

**SUPERINSPECT'**, *v. t.* [*super* and *inspect.*]

To oversee; to superintend by inspection.  
[*Little used.*]

**SUPERINSTITUTION**, *n.* [*super* and *institution.*]

One institution upon another; as when A is instituted and admitted to a benefice upon a title, and B is instituted and admitted upon the presentation of another.

*Bailey.*

**SUPERINTELLECTUAL**, *a.* [*super* and *intellectual.*]

Being above intellect. *Pausanias, Trans.*

**SUPERINTEND'**, *v. t.* [*super* and *intend.*]

To have or exercise the charge and oversight of; to oversee with the power of direction; to take care of with authority; as, an officer *superintends* the building of a ship or the construction of a fort. God exercises a *superintending* care over all his creatures.

**SUPERINTENDED**, *pp.* Overseen; taken care of.

**SUPERINTENDENCE**, } *n.* The act of

**SUPERINTENDENCY**, } superintending; care and oversight for the purpose of direction, and with authority to direct.

**SUPERINTENDENT**, *n.* One who has the oversight and charge of something, with the power of direction; as the *superintendent* of an almshouse or workhouse; the *superintendent* of public works; the *superintendent* of customs or finance.

2. An ecclesiastical superior in some reformed churches.

**SUPERINTENDING**, *ppr.* Overseeing with the authority to direct what shall be done and how it shall be done.

**SUPERIOR**, *a.* [*Sp. L.* from *super*, above; *Fr. superieur*; *It. superiore.*]

1. Higher; upper; more elevated in place; as the *superior* limb of the sun; the *superior* part of an image. *Newton.*

2. Higher in rank or office; more exalted in dignity; as a *superior* officer; a *superior* degree of nobility.

3. Higher or greater in excellence; surpassing others in the greatness, goodness or value of any quality; as a man of *superior* merit, of *superior* bravery, of *superior* talents or understanding, of *superior* accomplishments.

4. Being beyond the power or influence of; too great or firm to be subdued or affected by; as a man *superior* to revenge.

There is not on earth a spectacle more worthy than a great man *superior* to his sufferings.

*Spectator.*

5. In *botany*, a *superior* flower has the receptacle of the flower above the germ; a *superior* germ is included within the corol.

*Martyn.*

**SUPERIOR**, *n.* One who is more advanced in age. Old persons or elders are the *superiors* of the young.

2. One who is more elevated in rank or office.

3. One who surpasses others in dignity, excellence or qualities of any kind. As a writer of pure English, Addison has no *superior*.

4. The chief of a monastery, convent or abbey.

**SUPERIORITY**, *n.* Pre-eminence; the quality of being more advanced or higher, greater or more excellent than another in

any respect; as *superiority* of age, of rank or dignity, of attainments or excellence. The *superiority* of others in fortune and rank, is more readily acknowledged than *superiority* of understanding.

**SUPERLATION**, *n.* [*L. superlatio.*] Exaltation of any thing beyond truth or propriety. [*I believe not used.*] *B. Jonson.*

**SUPERLATIVE**, *a.* [*Fr. superlatif*; *L. superlativus*; *super* and *latio, latus, fero.*]

1. Highest in degree; most eminent; surpassing all other; as a man of *superlative* wisdom or prudence, of *superlative* worth; a woman of *superlative* beauty.

2. Supreme; as the *superlative* glory of the divine character.

3. In *grammar*, expressing the highest or utmost degree; as the *superlative* degree of comparison.

**SUPERLATIVE**, *n.* In *grammar*, the *superlative* degree of adjectives, which is formed by the termination *est*, as *meanest*, *highest*, *bravest*; or by the use of *most*, as *most* high, *most* brave; or by *least*, as *least* amiable.

**SUPERLATIVELY**, *adv.* In a manner expressing the utmost degree.

I shall not speak *superlatively* of them.

*Bacon.*

2. In the highest or utmost degree. Tiberius was *superlatively* wicked; Clodius was *superlatively* profligate.

**SUPERLATIVENESS**, *n.* The state of being in the highest degree.

**SUPERLUNAR**, } *a.* [*L. super* and *luna*,

**SUPERLUNARY**, } the moon.]

Being above the moon; not sublunary or of this world.

The head that turns at *superlunar* things.

*Pope.*

**SUPERMUNDANE**, *a.* [*super* and *mundane.*] Being above the world.

*Paus. Trans.*

**SUPERNAL**, *a.* [*L. supernus, super.*] Being in a higher place or region; locally higher; as the *supernal* orbs; *supernal* regions.

*Raleigh.*

2. Relating to things above; celestial; heavenly; as *supernal* grace.

Not by the sufferings of *supernal* power.

*Milton.*

**SUPERNATANT**, *a.* [*L. supernatans, supernato*; *super* and *nato*, to swim.]

Swimming above; floating on the surface; as oil *supernatant* on water. *Boyle.*

**SUPERNATATION**, *n.* The act of floating on the surface of a fluid. *Bacon.*

**SUPERNATURAL**, *a.* [*super* and *natural.*]

Being beyond or exceeding the powers or laws of nature; miraculous. A *supernatural* event is one which is not produced according to the ordinary or established laws of natural things. Thus if iron has more specific gravity than water, it will sink in that fluid; and the floating of iron on water must be a *supernatural* event. Now no human being can alter a law of nature; the floating of iron on water therefore must be caused by divine power specially exerted to suspend, in this instance, a law of nature. Hence *supernatural* events or miracles can be produced only by the immediate agency of divine power.

**SUPERNATURALLY**, *adv.* In a manner exceeding the established course or laws

of nature. The prophets must have been *supernaturally* taught or enlightened, for their predictions were beyond human foreknowledge.

**SUPERNATURALNESS**, *n.* The state or quality of being beyond the power or ordinary laws of nature.

**SUPERNUMERARY**, *a.* [*Fr. supernumeraire*; *L. super* and *numerus*, number.]

1. Exceeding the number stated or prescribed; as a *supernumerary* officer in a regiment; a *supernumerary* canon in the church.

2. Exceeding a necessary, a usual or a round number; as *supernumerary* addresses; *supernumerary* expense. *Addison. Fell.*

**SUPERNUMERARY**, *n.* A person or thing beyond the number stated, or beyond what is necessary or usual. On the reduction of the regiments, several *supernumeraries* were to be provided for.

**SUPERPARTICULAR**, *a.* [*super* and *particular.*]

Noting a ratio when the excess of the greater term is a unit; as the ratio of 1 to 2, or of 3 to 4. *Eneide.*

**SUPERPARTIENT**, *a.* [*L. super* and *partio.*]

Noting a ratio when the excess of the greater term is more than a unit; as that of 3 to 5, or of 7 to 10. *Eneide.*

**SUPERPLANT**, *n.* [*super* and *plant.*] A plant growing on another plant; as the mistletoe. [*Not used.*] [We now use *parasite.*] *Bacon.*

**SUPERPLUSAGE**, *n.* [*L. super* and *plus.*] That which is more than enough; excess. [We now use *surplusage*, which see.] *Fell.*

**SUPERPONDERATE**, *v. t.* [*L. super* and *pondero.*]

To weigh over and above. [*Not used.*] *Diet.*

**SUPERPOSE**, *v. t.* *superpo/ze.* [*super* and *Fr. poser*, to lay.]

To lay upon, as one kind of rock on another.

**SUPERPOSED**, *pp.* Laid or being upon something. *Humboldt.*

**SUPERPOSING**, *ppr.* Placing upon something.

**SUPERPOSITION**, *n.* [*super* and *position.*]

1. A placing above; a lying or being situated above or upon something; as the *superposition* of rocks. *Humboldt.*

2. That which is situated above or upon something else.

**SUPERPRAISE**, *v. t.* *superpraze.* To praise to excess. *Shak.*

**SUPERPROPORTION**, *n.* [*super* and *proportion.*] Overplus of proportion. *Digby.*

**SUPERPURGATION**, *n.* [*super* and *purgation.*] More purgation than is sufficient. *Wiseman.*

**SUPERREFLECTION**, *n.* [*super* and *reflection.*]

The reflection of an image reflected. *Bacon.*

**SUPERREWARD**, *v. t.* To reward to excess. *Bacon.*

**SUPERROYAL**, *a.* [*super* and *royal.*] Larger than royal; denoting the largest species of printing paper.

**SUPERSALENCY**, *n.* [*L. super* and *salio*, to leap.]