

**SCRATCH**, *v. i.* To use the claws in tearing the surface. The gallinaceous hen scratches for her chickens.

—Dull tame things that will neither bite nor scratch. *More.*

**SCRATCH**, *n.* A rent; a break in the surface of a thing made by scratching, or by rubbing with any thing pointed or ragged; as a scratch on timber or glass.

The coarse file—makes deep scratches in the work. *Moxon.*

These nails with scratches shall deform my breast. *Prior.*

2. A slight wound.

Heav'n forbid a shallow scratch should drive The prince of Wales from such a field as this. *Shak.*

3. A kind of wig worn for covering baldness or gray hairs, or for other purpose. *Smollet.*

**SCRATCH'ED**, *pp.* Torn by the rubbing of something rough or pointed.

**SCRATCH'ER**, *n.* He or that which scratches.

**SCRATCH'ES**, *n. plu.* Cracked ulcers on a horse's foot, just above the hoof.

**SCRATCH'ING**, *ppr.* Rubbing with something pointed or rough; rubbing and tearing the surface.

**SCRATCH'INGLY**, *adv.* With the action of scratching. *Sidney.*

**SCRAW**, *n.* [Irish and Erse.] Surface; cut turf. [*Nol in use.*] *Swift.*

**SCRAWL**, *v. t.* [Qu. from *crawl*, or its root, or from the D. *schrawelen*, to scratch or scrape. Both may be from one root.]

1. To draw or mark awkwardly and irregularly. *Swift.*

2. To write awkwardly.

**SCRAWL**, *v. i.* To write unskillfully and inelegantly.

Though with a golden pen you scrawl. *Swift.*

2. To creep; to crawl. [This is from *crawl*, but I know not that it is in use.] *Ainsworth.*

**SCRAWL**, *n.* Unskillful or inelegant writing; or a piece of hasty bad writing. *Pope.*

2. In *New England*, a ragged, broken branch of a tree, or other brush wood.

**SCRAWL'ER**, *n.* One who scrawls; a hasty or awkward writer.

**SCRAY**, *n.* A fowl called the sea swallow, [*hirundo marina*,] of the genus *Terna*.

**SCRE/ABLE**, *a.* [*L. screabilis*, from *screo*, to spit out.] That may be spit out. *Obs.*

**SCREAK**, *v. i.* [*Sw. skrika*; *Dan. skriger*; *W. ysgreçian*, from *creçian*, to creak, to shriek, from *creç*, cry, rough, roughness, or its root. This word is only a different orthography of *screech* and *shriek*, but is not elegant.]

To utter suddenly a sharp shrill sound or outcry; to scream; as in a sudden fright; also, to creak, as a door or wheel. [See *Screech*.]

[When applied to things, we use *creak*, and when to persons, *shriek*, both of which are elegant.]

**SCREAK**, *n.* A creaking; a screech.

**SCREAM**, *v. i.* [*Sax. roemian*, *hræman* or *hrcman*; *W. ysgarmu*, to set up a scream or shout. It appears from the Welsh that this is also the English *skirmish*, *Sp. escaramuzar*, which in D. is *schermutseln*,

from *scherm*, a fence or skreen; *schermen*, to fence. The primary sense is to thrust, drive or force out or away, to separate. See *Class Rm. No. 11.*]

1. To cry out with a shrill voice; to utter a sudden, sharp outcry, as in a fright or in extreme pain; to shriek.

The fearful matrons raise a screaming cry. *Dryden.*

2. To utter a shrill harsh cry; as the screaming owl.

**SCREAM**, *n.* A shriek or sharp shrill cry uttered suddenly, as in terror or in pain; or the shrill cry of a fowl; as screams of horror. *Pope.*

**SCREAMER**, *n.* A fowl, or genus of fowls, of the grallie order, of two species, natives of America.

**SCREAMING**, *ppr.* Uttering suddenly a sharp shrill cry; crying with a shrill voice.

**SCREAMING**, *n.* The act of crying out with a shriek of terror or agony.

**SCREECH**, *v. i.* [*Sw. skrika*; *Dan. skriger*; *G. schreien*; *W. ysgreçian*, from *creçian*, to creak; *Ir. screachaim*. See *Scream* and *Shriek*, and *Class Rg. No. 1. 4. 49. 50.*]

1. To cry out with a sharp shrill voice; to utter a sudden shrill cry, as in terror or acute pain; to scream; to shriek. *Bacon.*

2. To utter a sharp cry, as an owl; thence called *screech-owl*.

**SCREECH**, *n.* A sharp shrill cry uttered in acute pain, or in a sudden fright.

2. A harsh shrill cry, as of a fowl. *Pope.*

**SCREECHING**, *ppr.* Uttering a shrill or harsh cry.

**SCREECH-OWL**, *n.* An owl that utters a harsh disagreeable cry at night, no more ominous of evil than the notes of the nightingale.

**SCREED**, *n.* With plasterers, the floated work behind a cornice. *Encyc.*

**SCREEN**, *n.* [*Fr. écran*. This word is evidently from the root of *L. cerno*, *excerno*, *Gr. xpaw*, to separate, to sift, to judge, to fight, contend, skirmish; *Sp. harnero*, a sieve. The primary sense of the root is to separate, to drive or force asunder, hence to sift, to discern, to judge, to separate or cut off danger.]

1. Anything that separates or cuts off inconvenience, injury or danger; and hence, that which shelters or protects from danger, or prevents inconvenience. Thus a screen is used to intercept the sight, to intercept the heat of fire or the light of a candle.

Some ambitious men seem as screens to princes in matters of danger and envy. *Bacon.*

2. A riddle or sieve.

**SCREEN**, *v. t.* To separate or cut off from inconvenience, injury or danger; to shelter; to protect; to protect by hiding; to conceal; as fruits screened from cold winds by a forest or hill. Our houses and garments screen us from cold; an umbrella screens us from rain and the sun's rays. Neither rank nor money should screen from punishment the man who violates the laws.

2. To sift or riddle; to separate the coarse part of any thing from the fine, or the worthless from the valuable. *Evelyn.*

**SCREENED**, *pp.* Protected or sheltered from injury or danger; sifted.

**SCREEN'ING**, *ppr.* Protecting from injury or danger.

**SCREW**, *n.* [*D. schroef*; *G. schraube*; *Dan. skruve* or *skrue*; *Sw. skruf*. The primary sense is probably to turn, or rather to strain. *Class Rb.*]

1. A cylinder of wood or metal, grooved spirally; or a cylinder with a spiral channel or thread cut in such a manner that it is equally inclined to the base of the cylinder throughout the whole length. A screw is male or female. In the male screw, the thread rises from the surface of the cylinder; in the female, the groove or channel is sunk below the surface to receive the thread of the male screw.

2. One of the six mechanical powers.

**SCREW**, *v. t.* To turn or apply a screw to; to press, fasten or make firm by a screw; as, to screw a lock on a door; to screw a press.

2. To force; to squeeze; to press.

3. To oppress by exactions. Landlords sometimes screw and rack their tenants without mercy.

4. To deform by contortions; to distort.

He screw'd his face into a harden'd smile. *Dryden.*

To screw out, to press out; to extort.

To screw up, to force; to bring by violent pressure; as, to screw up the pins of powder too high. *Howell.*

To screw in, to force in by turning or twisting.

**SCREW'ED**, *pp.* Fastened with screws; pressed with screws; forced.

**SCREW'ER**, *n.* He or that which screws.

**SCREW'ING**, *ppr.* Turning a screw; fastening or pressing with a screw.

**SCREW-TREE**, *n.* A plant of the genus *Helicteres*, of several species, natives of warm climates. They are shrubby plants, with yellow flowers, and capsules intorted or twisted inwards. *Encyc.*

**SCRIBBLE**, *v. t.* [*L. scribillo*, dim. of *scribo*, to write, *W. ysgrivaw*. See *Scribe*.]

1. To write with haste, or without care or regard to correctness or elegance; as, to scribble a letter or pamphlet.

2. To fill with artless or worthless writing. *Milton.*

**SCRIB'BLE**, *v. i.* To write without care or beauty.

If Mævius scribble in Apollo's spite. *Pope.*

**SCRIB'BLE**, *n.* Hasty or careless writing; a writing of little value; as a hasty scribble. *Boyle.*

**SCRIB'LED**, *pp.* Written hastily and without care.

**SCRIB'LER**, *n.* A petty author; a writer of no reputation.

The scribbler pinch'd with hunger, writes to dine. *Granville.*

**SCRIBE**, *n.* [*Fr. from L. scriba*, from *scribo*, to write; formed probably on the root of *grave*, *scrape*, *scrub*; *D. schryven*; *G. schreiben*; *Sw. skrifva*; *Dan. skriver*; *W. ysgrivaw*, *ysgrivenu*, whence *scriveuer*; *It. scrivere*; *Sp. escribir*; *Port. escrever*; *Fr. écrire*, *ecrivant*; *Arm. scriva*, *scrifan*; *Gr. γραφω*; *Ir. grafadh*, to write, and *sgriobam*, *sgrabam*, to scrape, engrave or write; *Russ. skrebu*, *sgrabayu*, to scrape, scrub.