

BEE

BEELD, *n.* [*Sax. behlydan*, to cover.] Protection; refuge. [*Nht in use.*] *Faust.*
BEEN, [*Sax. beon*.] Part. perf. of *be*; pronounced *bin*. In old authors, it is also the present tense plural of *be*.

BEEN, *n.* A fretted stringed instrument of music of the guitar kind, having nineteen frets; used in India. *Dr. Researches.*
BEER, *n.* [*W. bir*; *Fr. biere*; *Arm. byer, bir, bier*; *D. and Ger. birr*; *It. birra*.]

1. A spirituous liquor made from any farinaceous grain; but generally from barley, which is first malted and ground, and its fermentable substance extracted by hot water. This extract or infusion is evaporated by boiling in caldrons, and hops or some other plant of an agreeable bitterness added. The liquor is then suffered to ferment in vats. *Beer* is of different degrees of strength, and is denominated *small beer*, *ale*, *porter*, *brown stout*, &c., according to its strength, or other peculiar qualities. *Encyc.*

2. *Beer* is a name given in America to fermenting liquors made of various other materials; and when a decoction of the roots of plants forms a part of the composition, it is called *spring-beer*, from the season in which it is made.

BEER-BARREL, *n.* A barrel for holding beer.

BEER-HOUSE, *n.* A house where malt liquors are sold; an ale-house.

BEESTINGS, [*See Blistings*.]
BEE-T, *n.* [*D. bel*; *Ger. beetle*; *It. bietola*; *W. beten*; *L. beta*; *Fr. bette*.]

A plant of the genus *Beta*. The species cultivated in gardens are the *cicla* and *vulgaris*, or white and red beet. There are many varieties; some with long taper roots, and others with flat roots, like turneps. The root furnishes a large portion of sugar, which has been recently manufactured in France on a great scale. *Cyc.*

BEE-TLE, *n.* [*Sax. bitl*, or *bytl*, a mallet; *betel*, the insect, beetle.]

1. A heavy mallet or wooden hammer, used to drive wedges, beat pavements, &c.; called also a stamper, or rammer.

2. In *zoology*, a genus of insects, the scarabæus, of many species. The generic characters are, elevated antennæ, fissile longitudinally, legs frequently dentated, and wings which have hard cases, or sheaths. The bones of these insects are placed externally, and their muscles within. They are of different sizes, from that of a pin's head, to that of a man's fist. Some are produced in a month, and go through their existence in a year; in others, four years are required to produce them, and they live as winged insects a year more. They have various names, as the may-bug, the dorr-beetle, the cock-chaffer, the tumble-dung, the elephant-beetle, &c. The latter, found in South America, is the largest species, being four inches long. *Encyc.*

BEE-TLE, *v. i. be-tl*. To jut; to be prominent; to hang or extend out; as, a cliff that *beetles* over its base. *Shak.*

BEE-TLE-BROW, *n.* [*beetle and brow*.] A prominent brow. *Shak.*

BEE-TLE-BROWED, *a.* Having prominent brows. *Swift.*

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BEE-TLE-HEAD, *n.* [*beetle and head*.] A stupid fellow. *Scot.*

BEE-TLE-HEADED, *a.* Having a head like a beetle; dull; stupid. *Shak.*

BEE-TLE-STOCK, *n.* [*beetle and stock*.] The handle of a beetle. *Spenser.*

BEE-TLING, *ppr.* Jutting; being prominent; standing out from the main body. *Thomson.*

BEE-T-RAVE, } A kind of beet, used
BEE-T-RADISH, } *n.* for salad. *Ash.*

BEEVES, *n. plu. of beif.* Cattle; quadrupeds of the bovine genus, called in England, *black cattle*.

BEFALL, *v. t. pret. befell*; part. *befallen*. [*Sax. befallan*, of *be* and *fall*.]

To happen to; to occur to; as, let me know the worst that can *befall* me. It usually denotes ill. It is generally transitive in form, but there seems to be an ellipsis of *to*, and to sometimes follows it.

BEFALL, *v. i.* To happen; to come to pass.

I have reveal'd this discord which *befell*. *Milton.*

To *befall* of is not legitimate.

BEFALLING, *ppr.* Happening to; occurring to; coming to pass.

BEFELL, *pret. of befall*.

BEFIT, *v. t. (be and fit)* To suit; to be suitable to; to become.

That name best *befits* thee. *Milton.*

BEFITTING, *ppr. or a.* Suiting; becoming.

BEFOAM, *v. t. (be and foam)* To cover with foam. [*Little used.*]

BEFOOL, *v. t. (be and fool)* To fool; to infatuate; to delude or lead into error.

Men *befool* themselves. *South.*

BEFOOLED, *pp.* Fooled; deceived; led into error.

BEFOOLING, *ppr.* Fooling; making a fool of; deceiving; infatuating.

BEFORE, *prep. (be and fore, that is byfore, near the fore part. Sax. before, or beforan, retained by Chaucer in before.)*

1. In front; on the side with the face, at any distance; used of persons. *Milton.*

2. In presence of, with the idea of power, authority, respect.

Abraham bowed *before* the people of the land. *Gen. xxiii.*

Wherewithal shall I come *before* the Lord. *Micah vi.*

3. In sight of; as *before* the face.

4. In the presence of, noting cognizance or jurisdiction.

Both parties shall come *before* the judge. *Ex. xxii.*

5. In the power of, noting the right or ability to choose or possess; free to the choice.

The world was all *before* them. *Milton.*

My land is *before* thee. *Gen. xx.*

6. In front of any object; as *before* the house, *before* the fire.

7. Preceding in time.

Before I was afflicted, I went astray. *Ps. cxix.*

Before Abraham was, I am. *John viii.*

Here the preposition has a sentence following for an object.

8. In preference to.

And he set Ephraim *before* Manasseh. *Gen. xlviii.*

Poverty is desirable *before* torments. *Taylor.*

9. Superior; preceding in dignity.

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He that cometh after me is preferred *before* me, for he was *before* me. *John i.*

10. Prior to; having prior right; preceding in order; as, the eldest son is *before* the younger in succession.

11. Previous to; in previous order; in order to.

Before this treatise can become of use, two points are necessary. *Swift.* [*See No. 7.*]

12. *Before* the wind, is to move in the direction of the wind by its impulse.

BEGORE, *adv.* In time preceding.

You tell me what I knew *before*. *Dryden.*

2. In time preceding, to the present, or to this time; hitherto; as, tumults then arose which *before* were unknown.

3. Further onward in place, in progress, or in front.

Reaching forth to those things which are *before*. *Phil. ii.*

4. In front; on the fore part.

The battle was *before* and behind. 2 Chron. xiii.

In some of the examples of the use of *before*, which Johnson places under the adverb, the word is a preposition governing a sentence; as, "*Before* the hills appeared."

This is the real construction, however overlooked or misunderstood.

BEGOREHAND, *adv.* [*before and hand*.]

In a state of anticipation or preoccupation; often followed by *with*; as, you are *before hand with* me.

2. Antecedently; by way of preparation or preliminary; aforetime. *Math. xiii. 1 Tim. v.*

3. In a state of accumulation, so as that more has been received than expended.

A man is *beforehand*. In this use it is *properly* an adjective.

4. At first; before any thing is done.

BEFORE-TIME, *adv.* [*before and time*.] Formerly; of old time. 1 Sam. 9. *Josh. xx.*

BEFORTUNE, *v. t. (be and fortune)* To happen to; to betide. *Shak.*

BEFOUL, *v. t.* [*Sax. befyglen, be and foul*.] To make foul; to soil.

BEFRIEND, *v. t. befrend*. [*be and friend*.]

To favor; to act as a friend to; to countenance, and/or benefit. *Shak.*

BEFRIENDED, *pp.* Favored; countenanced.

BEFRIENDING, *ppr.* Favoring; assisting as a friend; showing kindness to.

BEFRINGE, *v. t. befrinj*. [*be and fringe*.]

To furnish with a fringe; to adorn as with fringe. *Fuller.*

BEFRINGED, *pp.* Adorned as with a fringe.

BEG, } *n.* [*The Turks write this word beg*
BEY, } or *bek*, but pronounce it *bey*.]

In the *Turkish dominions*, a governor of a town or country; more particularly, the lord of a sangiac or banner. Every province is divided into seven sangiacs or banners, each of which qualifies a bey; and these are commanded by the governor of the province, called *begler-beg* or lord of all the beys. Each beg has the command of a certain number of spahis, or horse, denominated *timariots*.

In *Tunis*, the *beg* or *bey* is the prince or king, answering to the *dey* of Algiers.

In *Egypt*, the *begs* are twelve generals