

The annies came *shortly* in view of each other. *Clarendon.*

2. In few words; briefly; as, to express ideas more *shortly* in verse than in prose. *Pope.*

SHORT'NER, *n.* He or that which shortens. *Swift.*

SHORT'NESS, *n.* The quality of being short in space or time; little length or little duration; as the *shortness* of a journey or of distance; the *shortness* of the days in winter; the *shortness* of life.

2. Fewness of words; brevity; conciseness; as the *shortness* of an essay. The prayers of the church, by reason of their *shortness*, are easy for the memory.

3. Want of reach or the power of retention; as the *shortness* of the memory. *Bacon.*

4. Deficiency; imperfection; limited extent; as the *shortness* of our reason. *Glanville.*

SHORT'-RIB, *n.* [*short* and *rib*.] One of the lower ribs; a rib shorter than the others, below the sternum; a false rib. *Wiseman.*

SHORTS, *n. plu.* The bran and coarse part of meal. [*Local.*]

SHORT-SIGHT, *n.* Short-sightedness; myopia; vision accurate only when the object is near. *Good.*

SHORT-SIGHTED, *a.* [*short* and *sight*.]

1. Not able to see far; having limited vision; in a literal sense.

2. Not able to look far into futurity; not able to understand things deep or remote; of limited intellect.

SHORT-SIGHTEDNESS, *n.* A defect in vision, consisting in the inability to see things at a distance, or at the distance to which the sight ordinarily extends. *Short-sightedness* is owing to the too great convexity of the crystalline humor of the eye, by which the rays of light are brought to a focus too soon, that is, before they reach the retina.

2. Defective or limited intellectual sight; inability to see far into futurity or into things deep or abstruse. *Addison.*

SHORT-WAISTED, *a.* [*short* and *waist*.] Having a short waist or body. *Dryden.*

SHORT-WIND'ED, *a.* [*short* and *wind*.] Affected with shortness of breath; having a quick respiration; as asthmatic persons. *May.*

SHORT'-WINGED, *a.* [*short* and *wing*.] Having short wings; as a *short-winged* hawk. *Dryden.*

SHORT-WIT'TED, *a.* Having little wit; not wise; of scanty intellect or judgment. *Hales.*

SHOR'Y, *a.* [*from shore*.] Lying near the shore or coast. [*Little used.*] *Burnet.*

SHOT, *pret.* and *pp.* of shoot.

SHOT, *n.* [*Sax. scyt*; *D. schoot, schot*. See *Shoot* and *Scot*.]

1. The act of shooting; discharge of a missile weapon.

He caused twenty *shot* of his greatest cannon to be made at the king's army. *Clarendon.*

[*Note.* The plural *shots*, may be used, but *shot* is generally used in both numbers.]

2. A missile weapon, particularly a ball or bullet. *Shot* is properly whatever is discharged from fire-arms or cannon by the

force of gunpowder. Shot used in war is of various kinds; as *round shot* or *balls*; those for cannon made of iron, those for muskets and pistols, of lead. Secondly, *double headed shot* or *bar shot*, consisting of a bar with a round head at each end. Thirdly, *chain-shot*, consisting of two balls chained together. Fourthly, *grape-shot*, consisting of a number of balls bound together with a cord in canvas on an iron bottom. Fifthly, *case shot* or *canister shot*, consisting of a great number of small bullets in a cylindrical tin box. Sixthly, *langrel* or *langrage*, which consists of pieces of iron of any kind or shape. *Small shot*, denotes musket balls. *Mar. Dict.*

3. Small globular masses of lead, used for killing fowls and other small animals. These are not called balls or bullets.

4. The flight of a missile weapon, or the distance which it passes from the engine; as a cannon *shot*; a musket *shot*; a pistol *shot*; a bow *shot*.

5. A reckoning; charge or proportional share of expense. [*See Scot.*]

Shot of a cable, in seaman's language, the splicing of two cables together; or the whole length of two cables thus united. A ship will ride easier in deep water with one *shot* of cable thus lengthened, than with three short cables. *Encyc.*

SHOTE, *n.* [*Sax. sceota*; from *shooting*, darting.]

1. A fish resembling the trout. *Carew.*

2. A young hog. [*See Shoot*.]

SHOT'-FREE, *a.* [*shot* and *free*.] Free from charge; exempted from any share of expense; scot-free.

2. Not to be injured by shot. [*Not used.*] *Feltham.*

3. Unpunished. [*Not used.*]

SHOTTEN, *a.* *shot'n.* [*from shoot*.] Having ejected the spawn; as a *shotten* herring. *Shak.*

2. Shooting into angles.

3. Shot out of its socket; dislocated; as a bone.

SHOUGH, *n.* *shok.* A kind of shaggy dog. [*Not in use.* See *Shock*.]

SHOULD, *shood.* The preterit of *shall*, but now used as an auxiliary verb, either in the past time or conditional present. "He *should* have paid the debt at the time the note became due." *Should* here denotes past time. "I *should* ride to town this day if the weather would permit." Here *should* expresses present or future time conditionally. In the second and third persons, it denotes obligation or duty, as in the first example above.

1. *I should go.* When *should* in this person is uttered without emphasis, it declares simply that an event would take place, on some condition or under other circumstances.

But when expressed with emphasis, *should* in this person denotes obligation, duty or determination.

2. *Thou shouldst go.* Without emphasis, *You should* *should*, in the second person, is nearly equivalent to *ought*; you ought to go, it is your duty, you are bound to go. [*See Shall*.]

With emphasis, *should* expresses determination in the speaker conditionally to

compel the person to act. "If I had the care of you, you *should* go, whether willing or not."

3. *He should go.* *Should*, in the third person, has the same force as in the second.

4. *If I should, if you should, if he should, &c.* denote a future contingent event.

5. After *should*, the principal verb is sometimes omitted, without obscuring the sense.

So subjects love just kings, or so they *should*. *Dryden.*

That is, so they *should* love them.

6. *Should be*, ought to be; a proverbial phrase, conveying some censure, contempt or irony. Things are not as they *should be*.

The boys think their mother no better than she *should be*. *Addison.*

7. "We think it strange that stones *should* fall from the aerial regions." In this use, *should* implies that stones do fall. In all similar phrases, *should* implies the actual existence of the fact, without a condition or supposition.

SHOULDER, *n.* [*Sax. sculdre, sculdor, sculder*; *G. skulter*; *D. shouder*; *Sw. skuldra*; *Dan. skulder*.]

1. The joint by which the arm of a human being or the fore leg of a quadruped is connected with the body; or in man, the projection formed by the bones called *scapula* or shoulder blades, which extend from the basis of the neck in a horizontal direction.

2. The upper joint of the fore leg of an animal cut for the market; as a *shoulder* of mutton.

3. *Shoulders*, in the plural, the upper part of the back.

Adown her *shoulders* fell her length of hair. *Dryden.*

4. *Figuratively*, support; sustaining power; or that which elevates and sustains.

For on thy *shoulders* do I build my seat. *Shak.*

5. Among artificers, something like the human shoulder; a horizontal or rectangular projection from the body of a thing. *Moran.*

SHOULDER, *v. t.* To push or thrust with the shoulder; to push with violence.

Around her numberless the rabble flow'd,

Should ring each other, crowding for a view. *Rowe.*

As they the earth would *shoulder* from her seat. *Spenser.*

2. To take upon the shoulder; as, to *shoulder* a basket.

SHOULDER-BELT, *n.* [*shoulder* and *belt*.] A belt that passes across the shoulder. *Dryden.*

SHOULDER-BLADE, *n.* [*shoulder* and *blade*.]

The bone of the shoulder, or blade bone, broad and triangular, covering the hind part of the ribs; called by anatomists *scapula* and *omoplatula*. *Encyc.*

SHOULDER-CLAPPER, *n.* [*shoulder* and *clap*.]

One that claps another on the shoulder, or that uses great familiarity. [*Not in use.*] *Shak.*

SHOULDER-KNOT, *n.* [*shoulder* and *knot*.]

An ornamental knot of ribbon or lace worn on the shoulder; an epaulet.