

We cast the rules of this art into some *com-
portable* method. *Wotton.*
COMPORTANCE, *n.* Behavior; deport-
ment. *Obs.* *Spenser.*
COMPORTATION, *n.* An assemblage.
[*Not used.*] *Bp. Richardson.*
COMPORTMENT, *n.* Behavior; demean-
or; manner of acting. [*Not now used.*]
Hale. Addison.

Compos mentis. [*L. com and pos, from the
root of possum, potis.*] Possessed of mind;
in a sound state of mind.

COMPOSE, *v. t. s* as *z.* [*Fr. composer.*
Arm. compozi; from the participle of the *L.*
compono, composuisse; *con and pono, postus.*
to set, put or lay, *Fr. poser,* and in a dif-
ferent dialect, *Eng. to put;* *Sp. componer;*
It. comporre.] Literally, to place or set to-
gether. Hence,

1. To form a compound, or one entire body
or thing, by uniting two or more things,
parts, or individuals; as, to *compose* an army
of raw soldiers; the parliament of G.
Britain is *composed* of two houses, lords
and commons; the senate of the U. States
is *composed* of two senators from each
state.

*Zeal ought to be composed of the highest de-
grees of all pious affections.* *Spurr.*

2. To invent and put together words and
sentences; to make, as a discourse or
writing; to write, as an author; as, to
compose a sermon, or a book.

3. To constitute, or form, as parts of a
whole; as, letters *compose* syllables, syl-
lables *compose* words, words *compose* sen-
tences.

A few useful things, confounded with many
trifles, fill their memories, and *compose* their
intellectual possessions. *Watts.*

4. To calm; to quiet; to appease; to tran-
quillize; that is, to set or lay; as, to *com-
pose* passions, fears, disorders, or what-
ever is agitated or excited.

5. To settle; to adjust; as, to *compose* differ-
ences.

6. To place in proper form, or in a quiet
state.

In a peaceful grave my corpse *compose.*
Dryden.

7. To settle into a quiet state.
The sea *composes* itself to a level surface.
It requires about two days to *compose* it after
a gale.

8. To dispose; to put in a proper state for
any purpose.
The army seemed well *composed* to obtain
that by their swords which they could not by
their pen. *Clarendon.*

9. In *printing*, to set types or characters in a
composing stick, from a copy, arranging the
letters in the proper order.

10. In *music*, to form a tune or piece of music
with notes, arranging them on the
stave in such a manner as when sung to
produce harmony.

COMPOSED, *pp.* Set together, or in due
order; formed; constituted; calmed;
quieted; settled; adjusted.

2. *a. Calm; sedate; quiet; tranquil; free
from agitation.*

The Mantuan there in sober triumph sat,
Composed his posture, and his look *sedate.*
Pope.

COMPOSEDLY, *adv.* Calmly; seriously;
sedately.

The man very *composedly* answered, I am he.
Clarendon.

COMPOSEDNESS, *n.* A state of being
composed; calmness; sedateness; tran-
quility. *Widdins.*

COMPOSER, *n.* One who composes; one
who writes an original work, as distin-
guished from a compiler; an author; al-
so, one who forms tunes, whether he
adapts them to particular words or not.

2. One who quiets or calms; one who ad-
justs a difference.

COMPOSING, *ppr.* Placing together;
forming; constituting; writing an origi-
nal work; quieting; settling; adjust-
ing; setting types.

COMPOSING-STICK, *n.* Among printers,
an instrument on which types are set
from the cases, adjusted to the length of
the lines.

COMPOSITE, *a.* In architecture, the Com-
posite order is the last of the five orders
of columns; so called because its capital
is *composed* out of those of the other or-
ders or columns, borrowing a quarter-
round from the Tuscan and Doric, and
volutes from the Corinthian, and volu-
tes from the Ionic. Its cornice has sim-
ple moldings or dentils. It is called also
the *Roman* or the *Italic* order. *Encyc.*

Composite numbers are such as can be measured
exactly by a number exceeding unity,
as 6 by 2 or 3; so that 4 is the lowest
composite number. Composite numbers
between themselves, are those which have
a common measure besides unity; as 12
and 15, both which are measured by 3.

COMPOSITION, *n. s* as *z.* In a general
sense, the act of composing, or that which
is composed; the act of forming a whole
or integral, by placing together and unit-
ing different things, parts or ingredients;
or the whole body, mass or compound,
thus formed. Thus we speak of the *com-
position* of medicines, by mixing divers in-
gredients, and call the whole mixture a
composition. A *composition* of sand and
clay is used for luting chemical vessels.

A vast pile of stone, cased over with a *com-
position* that looks like marble. *Addison.*

Heat and vivacity, in age, is an excellent
composition for business. *Bacon.*

2. In literature, the act of inventing or com-
bining ideas, clothing them with words,
arranging them in order, and in general,
committing them to paper, or otherwise
writing them. Hence,

3. A written or printed work; a writing,
pamphlet or book. *Addison.*

4. In music, the act or art of forming tunes;
or a tune, song, anthem, air, or other mu-
sical piece.

5. The state of being placed together; union;
conjunction; combination.

Contemplate things first in their simple na-
tures, and then view them in *composition.*
Watts.

6. The disposition or arrangement of figures
connected in a picture.

By *composition* is meant the distribution and
orderly placing of things, both in general and
particular. *Dryden.*

7. Adjustment; orderly disposition. Ben
Jonson speaks of the *composition* of ges-
ture, look, pronunciation and motion, in a
preacher.

8. Mutual agreement to terms or conditions

for the settlement of a difference or con-
troversy.

Thus we are agreed;
I crave our *composition* may be written.
Shak.

9. Mutual agreement for the discharge of a
debt, on terms or by means different from
by law, as by the payment of a different
sum, or by making other compensation.
Hence, the sum so paid, or compensation
given, in lieu of that stipulated or required.

A real *composition* is when an agreement is
made between the owner of lands and the
patron or vicar, with the consent of the ordinary
and the patron, that such lands shall for the future be
discharged from the payment of tithes, by rea-
son of some land or other real recompense
given to the person, in lieu and satisfaction thereof.

Blackstone.
A bankruptcy is cleared by a commission
of bankruptcy, or by *composition* with his
creditors.

10. Consistency; congruity. [*Little used.*]
Shak.

11. The act of uniting simple ideas in a com-
plex idea or conception; opposed to *analysis.*
Newton.

12. The joining of two words in a com-
pound, as in *book-case*; or the act of form-
ing a word with a prefix or affix, which
varies its signification; as *return*, from
turn; *preconcert*, from *concert*; *endless* from
end.

13. The synthetical method of reasoning;
synthesis; a method of reasoning from
known or admitted truths or principles, as
from axioms, postulates or propositions
previously demonstrated, and from these
deducing a clear knowledge of the thing to
be proved; or the act of collecting scat-
tered parts of knowledge, and combining
them into a system, so that the understand-
ing is enabled distinctly to follow truth
through its different stages of gradation.
This method of reasoning is opposed to
analysis or *resolution*. It begins with
first principles, and by a train of reason-
ing from them, deduces the propositions or
truths sought. *Composition* or *synthesis*
proceeds by collecting or combining; *analysis*
or *resolution*, by separating or unfold-
ing. *Harris. Encyc.*

14. In *printing*, the act of setting types or
characters in the composing-stick, to form
lines, and of arranging the lines in a gal-
ley, to make a column or page, and from
this to make a form.

15. In *chemistry*, the combination of different
substances, or substances of different na-
tures, by affinity; from which results a
compound substance, differing in prop-
erties from either of the component parts.
Thus *water* is a *composition* of hydrogen
and oxygen, which are invisible gases.

COMPOSITOR, *n. s* as *z.* In *printing*, one
who sets types, and makes up the pages
and forms.

2. One who sets in order.

COMPOSIBLE, *a.* [*con and possible.*]
Consistent. [*Not used.*] *Chillingworth.*

COMPOST, *n.* [*It. composte; L. composi-
tum, from compono.* See *Compose.*]

In agriculture, a mixture or composition of
various manuring substances for fertilizing
land. Compost may be made by almost