

1. To gain knowledge of; to acquire knowledge or ideas of something before unknown. We *learn* the use of letters, the meaning of words and the principles of science. We *learn* things by instruction, by study, and by experience and observation. It is much easier to *learn* what is right, than to unlearn what is wrong.

Now *learn* a parable of the fig-tree. Matt. xxiv.

2. To acquire skill in any thing; to gain by practice a faculty of performing; as, to *learn* to play on a flute or an organ.

The chief art of *learning* is to attempt but little at a time. Locke.

3. To teach; to communicate the knowledge of something before unknown.

Hast thou not *learned* me how

To make perfumes? Shak.

[This use of *learn* is found in respectable writers, but is now deemed inelegant as well as improper.]

LEARN, *v. i. lern*. To gain or receive knowledge; to receive instruction; to take pattern; with *of*.

Take my yoke upon you, and *learn of me*; for I am meek and lowly—. Matt. xi.

2. To receive information or intelligence.

LEARNED, *larn'ed*, } Obtained
LEARNT, *pp. lern't*, } knowledge or information.

LEARNED, *a. larn'ed*. Versed in literature and science; as a *learned* man.

2. Skillful; well acquainted with arts; knowing; with *in*; as *learned in* martial arts.

3. Containing learning; as a *learned* treatise or publication. Cox.

4. Versed in scholastic, as distinct from other knowledge.

Men of much reading are greatly *learned*, but may be little knowing. Locke.

The *learned*, learned men; men of erudition; literati.

LEARNEDLY, *adv. lern'edly*. With learning or erudition; with skill; as, to discuss a question *learnedly*.

Every coxcomb swears as *learnedly* as they. Swift.

LEARNER, *n. lern'er*. A person who is gaining knowledge from instruction, from reading or study, or by other means; one who is in the rudiments of any science or art.

LEARNING, *ppr. lern'ing*. Gaining knowledge by instruction or reading, by study, by experience or observation; acquiring skill by practice.

LEARNING, *n. lern'ing*. The knowledge of principles or facts received by instruction or study; acquired knowledge or ideas in any branch of science or literature; erudition; literature; science. The Scaligers were men of great *learning*. [This is the proper sense of the word.]

2. Knowledge acquired by experience, experiment or observation.

3. Skill in any thing good or bad. Hooker.

LE/ASABLE, *a.* That may be leased.

Sherwood.

LEASE, *n.* [Fr. *laisser*. See the Verb.]

1. A demise or letting of lands, tenements or hereditaments to another for life, for a term of years, or at will, for a rent or compensation reserved; also, the contract for such letting. Encyc.

2. Any tenure by grant or permission.

Our high placed Macbeth

Shall live the *lease* of nature. Shak.

LEASE, *v. l.* [Fr. *laisser*; a different orthography of Eng. *let*. See *Let*.]

To let; to demise; to grant the temporary possession of lands, tenements or hereditaments to another for a rent reserved. A *leased* to B his land in Dale for the annual rent of a pepper corn.

LEASE, *v. i. leez*. [Sax. *lesan*, to collect, also to free, to liberate, to redeem; D. *leenzen*; G. *lesen*, to gather, to cull, to sift, also to read, like L. *lego*; Dan. *leser*, Sw. *läsa*, to read.]

To glean; to gather what harvest men have left. Obs. Dryden.

LE/ASED, *pp.* Demised or let, as lands or tenements.

LE/ASEHOLD, *a.* Held by lease; as a *leasehold* tenement. Swift.

LE/ASER, *n.* A gleaner; a gatherer after reapers.

LEASH, *n.* [Fr. *laisse*, *lesse*; D. *letse*. Qu. It. *laccio*, L. *laqueus*.]

1. A thong of leather, or long line by which a falconer holds his hawk, or a courser his dog. Shak.

2. Among sportsmen, a brace and a half; tierce; three; three creatures of any kind, especially greyhounds, foxes, bucks and hares. Shak. Dennis.

3. A band wherewith to tie any thing. Boyle.

LEASII, *v. t.* To bind; to hold by a string. Shak.

LE/ASING, *n. s* as *z*. [Sax. *leasunge*, from *leaze*, *leasu*, false.]

Falsehood; lies. [Obsolete or nearly so.]

LE/ASÖW, *n.* [Sax. *læswe*.] A pasture. Obs. Wickliffe.

LEAST, *a.* [superl. of Sax. *læs*, less, contracted from *læscst*. It cannot be regularly formed from *little*.]

Smallest; little beyond others, either in size or degree; as the *least* insect; the *least* mercy.

Least is often used without the noun to which it refers. "I am the *least* of the apostles," that is, the *least* apostle of all the apostles. 1 Cor. xv.

LEAST, *adv.* In the smallest or lowest degree; in a degree below all others; as, to reward those who *least* deserve it.

At *least*, } to say no more; not to de-
At the *least*, } mand or affirm more than is barely sufficient; at the lowest degree. If he has not incurred a penalty, he at *least* deserves censure.

He who tempts, though vain, at *least* asperses
The tempted with dishonor. Milton.

2. To say no more. Let useful observations be at *least* a part of your conversation.

The *least*, in the smallest degree. His faculties are not in the *least* impaired.

At *leastwise*, in the sense of *at least*, is obsolete.

LE/ASY, *a. s* as *z*. Thin; flimsy. It is usually pronounced *sleazy*. Ascham.

LEAT, *n.* [Sax. *lat*, *durit*.] A trench to conduct water to or from a mill.

LEATH/ER, } [Sax. *lether*; G. D. *leder*;
LETH/ER, } *n.* Sw. *läder*; Dan. *læther*;
Arm. *lezer*; Ir. *leather*. The most correct orthography is *lether*.]

1. The skin of an animal dressed and prepared for use.

2. Dressed hides in general.

3. Skin; in an ironical sense.

LEATH/ER, } Lethern; consisting of
LETH/ER, } *a.* lether; as a *lether* glove.

LEATH/ER-COAT, *n.* An apple with a tough coat or rind. Shak.

LEATH/ER-DRESSER, *n.* One who dresses lether; one who prepares hides for use. Pope.

LEATH/ER-JACKET, *n.* A fish of the Pacific ocean. Cook.

LEATH/ER-MOUTHED, *a.*

By *leather-mouthed* fish, I mean such as have their teeth in their throat, as the chub. Walton.

LEATH/ERN, } Made of lether; consist-
LETH/ERN, } *a.* ing of lether; as a *lethern* purse; a *lethern* girdle.

LEATH/ER-SELLER, } A seller or deal-
LETH/ER-SELLER, } *n.* er in lether.

LEATH/ER-WINGED, } Having wings
LETH/ER-WINGED, } *a.* like lether.

Spenser.

LEATH/ERY, } Resembling lether;
LETH/ERY, } *a.* tough. Grewo.

LEAVE, *n.* [Sax. *leaf*, *lefe*, from *leafan*, *lefan*, *lyfan*, to permit, to grant, to trust, to believe; G. *erlaub*, D. *oorlof*, *verlof*, leave, *furlow*; Sax. *leofan*, to live, and to leave.]

1. Permission; allowance; license; liberty granted by which restraint or illegality is removed.

No friend has *leave* to bear away the dead.

Dryden.

David earnestly asked *leave* of me. 1 Sam. xx.

2. Farewell; adieu; ceremony of departure; a formal parting of friends; used chiefly in the phrase to *take leave*. Acts xviii.

LEAVE, *v. t.* pret. and pp. *left*. [Sax. *leafan*, to leave; *lefan*, to permit, to believe; *lefe*, leave; *lefan*, to live; *leofan*, to leave, to live; *leofa*, leave, permission, licence; *lyfan*, to permit, also to live. But *live* is also written *liban*, *libban*, with *b*, which *leave* is not. *Belifan*, to remain or be left; *alyfan*, to permit; *ge-lefan*, to leave, to permit, to believe; *ge-leaf*, leave, license, assent, consent, faith or belief; *ge-lefan*, to believe, to think or suppose, to permit, to live; *ge-leofan*, id.; *ge-lyfan*, to believe, to trust; *ge-lyfed*, permitted or allowed, believed, lawful, also alive, having life; *leof*, loved; *lyfa*, love, also belief; *leoflic*, faithful; *lylfic*, willingly, lubenter; *lylfic*, lovely. The German has *leave* in *urlaub*, a furlow, and *belief* in *glaube*; *live* in *leben*; and *love* in *liebe*, *lieben*, the Latin *libel*, *lubet*. Gr. *λειπω*. Dan. *lever*, Sw. *lefva*, to live. These are a small part of the affinities of this word. The Germans and Dutch express the sense of *leave*, by *lassen*, *laaten*, which is our *let*, Fr. *laisser*; and *let* in English has the sense both of permit and of hinder. The most prominent significations of *leave*, are to stop or forbear, and to withdraw.]

1. To withdraw or depart from; to quit for a longer or shorter time indefinitely, or for perpetuity. We *left* Cowes on our return to the United States, May 10, 1825. We *leave* homo for a day or a year. The