

Defending by words or arguments; excusing; said or written in defense, or by way of apology; as an *apologetic* essay. *Boyle*.  
**APOLOGETICALLY**, *adv.* By way of apology or excuse.

**APOLOGIST**, *n.* [See *Apology*.]

One who makes an apology; i. e. one who speaks or writes in defense of another.

**APOLOGIZE**, *v. i.* To make an apology; to write or speak in favor of, or to make excuse for; followed by *for*; as, my correspondent *apologized* for not answering my letter.

**APOLOGUE**, *n.* *apolog.* [Gr. *απόλογος*, a long speech, a fable.]

A moral fable; a story or relation of fictitious events, intended to convey useful truths. An *apologue* differs from a *parable* in this; the *parable* is drawn from events which pass among mankind, and is therefore supported by probability; an *apologue* may be founded on supposed actions of brutes or inanimate things, and therefore does not require to be supported by probability. Esop's fables are good examples of *apologues*. *Encyc.*

**APOLOGY**, *n.* [Gr. *απολογία*, of *απο* and *λογος*, discourse.]

An excuse; something said or written in defense or extenuation of what appears to others wrong, or unjustifiable; or of what may be liable to disapprobation. It may be an extenuation of what is not perfectly justifiable, or a vindication of what is or may be disapproved, but which the *apologist* deems to be right. A man makes an *apology* for not fulfilling an engagement, or for publishing a pamphlet. An *apology* then is a reason or reasons assigned for what is wrong or *may appear* to be wrong, and it may be either an extenuation or a justification of something that is or *may* be censured, by those who are not acquainted with the reasons.

**APONEUROSIS**, *n.* [Gr. *απο*, from, and *νηρον*, a nerve; W. *nerth*; Arm. *nerz*. See *Nerve*.]

An expansion of a tendon in the manner of a membrane; the tendinous expansion or fascia of muscles; the tendon or tail of a muscle. *Encyc. Coxe.*

**APOPEMP TIC**, *a.* [Gr. *απο*, from, and *πημνω*, to send.]

Denoting a song or hymn among the ancients, sung or addressed to a stranger, on his departure from a place to his own country. It may be used as a note for the hymn. *Encyc.*

**APOPHASIS**, *n.* [Gr. *απο*, from, and *φασις*, form of speech.]

In rhetoric, a waving or omission of what one, speaking ironically, would plainly insinuate; as, "I will not mention another argument, which, however, if I should, you could not refute." *Smith. Johnson.*

**APOPHLEG MATIC**, *a.* [Gr. *απο*, from, and *φλεγμα*, phlegm.]

Masticatory; having the quality of exciting discharges of phlegm from the mouth or nostrils.

**APOPHLEG MATIC**, *n.* A masticatory; a medicine which excites discharges of phlegm from the mouth or nostrils. *Coxe.*

**APOPHLEG MATISM**, *n.* An apoplegmic. *Bacon.*

**APOPHLEG MATIZANT**, *n.* An apoplegmic. *Quincy. Coxe.*

**APOPHTHEGM**, *n.* [Gr. *απο*, from, and *αποθηναι*, word. It would be eligible to reduce this harsh word to *apothem*.]

A remarkable saying; a short, sententious, instructive remark, uttered on a particular occasion, or by a distinguished character; as that of Cyrus, "He is unworthy to be a magistrate, who is not better than his subjects;" or that of Cato, "Homines nihil agendo, discunt male agere;" men by doing nothing, soon learn to do mischief. *Apophyge*, *n.* [Gr. *απο*, from, and *φυγη*, flight.]

1. In architecture, the part of a column, where it springs out of its base; originally a ring or ferrel to bind the extremities of columns, and keep them from splitting; afterwards imitated in stone pillars. It is sometimes called the spring of the column. *Chambers.*

2. A concave part or ring of a column, lying above or below the flat member, which by the French *le congé d'en bas*, or *d'en haut*; by the Italians, *cavo di basso*, or *di sopra*; also, *il vivo di basso*. *Encyc.*

**APOPHYLLITE**, *n.* [Gr. *απο*, from, and *φυλλον*, a leaf; so called because of its tendency to exfoliate.]

A mineral occurring in laminated masses or in regular prismatic crystals, having a strong and peculiar pearly luster. Its structure is foliated, and when a fragment is forcibly rubbed against a hard body, it separates into thin lamens, like scutate. It exfoliates also before the flame of a lamp. From its peculiar luster, it is sometimes called by the harsh name, *ichthyophthalmite*, fish-eye stone. *Cleveland.*

**APOPHYYSIS**, *n.* [Gr. *απο*, from, and *φυσις*, growth.]

The projecting soft end or protuberance of a bone; a process of a bone.

**APOPLECTIC**, *a.* [See *Apoplexy*.]

**APOPLECTIC**, *n.* { *a.* Pertaining to or consisting in apoplexy, as an *apoplectic* fit; or predisposed to apoplexy, as an *apoplectic* habit of body.

**APOPLECTIC**, *n.* A person affected by apoplexy. *Kantebull.*

**APOPLEXED**, *a.* Affected with apoplexy. *Shak.*

**APOPLEXY**, *n.* [Gr. *αποπληξια*, of *απο*, from, and *πλησσω*, to strike.]

A sudden deprivation of all sense and voluntary motion, occasioned by repletion or whatever interrupts the action of the nerves upon the muscles. *Cullen.*

Dryden, for the sake of measure, uses *apoplexy*, for *apoplexy*.

**APORINE**, *n.* [See *Aporia*.] A problem difficult to be resolved.

**APORY**, *n.* [Gr. *απορία*, from *απορος*, inops, concili, of a and *ρος*, way or passage.]

1. In rhetoric, a doubting or being at a loss where to begin, or what to say, on account of the variety of matter. *Smith.*

2. In the medical art, febrile anxiety; uneasiness; restlessness, from obstructed perspiration, or the stoppage of any natural secretion. *Coxe.*

**APOSIOPE/SIS**, *n.* [Gr. *αποσιωπησις*, of *αποσιωπη*, to be silent.]

Retiency or suppression; as when a speaker for some cause, as fear, sorrow, or anger, suddenly breaks off his discourse, before it is ended; or speaks of a thing, which he makes a show as if he would say nothing on the subject; or aggravates what he pretends to conceal, by uttering a part and leaving the remainder to be understood. *Smith. Johnson. Encyc.*

**APOSTASY**, *n.* [Gr. *αποστασις*, a defection, of *αποστημι*, to depart, *απο* and *στημι*.]

1. An abandonment of what one has professed; a total desertion, or departure from one's faith or religion.  
 2. The desertion from a party to which one has adhered.  
 3. Among physicians, the throwing off of exfoliated or fractured bone, or the various solution of disease. *Coxe.*

**APOSTATE**, *n.* [Gr. *αποστάτης*.]

One who has forsaken the church, sect or profession to which he before adhered. In its original sense, applied to one who has abandoned his religion; or correctly applied also to one who abandons a political or other party.

**APOSTATE**, *a.* False; traitorous. *Spenser.*

**APOSTATICAL**, *a.* After the manner of an apostate. *Sandys.*

**APOSTATIZE**, *v. i.* To abandon one's profession or church; to forsake principles or faith which one has professed; or the party to which one has been attached. *Worthington.*

**APOSTATIZING**, *ppr.* Abandoning a church, profession, sect or party.

**APOSTEMATE**, *v. i.* To form into an abscess; to swell and fill with pus.

**APOSTEMATION**, *n.* The formation of an aposteme; the process of gathering into an abscess; written corruptly *imposthumation*.

**APOSTEMATOUS**, *a.* Pertaining to an abscess; partaking of the nature of an aposteme. *Journal of Science.*

**APOSTEME**, *n.* [Gr. *αποστημα*, from *αποστημι*, to go off, to recede; *απο* and *στημι*, to stand.]

An abscess; a swelling filled with purulent matter; written also corruptly *impostume*.

**A-POSTERIORI**, [L. *posterior*, after.]

Arguments *a posteriori*, are drawn from effects, consequences or facts; in opposition to reasoning *a priori*, or from causes previously known.

**APOSTLE**, *n.* *apost.* [L. *apostolus*; Gr. *αποστολος*, from *αποσταναι*, to send away, of *απο*, and *σταναι*, to send; G. *stellen*, to set.]

A person deputed to execute some important business; but, appropriately, a disciple of Christ commissioned to preach the gospel. Twelve persons were selected by Christ for this purpose; and Judas, one of the number, proving an apostate, his place was supplied by Matthias. Acts i.

The title of apostle is applied to Christ himself, Heb. 3. In the primitive ages of the church, other ministers were called *apostles*, Rom. xvi; as were persons sent to carry alms from one church to another.