

PRINCIPLE, *n.* [It. *principio*; Fr. *principe*; L. *principium*, beginning.]

1. In a general sense, the cause, source or origin of any thing; that from which a thing proceeds; as the *principle* of motion; the *principles* of action. *Dryden.*

2. Element; constituent part; primordial substance.

Modern philosophers suppose matter to be one simple *principle*, or solid extension diversified by its various shapes. *Watts.*

3. Being that produces any thing; operative cause.

The soul of man is an active *principle*.

Tillotson.

4. In science, a truth admitted either without proof, or considered as having been before proved. In the former sense, it is synonymous with *axiom*; in the latter, with the phrase, *established principle*.

5. Ground; foundation; that which supports an assertion, an action, or a series of actions or of reasoning. On what *principle* can this be affirmed or denied? He justifies his proceedings on the *principle* of expedience or necessity. He reasons on sound *principles*.

6. A general truth; a law comprehending many subordinate truths; as the *principles* of morality, of law, of government, &c.

7. Tenet; that which is believed, whether truth or not, but which serves as a rule of action or the basis of a system; as the *principles* of the Stoics, or of the Epicureans.

8. A *principle* of human nature, is a law of action in human beings; a constitutional propensity common to the human species. Thus it is a *principle* of human nature to resent injuries and repel insults.

PRINCIPLE, *v. t.* To establish or fix in tenets; to impress with any tenet, good or ill; chiefly used in the participle.

Men have been *principled* with an opinion, that they must not consult reason in things of religion. *Locke.*

2. To establish firmly in the mind. *Locke.*

PRINCIPLED, *pp.* Established in opinion or in tenets; firmly fixed in the mind.

PRINCOCK, *n.* [Qu. *prink* or *prim* and *PRINCOX*, *n.* *cock*.] A cockcomb; a conceited person; a pert young rogue; a ludicrous word. [Little used.] *Shak.*

PRINK, *v. i.* [D. *pronken*, to shine, to make a show, to strut; G. *prangen*, to shine, to make a show; *prunken*, id.; Dan. *prunker*, to make a show, to strut; Sw. *prunka*, to make a figure. If *n* is casual, these words are radically the same as Sw. *prackt*, Dan. *D. pragt*, G. *pracht*, pomp, show, and all coinciding in origin with Ar.

برك baraka, to shine, to adorn. See *Prance* and *Prank*.]

1. To prank; to dress for show.

2. To strut; to put on stately airs.

PRINT, *v. t.* [W. *printiaw*, to print; Fr. *imprimer*, *empreinte*; Sp. *imprimir*; It. *imprimere*; from L. *imprimo*; *in* and *primo*, to press; It. *improntare*, to print, to importune, and this from *prontare*, to importune, [that is, to press,] from *pronto*, ready, bold, L. *promptus*, that is, pressed or pressing forward. In W. *print* is said by Owen to be from *rhint*, a groove or notch,

and if this is the original word, *print* must be a different word from the Fr. *imprimer*. The Italian unites the L. *premo* and *promo*.]

1. In general, to take or form letters, characters or figures on paper, cloth or other material by impression. Thus letters are taken on paper by impressing it on types blackened with ink. Figures are *printed* on cloth by means of blocks or a cylinder. The rolling press is employed to take prints on impressions from copper-plates. Thus we say, to *print* books, to *print* calico, to *print* tunes, music, likenesses, &c.

2. To mark by pressing one thing on another. On his fiery steed betimes he rode,
That scarcely *prints* the turf on which he trod. *Dryden.*

3. To impress any thing so as to leave its form. Perhaps some footsteps *printed* in the clay—
Roscommon.

4. To form by impression. Ye shall not make any cuttings in your flesh, nor *print* any marks upon you. *Lev. xix.*

PRINT, *v. i.* To use or practice the art of typography, or of taking impressions of letters, figures and the like.

2. To publish a book. [Elliptical.]

From the moment he *prints*, he must expect to hear no more of truth. *Pope.*

PRINT, *n.* A mark made by impression; any hue, character, figure or indentation of any form, made by the pressure of one body or thing on another; as the *print* of the tooth or of the nails in flesh; the *print* of the foot in sand or snow; the *print* of a wheel; the *print* of types on paper. Hence,

2. The impressions of types in general, as to form, size, &c.; as a small *print*; a large *print*; a fair *print*.

3. That which impresses its form on any thing; as a butter *print*; a wooden *print*.

4. The representation or figure of any thing made by impression; as the *print* of the face; the *print* of a temple; *prints* of antiquities. *Dryden.*

5. The state of being printed and published. Diffidence sometimes prevents a man from suffering his works to appear in *print*.

I love a ballad in *print*. *Shak.*

6. A single sheet printed for sale; a newspaper.

The *prints*, about three days after, were filled with the same terms. *Addison.*

7. Formal method. [Not in use.] *Locke.* Out of *print*, a phrase which signifies that, of a printed and published work, there are no copies for sale, or none for sale by the publisher.

PRINTED, *pp.* Impressed; indented.

PRINTER, *n.* One that prints books, pamphlets or papers.

3. One that stains or prints cloth with figures, as calico.

3. One that impresses letters or figures with copper-plates.

PRINTING, *ppr.* Impressing letters, characters or figures on any thing; making marks or indentations.

PRINTING, *n.* The art or practice of impressing letters, characters or figures on paper, cloth or other material; the business of a printer; typography.

PRINTING-INK, *n.* Ink used by printers of books.

PRINTING-PAPER, *n.* Paper to be used in the printing of books, pamphlets, &c.; as distinguished from writing-paper, press-paper, wrapping-paper, &c.

PRINTING-PRESS, *n.* A press for the printing of books, &c.

PRINTLESS, *a.* That leaves no print or impression; as *printless* feet. *Milton.*

PRIOR, *a.* [L. comp. Probably the first syllable is contracted from *pris*, *prid*, or some other word, for the Latin has *prisce*, *pristinus*.]

Preceding in the order of time; former; antecedent; anterior; as a *prior* discovery; *prior* obligation. The discovery of the continent of America by Cabot was six or seven weeks *prior* to the discovery of it by Columbus. The discovery of the Labrador coast by Cabot was on the 11th of June, 1499; that of the continent by Columbus, was on the first of August of the same year.

PRIOR, *n.* [Fr. *prieur*; It. *priore*; L. *prior*.]

1. The superior of a convent of monks, or one next in dignity to an abbot. Priors are *claustral* or *conventual*. The *conventual* are the same as abbots. A *claustral* prior is one that governs the religious of an abbey or priory in *commendam*, having his jurisdiction wholly from the abbot. *Encyc.*

2. In some churches, one who presides over others in the same churches. *Ayliffe.*

PRIORATE, *n.* Government by a prior. *Warton.*

PRIORESS, *n.* A female superior of a convent of nuns. *Dryden.*

PRIORITY, *n.* The state of being antecedent in time, or of preceding something else; as *priority* of birth. The *priority* of Homer or Hesiod has been a subject of dispute.

2. Precedence in place or rank. *Shak.* *Priority of debts*, is a superior claim to payment, or to payment before others.

PRIORLY, *adv.* Antecedently. [A bad word and not used.] *Geddes.*

PRIORSHIP, *n.* The state or office of prior.

PRIORY, *n.* A convent of which a prior is the superior; in dignity below an abbey. *Shak.*

2. *Priories* are the churches given to priors in *titulum*, or by way of title. *Ayliffe.*

PRISAGE, *n.* [Fr. *prise*, from *priser*, to prize or value.]

A right belonging to the crown of England, of taking two tons of wine from every ship importing twenty tons or more; one before and one behind the mast. This by charter of Edward I. was exchanged into a duty of two shillings for every tun imported by merchant strangers, and called butlerage, because paid to the king's butler. *Blackstone.*

PRISCILLIANIST, *n.* In church history, one of a sect so denominated from Priscillian, a Spaniard, bishop of Avila, who practiced magic, maintained the errors of the Manichees, and held it to be lawful to make false oaths in the support of one's cause and interest. *Encyc.*