

BRAZENNESS, *n.* Appearance like brass.

In this sense, *brassiness* is the more correct word.

2. Impudence; excess of assurance.

BRAZIER. [See *Brasier*.]

BRAZIL, *n.* [Port. *brazá*, a live fire. This name was given to the wood for its color, and it is said that King Emanuel of Portugal gave this name to the country in America on account of its producing this wood. It was first named Santa Cruz, by its discoverer, Pedro Álvares Cabral. *Lindley's Narrative of a voyage to Brazil*. *Med. Rep. Mex.* 2. vol. 3. 200.]

Brazil, or brazil-wood, or braziletto, is a very heavy wood of a red color, growing in Brazil, and other tropical countries. It is used in manufactures for dyeing red. It is a species of *Cesalpina*.

BRAZILETTO, *n.* The same as Brazil-wood.

BRAZILIAN, *a.* Pertaining to Brazil; as, Brazilian strand. *Barlow*.

BREACH, *n.* [Fr. *breche*; D. *breuk*; Ger. *bruch*; Sw. *bräck*; Dan. *bræk*; Sp. and Port. *brecha*. See *Breach*.]

1. The act of breaking; or state of being broken; a rupture; a break; a gap; the space between the severed parts of a solid body parted by violence; as a *breach* in a garment, or in a wall.

2. The violation of a law; the violation or non-fulfillment of a contract; the non-performance of a moral duty; non-performance of duty being a *breach* of obligation, as well as a positive transgression or violation.

Every *breach* of the public engagements is hurtful to public credit. *Hamilton*.

3. An opening in a coast. [Not usual.] *Spenser*.

4. Separation between friends by means of enmity; difference; quarrel. *Clarendon*.

5. Infriction; injury; invasion; as a *breach* upon kingly power. *Clarendon*.

6. Bereavement; loss of a friend and its consequent affliction.

7. A violation of the public peace, as by a riot, affray, or any tumult which is contrary to law, and destructive to the public tranquillity, is called a *breach* of the peace.

BREACH, *v. t.* To make a breach, or opening. *Life of Wellington*.

BREAD, *n. bread*. [Sax. *bræd*; G. *brød*; D. *brood*; Sw. *bröd*; Dan. *brød*. Qu. Gr. *ἄρτος*, any thing esculent. If the word signifies food in general, or that which is eaten, probably it is the Heb. and Ch. *לֶחֶם*, *lechem*, to eat or feed. But in German, it signifies loaf as well as bread. "Zehen brot," ten loaves. It may therefore signify primarily a lump or portion.]

1. A mass of dough, made by moistening and kneading the flour or meal of some species of grain, and baked in an oven, or pan.

2. Food in general.

In the sweat of thy face shalt thou eat bread. *Gen. iii.*

Give us this day our daily bread. *Lord's Prayer*.

3. Support of life in general; maintenance.

Is the reward of virtue, bread? *Pope*.

Bread, *bread*. [See *Bread*.]

Ship-bread, bread for ships; hard biscuits.

Cassada-bread. [See *Cassada*.]

BREAD, *v. t.* [Sax. *brædan*. See *Bread*.]

To spread. [Not used.] *Ray*.

BREAD-CHIPPER, *n.* [bread and chip.]

One who chips bread; a baker's servant; an under butler. *Shak*.

BREAD-CORN, *n.* [bread and corn.] Corn of which bread is made. This in most countries is wheat and rye; but in some countries bread is made of other grain, as of maize in some parts of America.

BREADEN, *a.* Made of bread. [Little used.] *Rogers*.

BREADLESS, *a.* Without bread; destitute of food.

BREAD-ROOM, *n.* An apartment in a ship's hold, where the bread is kept.

BREAD-TREE, *n.* [bread and tree.] The bread-fruit tree, or *Artocarpus*, a tree which grows in the isles of the Pacific ocean, of the size of an apple-tree, producing a fruit shaped like a heart, and as large as a small loaf of bread, which is eaten as food. *Encyc.*

BREADTH, *n. breadth*. [Sax. *bræd* and *bræd*. See *Bread* and *Bread*.]

The measure or extent of any plain surface from side to side; a geometrical dimension, which, multiplied into the length, constitutes a surface; as, the length of a table is five feet, and the *breadth*, three; $5 \times 3 = 15$ feet, the whole surface.

BREADTHLESS, *a.* Having no breadth. *More*.

BREAK, *v. t.* pret. *broke*, [brake. Obs.]; pp. *broke* or *broken*. [Sax. *bræcan*, *bræcan*, to break, and *bræcan*, to bray, as in a mortar; Sw. *bråka*; Dan. *brække*; D. *braken*, *breken*; G. *brechen*; W. *brëg*, to break; *brëga*, a rent or rupture; *brëg*, a breaking out, a freckle; Goth. *brikan*; Ir. *bracim*, to break, to harrow; Sp. and Port. *brecha*, a breach; L. *frango*, *fregi*, *casual*; Arm. *friga*; Fr. *fracas*; Heb. Ch. Syr. Sam. Ar. *פרק* to break, to free or deliver, to separate; Gr. *φρασσα*, *φραγμα*. These words seem also to be allied to *פרק* and *פרק*. If the first consonant is a prefix, which is probable, then connected with these words are the Gr. *ῥαγναι*, and *ῥαγμα*, W. *thyrgave*, Arm. *roga*, *rega*, to rend. *Wreck* is probably of the same family. The primary sense is to strain, stretch, rack, drive; hence, to strain and burst or break. It should be noted that the Greek *πρην*, in the Æolic dialect, is *ῥρην*.]

1. To part or divide by force and violence, as a solid substance; to rend apart; as, to *break* a band; to *break* a thread or a cable.

2. To burst or open by force.

The fountains of the earth were broken open. *Ecclesiast.*

3. To divide by piercing or penetrating; to burst forth; as, the light *breaks* through the clouds. *Dryden*.

4. To make breaches or gaps by battering, as in a wall. *Shak*.

5. To destroy, crush, weaken, or impair, as the human body or constitution. *Milton*.

6. To sink; to appeal or subdue; as, to *break* the spirits, or the passions. *Philips*.

7. To crush; to shatter; to dissipate the strength of, as of an army. *Dryden*.

8. To weaken, or impair, as the faculties. *Shak*.

9. To tame; to train to obedience; to make tractable; as, to *break* a horse. *Addison*.

10. To make bankrupt. *South*.

11. To discard, dismiss or cashier; as, to *break* an officer. *Swift*.

12. To crack, to part or divide, as the skin; to open, as an aposteme.

13. To violate, as a contract or promise, either by a positive act contrary to the promise, or by neglect or non-fulfillment.

14. To infringe or violate, as a law, or any moral obligation, either by a positive act or by an omission of what is required. *Dryden*.

15. To stop; to interrupt; to cause to cease; as, to *break* conversation; to *break* sleep. *Shak*.

16. To intercept; to check; to lessen the force of; as, to *break* a fall, or a blow. *Bacon*.

17. To separate; to part; as, to *break* company or friendship. *Atterbury*.

18. To dissolve any union; sometimes with off; as, to *break* off a connection.

19. To cause to abandon; to reform or cause to reform; as, to *break* one of ill habits or practices. *Greene*.

20. To open as a purpose; to propound something new; to make a first disclosure of opinions; as, to *break* one's mind. *Bacon*.

21. To frustrate; to prevent. If plagues or earthquakes *break* not heaven's design. *Pope*.

22. To take away; as, to *break* the whole staff of bread. *Ps. cv.*

23. To stretch; to strain; to rack; as, to *break* one on the wheel.

To *break* the back, to strain or dislocate the vertebrae with too heavy a burden; also, to disable one's fortune. *Shak*.

To *break* bulk, to begin to unload. *Mar. Diet.*

To *break* a deer, to cut it up at table. *Johnson*.

To *break* fast, to eat the first meal in the day, but used as a compound word. *Carew*.

To *break* ground, to plow. *Encyc.*

To *break* ground, to dig; to open trenches.

To *break* the heart, to afflict grievously; to cause great sorrow or grief; to depress with sorrow or despair. *Dryden*.

To *break* a jest, to utter a jest unexpected. *Johnson*.

To *break* the neck, to dislocate the joints of the neck. *Shak*.

To *break* off, to put a sudden stop to; to interrupt; to discontinue.

Break off thy sins by righteousness. *Dan. iv.*

2. To sever; to divide; as, to *break* off a twig.

To *break* sheer, in marine language. When a ship at anchor is in a position to keep clear of the anchor, but is forced by wind or current out of that position, she *breaks* her sheer. *Mar. Diet.*

To *break* up, to dissolve or put an end to; as, to *break* up house-keeping.

2. To open or lay open; as, to *break* up a bed of earth.

3. To plow ground the first time, or after lying long unplowed; a common use in the U. States.

4. To separate; as, to *break* up a company.