

very quick in motion, often or usually with the sense of noise or agitation.

And leave the world for me to bustle in.

BUSTLE, *n.* *bust'l.* Hurry; great stir; rapid motion with noise and agitation; tumult from stirring or agitation; combustion.

All would have been well without this bustle.

BUSTLER, *n.* *buster.* An active stirring person.

BUSTLING, *ppr.* *bust'ling.* Stirring; moving actively with noise or agitation.

BUSTO, *n.* A bust; sometimes perhaps used for a statue.

BUSY, *a.* *biz'zy.* [Sax. *bysig*, *bysig*; when, *byseg*, business, *byggian*, to busy; *D.* *bezig*, busy; *beizigen*, to busy, to use. This word appears, from the Dutch, to be composed of *be*, the prefix, and *zig*, the root of *see*, contracted in Inf. to *zien*, but retained in the pret. *zag*, and in the derivatives, *zigt*, sight, *zigtbaar*, visible. We find *brighten* signifies to view. If this opinion is correct, the primary sense is seeing, or closely inspecting.]

1. Employed with constant attention; engaged about something that renders interruption inconvenient; as, a man is busy in posting his books.

My mistress is busy and cannot come.

2. Actively employed; occupied without cessation; constantly in motion; as, a busy bee.

3. Active in that which does not concern the person; meddling with or prying into the affairs of others; officious; importunate; hence, troublesome; vexatious.

4. Much occupied with employment; as, a busy day.

To be *busied* with genus and species.

BUSY-BODY, *n.* *biz'zy-body.* [*busy* and *body*.]

A meddling person; one who officiously concerns himself with the affairs of others.

BUT, *part.* for *butan*. [Sax. *butan*, *buton*, *buta*, *bute*, without, on the outside, abroad; hence, except or excepting, besides; that is, separated, not included. The verb is not in the Saxon; but in Dutch we have the verb in its primary sense, *butten*, to rove, or wander, to go freebooting; *butl*, booty; *butten*, out, without, abroad, besides; except; *butten board*, over board; *butten deur*, out of doors; *butten huis*, an out-house; *butten man*, an out-man, a stranger; *G.* *beute*, booty; *Sw.* *byte*, booty; *byla*, to exchange; *Dan.* *bytte*, booty, a parting, division, distribution; *bytter*, to part, divide, exchange, barter; *Sp.* *botin*; *It.* *botino*; *Fr.* *butin*, booty. The primary sense of *booty* is to rove or wander, to part or separate from; applied to persons, it is to wander; applied to things, it may include stripping. But then is a contraction of *butan*, and primarily a participle.]

1. Except; besides; unless.

Who can it be, but piqued Lycen?

That is, removed, separated, excepted.

Lycen being separated, or excepted, who can it be?

And *but* infirmity, which waits upon worn times, hath something seized

His wish'd ability, he had himself The lands and waters measured.

That is, except, unless, separate this fact, that infirmity had seized his ability, he had measured the lands and waters.

In this use *but*, *butan*, is a participle equivalent to *excepting*, and may be referred to the person speaking, or more naturally, it is equivalent to *excepted*, and with the following words, or clause, forming the case absolute.

Who can it be, Lycen being excepted? And but my noble Moor is true of mind, it were enough to put him to ill thinking.

It cannot be but nature hath some director, of infinite power, to guide her in all her ways.

There is no question but the King of Spain will reform most of the abuses.

It is not impossible but I may alter the complexion of my play.

In the last three examples, that is omitted after *but*.

It is not impossible but that I may alter the complexion of my play.

In these and all similar phrases, *but* denotes separation, exception.

2. Only.

A formidable man, but to his friends.

There is but one man present.

This use of *but* is a modern innovation; but perhaps too firmly established to be corrected. In all such phrases, a negative, *not*, *nothing*, or other word, is omitted. He is not a formidable man, but to his enemies, that is, except. There is not but one man present, that is, there is not except or besides one present. So also, "Our light affliction is but for a moment." 2 Cor. iv. Our affliction is not, except for a moment.

If they kill us, we shall but die. 2 Kings vii.

The common people in America retain the original and correct phrase; usually employing a negative. They do not say, I have but one. On the other hand, they say, I have not but one, that is, I have not except one; except one, and I have none. This word but for *butan* is not a conjunction, nor has it the least affinity to that part of speech.

BUT, *conj.* [Sax. *bote*, reparation, satisfaction, compensation, and adverbially, moreover, further, that is, something added to make good, to supply what is wanted, from *betan*, to make better, or more, to amend, that is, to advance; *D.* *boete*; *Sw.* *böte*; *Dan.* *baade*; *W.* *buz*, advantage. So in Ger. *aber*, but, is the Eng. *over*. In some of these languages it denotes a fine or penance, that which makes satisfaction.

In Danish, profit; *baader*, to gain or profit; *W.* *buzian*; *Goth.* *botyan*, id.; *G.* *buisse*, *büssen*. We use this word as a noun, in the phrase, he gives a guinea to *boot*, that is, to make good, to satisfy, or by way of addition; and as a verb, in the phrase, what boots it, what gain or profit is it. It is radically the same word as *bet* in *better*; and the radical sense is to advance.]

More; further; noting an addition to supply what is wanting to elucidate, or modify the sense of the preceding part of a sentence, or of a discourse, or to continue the discourse, or to exhibit a contrast.

Now abide faith, hope, charity, these three; but, the greatest of these is charity. 1 Cor. xiii. When pride cometh, then cometh shame; but with the lowly is wisdom. Prov. xi.

Our wants are many and grievous; but quite of another kind.

The house of representatives were well agreed in passing the bill; but the senate dissented.

This word is in fact a noun equivalent to addition or supply; but in grammatical construction, no inconvenience results from considering it to be a connective.

BUT, *n.* [*Fr.* *bout*, end, extremity, and *but*, end, aim, design; *Arm.* *but* or *baut*. It is sometimes written *butl*, especially when applied to the end of a plank. It coincides, in sense and elements, with *L.* *peto*, *Sp.* *pole*, a thrust, *botar*, to cast, *It.* *botto*, *botto*, *botare*, *Fr.* *botte*, *boulder*, *Eng.* *post*, and many other words. See *Butt*.]

1. An end; a limit; a bound. It is used particularly for the larger end of a thing, as of a piece of timber, or of a fallen tree; that which grows nearest the earth. It is not often applied to the bound or limit of land; yet *butted*, for bounded, is often used.

2. The end of a plank in a ship's side or bottom, which unites with another; generally written *butl*.

BUT, *v. i.* To be bounded by; to lie contiguous to; a word used in America. [See *Abut*.]

BUT-END, *n.* [*but* and *end*.] The largest or blunt end of a thing; as the *but-end* of a musket or of a piece of timber. This word is tautological, *but* and *end* signifying the same thing; unless *but* is considered as equivalent to *swelling*, *protuberant*.

BUTCHER, *n.* [*Fr.* *boucher*; *Arm.* *boçzer*, a butcher; *Fr.* *boucherie*; *It.* *becheria*, butchery, shambles. The primary sense probably is to stick or stab, as the *Fr.* *boucher* signifies to stop, that is, to set, to thrust.]

1. One who slaughters animals for market; or one whose occupation is to kill animals for the table. The word may and often does include the person who cuts up and sells meat.

2. One who kills men, or commands troops to kill them; one who sheds, or causes to be shed human blood in abundance; applied to princes and conquerors who delight in war, or are remarkable for destroying human life.

BUTCHER, *v. t.* To kill or slaughter animals for food, or for market.

2. To murder; but emphatically applied to murder committed with unusual cruelty, or circumstances of uncommon barbarity.

BUTCHER-BIRD, *n.* The shrike; a genus of birds, called *Lanius*. One species of this genus is called *king-bird*, from its courage in attacking hawks and crows.

Eneyce. The king-bird is now arranged under the genus *Muscicapa*.

BUTCHERLINESS, *n.* A cruel, savage, butcherly manner.

Johnson,