies. *Goldsmith.*
ELEGIT, *n.* [*L. eligo*, *elegi*, to choose.] A writ of execution, by which a defendant's goods are appraised, and delivered to the plaintiff, and if not sufficient to satisfy the debt, one moiety of his lands are delivered, to be held till the debt is paid by the rents and profits.

2. The title to estate by elegit. *Blackstone.*
ELEGY, *n.* [*L. elegia*; Gr. *ἐλεγίον*, *ἔλεος*, supposed to be from *ἔλεος*, to speak or utter. *Qu.* the root of the *L. lugeo*.] The verbis may have a common origin, for to speak and to cry out in wailing are only modifications of the same act, to throw out the voice with more or less vehemence.]

1. A mournful or plaintive poem, or a funeral song; a poem or a song expressive of sorrow and lamentation. *Shak. Dryden.*

2. A short poem without points or affected elegancies.

Johnson.
ELEMENT, *n.* [*L. elementum*; Fr. *element*; It. and Sp. *elemento*; Arm. *elenn*; W. *elven*, or *elvey*. This word Owen refers to *eln* or *el*, a moving principle, that which has in itself the power of motion; and *el* is also a spirit or angel, which seems to be the Sax. *elf*, an *elf*. *Vossius* assigns *elementum* to *eleo*, for *oleo*, to grow. See *Elf*.]

1. The first or constituent principle or minutest part of any thing; as the *elements* of earth, water, salt, or wood; the *elements* of the world; the *elements* of animal or vegetable bodies. So letters are called the *elements* of language.

2. An ingredient; a constituent part of any composition.

3. In a *chemical sense*, an atom; the minutest particle of a substance; that which cannot be divided by chemical analysis, and therefore considered as a simple substance, as oxygen, hydrogen, nitrogen, &c.

An *element* is strictly the last result of chemical analysis; that which cannot be decomposed by any means now employed. An *atom* is the last result of mechanical division; that which cannot be any further divided, without decomposition: hence there may be both *elementary* and *compound* atoms.

4. In the *plural*, the first rules or principles of an art or science; rudiments; as the *elements* of geometry; the *elements* of music; the *elements* of painting; the *elements* of a theory.

5. In *popular language*, fire, air, earth and water, are called the four *elements*, as formerly it was supposed that these are simple bodies, of which the world is composed. Later discoveries prove air, earth and water to be compound bodies, and fire to be only the extrication of light and heat during combustion.

6. Element, in the singular, is sometimes used for the air.

Shak.
7. The substance which forms the natural or most suitable habitation of an animal. Water is the proper *element* of fishes; air, of man. Hence,

8. The proper state or sphere of any thing; the state of things suited to one's temper