

3. To offer; to produce. [*Not used.*]

INFERABLE, *a.* That may be inferred or deduced from premises. *Burke.*

INFERENCE, *n.* [Fr. from *inferre*.] A truth or proposition drawn from another which is admitted or supposed to be true; a conclusion. *Inferences* result from reasoning, as when the mind perceives such a connection between ideas, as that, if certain propositions called premises are true, the conclusions or propositions deduced from them must also be true.

INFEOFF. [See *Enfoeff*.]

INFERIOR, *a.* [L. comp. from *inferus*, low; Sp. *id.*; Fr. *inferieur*.]

1. Lower in place.
2. Lower in station, age, or rank in life. Pay due respect to those who are superior in station, and due civility to those who are inferior.
3. Lower in excellence or value; as a poem of inferior merit; cloth of inferior quality or price.
4. Subordinate; of less importance. Attend to health and safety; ease and convenience are inferior considerations.

INFERIOR, *n.* A person who is younger, or of a lower station or rank in society.

A person gets more by obliging his inferior, than by disdaining him. *South.*

INFERIORITY, *n.* [Fr. *inferiorité*.] A lower state of dignity, age, value or quality. We speak of the inferiority of rank, of office, of talents, of age, of worth.

INFERNAL, *a.* [Fr. from *L. infernus*.]

1. Properly, pertaining to the lower regions, or regions of the dead, the Tartarus of the ancients. *Heuce.*
2. Pertaining to hell; inhabiting hell; as infernal spirits.
3. Hellish; resembling the temper of infernal spirits; malicious; diabolical; very wicked and detestable.

INFERNAL, *n.* An inhabitant of hell, or of the lower regions.

Infernal stone [*lapis infernalis*], a name formerly given to lunar caustic, a substance prepared from an evaporated solution of silver, or from crystals of silver. *Hill.*

Lunar caustic is nitrate of silver fused and cast in small cylinders. *Webster's Manual.*

INFERTILE, *a.* [Fr. from *L. infertilis*; *in* and *fertilis*.]

Not fertile; not fruitful or productive; barren; as an *infertile* soil.

INFERTILITY, *n.* Unfruitfulness; unproductiveness; barrenness; as the *infertility* of land. *Hale.*

INFEST, *v. t.* [Fr. *infester*; *L. infesto*.] To trouble greatly; to disturb; to annoy; to harass. In warm weather, men are infested with musketoes and gnats; flies infest horses and cattle. The sea is often infested with pirates. Small parties of the enemy infest the coast.

These, said the genius, are envy, avarice, superstition, love, with the like cares and passions that infest human life. *Addison.*

INFESTATION, *n.* The act of infesting; molestation. *Bacon.*

INFESTED, *pp.* Troubled; annoyed; harassed; plagued.

INFESTERED, *a.* [in and *fester*.] Rankling; inveterate.

INFESTING, *ppr.* Annoying; harassing; disturbing.

INFESTIVE, *a.* [in and *festive*.] Having no mirth.

INFESTIVITY, *n.* [in and *festivity*.] Want of festivity, or of cheerfulness and mirth at entertainments.

INFESTUOUS, *a.* [L. *infestus*.] Mischievous. [*Not used.*] *Bacon.*

INFEDAUTION, *n.* [in and *fedium*, feud.]

1. The act of putting one in possession of an estate in fee. *Hale.*
2. The granting of tithes to laymen. *Blackstone.*

INFIDEL, *a.* [Fr. *infidèle*; *L. infidelis*; *in* and *fidelis*, faithful.]

Unbelieving; disbelieving the inspiration of the Scriptures, or the divine institution of christianity.

The infidel writer is a great enemy to society. *Knox.*

INFIDEL, *n.* One who disbelieves the inspiration of the Scriptures, and the divine origin of christianity.

INFIDELITY, *n.* [Fr. *infidélité*; *L. infidelitas*.]

1. In general, want of faith or belief; a withholding of credit.
2. Disbelief of the inspiration of the Scriptures, or the divine origin of christianity; unbelief.

There is no doubt that vanity is one principal cause of *infidelity*. *Knox.*

3. Unfaithfulness, particularly in married persons; a violation of the marriage covenant by adultery or lewdness.

4. Breach of trust; treachery; deceit; as the *infidelity* of a friend or a servant. In this sense, *unfaithfulness* is most used.

INFILTRATE, *v. t.* [Fr. *filtrer*, to filter.] To enter by penetrating the pores or interstices of a substance.

INFILTRATING, *ppr.* Penetrating by the pores or interstices.

INFILTRATION, *n.* The act or process of entering the pores or cavities of a body.

2. The substance which has entered the pores or cavities of a body.

Calcareous infiltrations, filling the cavities of other stones. *Kirwan.*

INFINITE, *a.* [L. *infinitus*; *in* and *finis*, terminated; Fr. *infini*; Sp. *infinito*.]

1. Without limits; unbounded; boundless; not circumscribed; applied to time, space and qualities. God is *infinite* in duration, having neither beginning nor end of existence. He is also *infinite* in presence, or omnipresent, and his perfections are *infinite*. We also speak of *infinite* space.

2. That will have no end. Thus angels and men, though they have had a beginning, will exist in *infinite* duration.

3. That has a beginning in space, but is infinitely extended; as, a line beginning at a point, but extended indefinitely, is an *infinite* line.

4. *Infinite* is used loosely and hyperbolically for indefinitely large, immense, of great size or extent.

Infinite canon, in music, a perpetual fugue.

INFINITELY, *adv.* Without bounds or limits.

2. Immensely; greatly; to a great extent or degree; as, I am *infinitely* obliged by your condescension.

INFINITENESS, *n.* Boundless extent of time, space or qualities; infinity. *Taylor.*

2. Immensity; greatness.

INFINITESIMAL, *a.* Indefinitely small. *Johnson. Encyc.*

INFINITESIMAL, *n.* An indefinitely small quantity. *Encyc.*

INFINITIVE, *a.* [L. *infinitivus*; Fr. *infinitif*.]

In grammar, the *infinitive* mode expresses the action of the verb, without limitation of person or number; as, *to love*.

INFINITUDE, *n.* Infinity; infiniteness; the quality or state of being without limits; infinite extent; as the *infinitude* of space, of time, or of perfections.

2. Immensity; greatness. *Addison.*

3. Boundless number.

INFINITY, *n.* [Fr. *infinité*; *L. infinitas*.]

1. Unlimited extent of time, space or quantity; boundlessness. We apply *infinity* to God and his perfections; we speak of the *infinity* of his existence, his knowledge, his power, his goodness and holiness.

2. Immensity; indefinite extent.

3. Endless or indefinite number; a hyperbolic use of the word; as an *infinity* of beauties.

INFIRM, *a.* *infirm*. [Fr. *infirm*; *L. infirmus*; *in* and *firmus*.]

1. Not firm or sound; weak; feeble; as an *infirm* body; an *infirm* constitution.

2. Weak of mind; irresolute; as *infirm* of purpose. *Shak.*

3. Not solid or stable. He who fixes on false principles, treads on *infirm* ground. *South.*

INFIRM, *v. t.* *infirm*. To weaken. [*Not used.*] *Raleigh.*

INFIRMARY, *n.* *infirm*ary. A hospital or place where the sick are lodged and nursed.

INFIRMITY, *n.* *infirm*ity. [Fr. *infirmité*; *L. infirmitas*.]

1. An unsound or unhealthy state of the body; weakness; feebleness. Old age is subject to *infirmities*.

2. Weakness of mind; failing; fault; foible. A friend should bear a friend's *infirmities*. *Shak.*

3. Weakness of resolution.

4. Any particular disease; malady; applied rather to chronic, than to violent diseases. *Hooker.*

5. Defect; imperfection; weakness; as the *infirmities* of a constitution of government. *Hamilton.*

INFIRMNESS, *n.* *infirm*ness. Weakness; feebleness; unsoundness. *Boyle.*

INFIX, *v. t.* [L. *infixus*, *infixo*; *in* and *figo*, to fix.]

1. To fix by piercing or thrusting in; as, to *infix* a sting, spear or dart.

2. To set in; to fasten in something.

3. To implant or fix, as principles, thoughts, instructions; as, to *infix* good principles in the mind, or ideas in the memory.

INFIXED, *pp.* Thrust in; set in; inserted; deeply implanted.

INFIXING, *ppr.* Thrusting in; setting in; implanting.