

**HIS**, *pron. possessive of he*, and pronounced *hiz*. [*Sax. gen. hys, and hys, male.*]

1. Of him. Thus in Alfred's Orosius, "Some for his eye ne durst an." Some for fear of him durst not; literally, for his eye, for awe of him. Lib. 3. 8. In this instance, *his* does not express what belongs to the antecedent of *his*, [Philip], but the fear which others entertained of him.

2. The present use of *his* is as a pronominal adjective, in any case indifferently, corresponding to the *L. suus*. Thus, tell John his papers are ready. I will deliver his papers to his messenger. He may take his son's books. When the noun is omitted, *his* stands as its substitute, either in the nominative or objective case. Tell John this book is *his*. He may take mine and I will take *his*.

3. *His* was formerly used for *its*, but improperly, and the use has ceased.

4. It was formerly used as the sign of the possessive. The man his ground, for the man's ground. This use has also ceased.

5. *His* is still used as a substitute for a noun, preceded by *of*; as all ye saints of *his*; ye ministers of *his*. *Scripture.*

*Hiss* is no longer used.

**HIS INGERITE**, *n.* A mineral found in the cavities of calcareous spar, in Sudermanland. *Phillips.*

**HISPID**, *a.* [*L. hispidus.*] Rough.

2. In botany, having strong hairs or bristles; beset with stiff bristles. *Martyn.*

**HISS**, *v. i.* [*Sax. hysian, hiscan, hispan, hyspan.*]

1. To make a sound by driving the breath between the tongue and the upper teeth; to give a strong aspiration, resembling the noise made by a serpent and some other animals, or that of water thrown on hot iron. *Hissing* is an expression of contempt.

The merchants among the people shall hiss at thee. *Ezek. xxvii.*

2. To express contempt or disapprobation by hissing.

3. To whizz, as an arrow or other thing in rapid flight.

**HISS**, *v. t.* To condemn by hissing; to explode. The spectators *hissed* him off the stage.

2. To procure hisses or disgrace.

—That of an hour's age doth *hiss* the speaker. *Shak.*

**HISS**, *n.* The sound made by propelling the breath between the tongue and upper teeth; the noise of a serpent, a goose, &c. He *hiss* for *hiss* returned. *Milton.*

2. An expression of contempt or disapprobation, used in places of public exhibition. **HISSING**, *ppr.* Making the noise of serpents.

**HISSING**, *n.* A hissing sound; an expression of scorn or contempt.

2. The occasion of contempt; the object of scorn and derision.

It will make this city desolate, and a *hissing*. *Jer. xix.*

**HISSINGLY**, *adv.* With a hissing sound. *Sherwood.*

**HIST**, exclam. [*Dan. hyst.* In Welsh, *kust* is a low, buzzing sound.]

A word commanding silence; equivalent to *hush*, be silent.

**HISTORIAL**, *a.* Historical. *Obs.* *Chaucer.*

**HISTORIAN**, *n.* [*Fr. historien; L. historicus; It. istorico. See History.*]

A writer or compiler of history; one who collects and relates facts and events in writing, particularly respecting nations. Hume is called an elegant *historian*.

**HISTORIC**, { *a.* [*L. historicus; Fr. historial; a. torique.*] Containing

history, or the relation of facts; as a *historical* poem; the *historic* page; *historic* brass. *Pope.*

2. Pertaining to history; as *historic* care or fidelity.

3. Contained in history; deduced from history; as *historical* evidence.

4. Representing history; as a *historical* chart; *historical* painting.

**HISTORICALLY**, *adv.* In the manner of history; by way of narration.

The Gospels declare *historically* something which our Lord Jesus Christ did, spoke or suffered. *Honker.*

**HISTORIED**, *a.* Recorded in history. [*Not much in use.*]

**HISTORIER**, *n.* A historian. *Obs.*

**HISTORIFY**, *v. t.* To relate; to record in history. [*Not used.*] *Sidney.*

**HISTORIOGRAPHER**, *n.* [*Gr. istoria, history, and grapho, to write.*]

A historian; a writer of history; particularly, a professed historian; an officer employed to write the history of a prince or state; as the *historiographer* of his Britannic majesty.

**HISTORIOGRAPHY**, *n.* The art or employment of a historian.

**HISTORIOLOGY**, *n.* A discourse on history, or the knowledge of history. [*Not in use.*]

**HISTORY**, *n.* [*Gr. istoria; L. Sp. port. historia; It. istoria; Fr. histoire; Ir. sdair, stair; Sax. stair, ster, probably from the Latin; W. ysdiri, history, matter of record, what is of concern or in mind, from ysdiru, an object of care or concern, from daver, to care, to be concerned, to regard.* The Greek *ιστορι* signifies knowing, learned, and *ιστορι* is rendered to inquire, to explore, to learn by inspection or inquiry. This would seem to be connected with *W. ysdyriane*, to consider, to regard or take notice. *History* and *story* are the same word differently written.]

1. An account of facts, particularly of facts respecting nations or states; a narration of events in the order in which they happened, with their causes and effects. *History* differs from *annals*. *Annals* relate simply the facts and events of each year, in strict chronological order, without any observations of the analyst. *History* regards less strictly the arrangement of events under each year, and admits the observations of the writer. This distinction however is not always regarded with strictness.

*History* is of different kinds, or treats of different subjects; as a *history* of government, or political *history*; *history* of the christian church, or ecclesiastical *history*; *history* of war and conquests, or military *history*; *history* of law; *history* of commerce; *history* of the crusades, &c. In these and similar examples, *history* is writ-

ten narrative or relation. What is the *history* of nations, but a narrative of the follies, crimes and miseries of man?

2. Narration; verbal relation of facts or events; story. We listen with pleasure to the soldier or the seaman, giving a *history* of his adventures.

What *histories* of toil could I declare? *Pope.*

3. Knowledge of facts and events. *History*—is necessary to divines. *Watts.*

4. Description; an account of things that exist; as natural *history*, which comprehends a description of the works of nature, particularly of animals, plants and minerals; a *history* of animals, or zoology; a *history* of plants.

5. An account of the origin, life and actions of an individual person. We say, we have a concise *history* of the prisoner in the testimony offered to the court.

A formal written account of an individual's life is called *biography*.

**HISTORY-PIECE**, *n.* A representation of any remarkable event in painting, which exhibits the actors, their actions, and the attending events to the eye, by figures drawn to the life. This species of painting is called *historical* painting.

**HISTRION**, *n.* A player. [*Not in use.*] *Pope.*

**HISTRIONIC**, { *a.* [*L. histrionicus.*]

**HISTRIONICAL**, { *a.* [from *histrion*, a buffoon, an actor, or stage-player.]

Pertaining to a buffoon or comedian, or to a pantomime, who represents events or characters by gestures and dancing; belonging to stage-playing; befitting a theater; theatrical. *Johnson. Encyc.*

**HISTRIONICALLY**, *adv.* In the manner of a buffoon or pantomime; theatrically.

**HISTRIONISM**, *n.* The acts or practice of buffoons or pantomimes; stage-playing. *Southey.*

**HIT**, *v. t.* pret. and pp. *hit*. [*Sw. hitla, Dan. hitle, to find, to meet, that is, to come to, to come or fall on. This word illustrates the signification of find.*]

1. To strike or touch, either with or without force. We *hit* a thing with the finger, or with the head; a cannon ball *hits* a mast, or a wall.

2. To strike or touch a mark with anything directed to that object; not to miss.

The archers *hit* him. 1 Sam. xxxi.

3. To reach; to attain to.

Birds learning tunes, and their endeavors to *hit* the notes right— *Locke.*

4. To suit; to be conformable. —Melancholy.

Those saintly visage is too bright To *hit* the sense of human sight. *Milton.*

5. To strike; to touch properly; to offer the right bait.

There you *hit* him—that argument never fails with him. *Dryden.*

To *hit off*, to strike out; to determine luckily. *Temple.*

2. To represent or describe exactly.

To *hit out*, to perform by good luck. [*Little used.*] *Spenser.*

**HIT**, *v. i.* To strike; to meet or come in contact; to clash; followed by *against* or *on*.

If bodies be mere extension, how can they move and *hit* one against another. *Locke.*