

and procure, which do not necessarily imply such effort. We *procure* or *obtain* a thing by *purchase* or *loan*, and we *obtain* by inheritance, but we do not *attain* it by such means. An inattention to this distinction has led good authors into great mistakes in the use of this word.

2. To reach or come to a place or object by progression or motion.

But ere such tidings shall his ears attain.

*Hoole's Tasso.*

3. To reach in excellence or degree; to equal.

*Bacon.*

**ATTAINABLE**, *a.* That may be attained: that may be reached by efforts of the mind or body; that may be compassed or accomplished by efforts directed to the object; as, perfection is not attainable in life. From an inattention to the true sense of this word, as explained under *attain*, authors have very improperly used this word for *obtainable*, *procurable*; as in the following passages. "The kind and quality of food and liquor; the species of habitation, furniture and clothing to which the common people of each country are habituated, must be attainable with ease and certainty." Paley, Phil. B. 6. Ch. 11. "Gen. Howe would not permit them to be purchased in Philadelphia, and they (clothes and blankets) were not attainable in the country." Marshall's Life of Washington, 3, 425. Each of these words should be obtainable.

**ATTAINABLENESS**, *n.* The quality of being attainable.

**ATTAINER**, *n.* [Norm. *Fr. attindre*, to corrupt, attain; also conviction; *L. ad* and *tingo*, to stain; Gr. *τεγγω*. Class Dg. See *Tinge*.]

1. Literally a staining, corruption, or rendering impure; a corruption of blood. Hence,

2. The judgment of death, or sentence of a competent tribunal upon a person convicted of treason or felony, which judgment *attains*, taints or corrupts his blood, so that he can no longer inherit lands. The consequences of this judgment are, forfeiture of lands, tenements and hereditaments, loss of reputation, and disqualification to be a witness in any court of law. A statute of Parliament attaining a criminal, is called an *act of attainer*.

Upon the thorough demonstration of which guilt by legal attainer, the feudal covenant is broken.

*Blackstone.*

3. The act of attaining.

An act was made for the attainer of several persons.

*Encyc.* By the constitution of the United States, no crime works an *attainer*.

**ATTAINMENT**, *n.* The act of attaining: the act of arriving at or reaching; hence the act of obtaining by efforts; as the *attainment* of excellence.

2. That which is attained to, or obtained by exertion; acquisition; as, a man of great attainments.

**ATTAINVT**, *v. t.* [See *Attainder*.]

1. To taint or corrupt; to extinguish the pure or inheritable blood of a person found guilty of treason or felony, by confession, battle, or verdict, and consequent sentence of death, or by special act of Parliament.

No person shall be *attainted* of high treason, where corruption of blood is incurred, but by the oath of two witnesses, &c. Stat. 7 and 8. W. 3.

2. To taint, as the credit of jurors, convicted of giving a false verdict. This is done by special writ of attain. The conviction of such a crime *attains* the reputation of jurors, and renders them infamous.

3. To disgrace; to cloud with infamy; to stain.

*Spenser.*

4. To taint or corrupt.

*Shak.*

**ATTAIN'T**, *n.* A stain, spot or taint.

[See *Taint*.]

2. Any thing injurious; that which impairs.

*Obs.*

3. A blow or wound on the hinder feet of a horse.

*Farriery.*

4. A writ which lies after judgment against a jury for giving a false verdict in any court of record.

**ATTAINED**, *pp.* Stained; corrupted; rendered infamous; rendered incapable of inheriting.

**ATTAINING**, *ppr.* Staining; corrupting; rendering infamous by judicial act; depriving of inheritable blood.

**ATTAINMENT**, *n.* The being attained.

**ATTAINTURE**, *n.* A staining or rendering infamous; reproach; imputation.

**ATTASK**, *v. t.* To task; to tax. [Not used. See *Task*.]

*Shak.*

**ATTASTE**, *v. t.* To taste. [Not used. See *Taste*.]

**ATTEMPER**, *v. t.* [*L. attempero*, of *ad* and *tempero*, to temper, mix, or moderate. See *Temper*.]

1. To reduce, modify or moderate by mixture; as, to *attemper* heat by a cooling mixture, or spirit by diluting it with water.

2. To soften, mollify or moderate; as, to *attemper* rigid justice with clemency.

3. To mix in just proportion; to regulate; as, a mind well *attempered* with kindness and justice.

4. To accommodate; to fit or make suitable.

*Arts attempered to the lyre.*

*Pope.*

**ATTEMPERANCE**, *n.* Temperance. [Not used.]

*Chaucer.*

**ATTEMPERATE**, *a.* [*L. attemperatus*.] Tempered; proportioned; suited.

Hope must be proportioned and *attempered* to the promise.

*Hammond.*

**ATTEMPERATE**, *v. t.* To attemper. [Not in use.]

*Hammond.*

**ATTEMPERED**, *pp.* Reduced in quality; moderated; softened; well mixed; suited.

**ATTEMPERING**, *ppr.* Moderating in quality; softening; mixing in due proportion; making suitable.

**ATTEMPERLY**, *adv.* In a temperate manner. [Not in use.]

*Chaucer.*

**ATTEMPT**, *v. t.* [*Fr. attenter*, from *L. attento*, to attempt, of *ad* and *tento*, to try; Arin. *attempts*. The *L. tento* is from the same root as *tendo*, to strain; Gr. *τενω*. Hence, the literal sense is to strain, urge, stretch.]

1. To make an effort to effect some object; to make trial or experiment; to try; to endeavor; to use exertion for any purpose; as, to *attempt* to sing; to *attempt* a bold flight.

2. To attack; to make an effort upon; as, to *attempt* the enemy's camp.

This verb is not always followed by an object, and appears to be intransitive; but some object is understood, or a verb in the infinitive follows in the place of an object; as, he *attempted* to speak.

**ATTEMPT**, *n.* An essay, trial or endeavor; an attack; or an effort to gain a point.

*Bacon.*

**ATTEMPTABLE**, *a.* That may be attempted, tried or attacked; liable to an attempt, or attack.

*Shak.*

**ATTEMPTED**, *pp.* Essayed; tried; attacked.

**ATTEMPTER**, *n.* One who attempts, or attacks.

*Milton.*

**ATTEMPTING**, *ppr.* Trying; essaying; making an effort to gain a point; attacking.

**ATTEND**, *v. t.* [*L. attendo*; *Fr. attendre*, to wait, stay, hold, expect; *Sp. atender*; *It. attendere*; *L. ad* and *tendo*, to stretch, to tend. See *Tend*.]

1. To go with, or accompany, as a companion, minister or servant.

2. To be present; to accompany or be united to; as, a cold attended with fever.

3. To be present for some duty, implying charge or oversight; to wait on; as, the physician or the nurse *attends* the sick.

4. To be present in business; to be in company from curiosity, or from some connection in affairs; as, lawyers or spectators *attend* a court.

5. To be consequent to, from connection of cause; as, a measure *attended* with ill effects.

6. To await; to remain, abide or be in store for, as, happiness or misery *attends* us after death.

7. To wait for; to lie in wait.

*Shak.*

8. To wait or stay for.

Three days I promised to *attend* my doom.

*Dryden.*

9. To accompany with solicitude; to regard. Their hunger thus appeased, their care *attends* The doubtful fortune of their absent friends.

*Dryden.*

10. To regard; to fix the mind upon.

The pilot doth not *attend* the unskillful words of the passenger.

*Sidney.*

This is not now a legitimate sense. To express this idea, we now use the verb intransitively, with *to*, *attend* to.

11. To expect. [Not in use.]

*Ralegh.*

**ATTEND**, *v. i.* To listen; to regard with attention; followed by *to*.

*Attend* to the voice of my supplication. Ps. lxxxvi.

Hence much used in the imperative, *attend*!

To regard with observation, and correspondent practice.

My son, *attend* to my words.

Hence, to regard with compliance.

He hath *attended* to the voice of my prayer. Ps. lxxi.

3. To fix the attention upon, as an object of pursuit; to be busy or engaged in; as, to *attend* to the study of the scriptures.

4. To wait on; to accompany or be present, in pursuance of duty; with *on* or *upon*; as, to *attend upon* a committee; to *attend upon* business. Hence,

5. To wait on, in service or worship; to serve.