

RATE, *n.* [Norm. *rate*; *L. ratus, reor*, contracted from *retor, redor* or *resor*. See *Ratio* and *Reason*.]

1. The proportion or standard by which quantity or value is adjusted; as silver valued at the *rate* of six shillings and eight pence the ounce.

The *rate* and standard of wit was different then from what it is in these days. *South.*

2. Price or amount stated or fixed on any thing. A king may purchase territory at too dear a *rate*. The *rate* of interest is prescribed by law.

3. Settled allowance; as a daily *rate* of provisions. 2 Kings xxv.

4. Degree; comparative highth or value.

I am a spirit of no common *rate*. *Shak.*

In this did his holiness and godliness appear above the *rate* and pitch of other men's, in that he was so infinitely merciful. *Calamy.*

5. Degree in which any thing is done. The ship sails at the *rate* of seven knots an hour.

Many of the horse could not march at that *rate*, nor come up soon enough. *Clarendon.*

6. Degree of value; price. Wheat in England is often sold at the *rate* of fifty shillings the quarter. Wit may be purchased at too dear a *rate*.

7. A tax or sum assessed by authority on property for public use, according to its income or value; as parish *rates*; town *rates*; highway *rates*.

8. In the navy, the order or class of a ship, according to its magnitude or force. Ships of the first *rate* mount a hundred guns or upwards; those of the second *rate* carry from 90 to 98 guns; those of the third *rate* carry from 64 to 80 guns; those of the fourth *rate* from 50 to 60 guns; those of the fifth *rate* from 32 to 44 guns; those of the sixth *rate* from 20 to 30 guns. Those of the two latter *rates* are called *frigates*.

Mar. Dict.

RATE, *v. t.* To set a certain value on; to value at a certain price or degree of excellence.

You seem not high enough your joys to *rate*.

Dryden.

Instead of *rating* the man by his performances, we too frequently *rate* the performance by the man. *Rambler.*

2. To fix the magnitude, force or order, as of ships. A ship is *rated* in the first class, or as a ship of the line.

RATE, *v. i.* To be set or considered in a class, as a ship. The ship *rates* as a ship of the line.

2. To make an estimate.

RATE, *v. t.* [Sw. *rata*, to refuse, to find fault; *ryta*, to roar, to huff; Ice. *reita*, or G. *bereden*, from *reden*, to speak, Sax. *rædan*. See *Read*. It is probably allied to *rattle*, and perhaps to *L. rudo*. See Class Rd. No. 71. 76. Ar.]

To scold with vehemence; to reprove; to scold; to censure violently.

Go, *rate* thy minions, proud insulting boy.

Shak.

An old lord of the council *rated* me the other day in the street about you, sir. *Shak.*

RATED, *pp.* Set at a certain value; estimated; set in a certain order or rank.

2. Chid; reprov'd.

RATER, *n.* One who sets a value on or makes an estimate.

RATH, *n.* [Ir. *rath*, a hill, mount or fortress.] A hill. *Obs.* *Spenser.*

RATH, *a.* [Sax. *rath*, *rathe*, *hræth*, *hræthe*, *hræd* or *hrad*, quick, hasty; Ir. *ratham*, to grow or be prosperous; from the same root as *ready* and *rash*, from the sense of shooting forward. See *Ready*.]

Early; coming before others, or before the usual time.

Bring the *rath* primrose, that forsaken dies.

Milton.

We sometimes see the word *rath-ripe*, early ripe, Sax. *rad-ripe*; but it is obsolete or nearly so. In the United States, I believe it is not used at all.

RATHER, *adv.* [Sax. *rather*, *hrathor*; comp. of *rath*, quick, prompt, hasty, *ready*. So we use *sooner* in an equivalent sense. I would rather go, or *sooner* go. The use is taken from pushing or moving forward. So the Italians use *anzi*, [*L. ante*, before.] "Ma egli disse, anzi, beati coloro ch'odono la parola di Dio, e l'osservano." But he said, yea *rather*, happy are they that hear the word of God and keep it. Luke xi.]

1. More readily or willingly; with better liking; with preference or choice.

My soul chooseth strangling and death *rather* than life. Job vii.

Light is come into the world, and men loved darkness *rather* than light, because their deeds were evil. John iii. Ps lxxiv.

2. In preference; preferably; with better reason. Good is *rather* to be chosen than evil. See Acts v.

3. In a greater degree than otherwise.

He sought throughout the world, but sought in vain,

And no where finding, *rather* fear'd her slain.

Dryden.

4. More properly; more correctly speaking.

This is an art

Which does mend nature, change it *rather*; but

The art itself is nature. *Shak.*

5. Noting some degree of contrariety in fact.

She was nothing better, but *rather* grew worse. Mark v. Matt. xxvii.

The *rather*, especially; for better reason; for particular cause.

You are come to me in a happy time,

The *rather* for I have some sport in hand.

Shak.

Had *rather*, is supposed to be a corruption of *would rather*.

I *had rather* speak five words with my understanding— 1 Cor. xiv.

This phrase may have been originally, 'I'd *rather*,' for I *would rather*, and the contraction afterwards mistaken for *had*. Correct speakers and writers generally use *would* in all such phrases; I *would rather*, I prefer; I desire in preference.

RATHOFFITE, *n.* A mineral brought from Sweden, of the garnet kind. Its color is a dingy brownish black, and it is accompanied with calcareous spar and small crystals of hornblend. *Phillips.*

RATIFICATION, *n.* [Fr. *ratification*; from *ratifier*.]

1. The act of ratifying; confirmation.

2. The act of giving sanction and validity to something done by another; as the *ratification* of a treaty by the senate of the United States.

RATIFIED, *pp.* Confirmed; sanctioned; made valid.

RATIFIER, *n.* He or that which ratifies or sanctions.

RATIFY, *v. t.* [Fr. *ratifier*; *L. ratum facio*, to make firm.] To confirm; to establish; to settle.

We have *ratified* to them the borders of Judea. 1 Macc.

2. To approve and sanction; to make valid; as, to *ratify* an agreement or treaty.

RATIFYING, *ppr.* Confirming; establishing; approving and sanctioning.

RATING, *ppr.* [from *rate*.] Setting at a certain value; assigning rank to; estimating.

2. Chiding; reprov'g.

RATIO, *n.* *ra'sho*. [*L.* from *ratus, reor*, to think or suppose, to set, confirm or establish. *Reor* is contracted from *redor* or *retor*, and primarily signifies to throw, to thrust, hence to speak, to set in the mind, to think, like *L. suppono*; and *setting* gives the sense of a fixed *rate* or rule. See *Reason*.]

Proportion, or the relation of homogeneous things which determines the quantity of one from the quantity of another, without the intervention of a third. *Encyc.*

The relation which one quantity has to another of the same kind, as expressed by the quotient of the one divided by the other. Thus the ratio of 4 to 2 is $\frac{4}{2}$, or 2; and the ratio of 5 to 6 is $\frac{5}{6}$. This is *geometrical* ratio, which is that signified when the term is used without distinction; but *arithmetical* ratio is the difference between two quantities. Thus the arithmetical ratio of 2 to 6 is 4.

Ratio respects magnitudes of the same kind only. One line may be compared with another line, but a line cannot be compared with a superficies, and hence between a line and a superficies there can be no *ratio*. *Encyc.*

RATIOCINATE, *v. i.* [*L. ratiocinor*, from *ratio*, reason.] To reason; to argue. [*Little used*.]

RATIOCINATION, *n.* [*L. ratiocinatio*.] The act or process of reasoning, or of deducing consequences from premises. [See *Reasoning*.] *Brown. South.*

RATIOCINATIVE, *a.* Argumentative; consisting in the comparison of propositions or facts, and the deduction of inferences from the comparison; as a *ratiocinative* process. [*A bad word and little used*.] *Hale.*

RATION, *n.* [Fr. from *L. ratio*, proportion.]

A portion or fixed allowance of provisions, drink and forage, assigned to each soldier in an army for his daily subsistence and for the subsistence of horses. Officers have several *rations* according to their rank or number of attendants. Seamen in the navy also have *rations* of certain articles. *Encyc.*

RATIONAL, *a.* [Fr. *rationnel*; It. *razionale*; *L. rationalis*.]

1. Having reason or the faculty of reasoning; endowed with reason; opposed to *irrational*; as, man is a *rational* being; brutes are not *rational* animals.

It is our glory and happiness to have a *rational* nature. *Law.*

2. Agreeable to reason; opposed to *absurd*; as a *rational* conclusion or inference; *rational* conduct.