

**PREADMINISTRATION**, *n.* Previous administration. *Pearson.*

**PREADMONISH**, *v. t.* To admonish previously.

**PREADMONITION**, *n.* Previous warning or admonition.

**PRE/AMBLE**, *n.* [It. *preambolo*; Sp. *pre-ambulo*; Fr. *préambule*; L. *præ*, before, and *ambulo*, to go.]

1. Something previous; introduction to a discourse or writing.

2. The introductory part of a statute, which states the reasons and intent of the law.

*Encyc. Dryden.*

**PRE/AMBLE**, *v. t.* To preface; to introduce with previous remarks. *Fellham.*

**PREAMBULARY**, { Previous; intro-  
**PREAMBULOUS**, { a. ductory. [Not used.] *Brown.*

**PREAMBULATE**, *v. i.* [L. *præ*, before, and *ambulo*, to walk.] To walk or go before. *Jordan.*

**PREAMBULATION**, *n.* A preamble. [Not in use.] *Chaucer.*

2. A walking or going before.

**PREAMBULATORY**, *a.* Going before; preceding. *Taylor.*

**PREAPPREHENSION**, *n.* [See *Apprehend.*] An opinion formed before examination. *Brown.*

**PREASE**, *n.* Press; crowd. [Not used. See *Press.*] *Chapman.*

**PRE/ASING**, *ppr. or a.* Crowding. [Not used.] *Spenser.*

**PREAU/DIENCE**, *n.* [See *Audience.*] Precedence or rank at the bar among lawyers; right of previous audience.

*Blackstone.*

**PREB/END**, *n.* [It. *prebenda*, prebend, provision; Sp. *prebenda*; Fr. *prebende*, from L. *præbeo*, to afford, to allow.]

1. The stipend or maintenance granted out of the estate of a cathedral or collegiate church. Prebends are *simple* or *dignitary*; *simple*, when they are restricted to the revenue only, and *dignitary*, when they have jurisdiction annexed to them.

*Encyc.*

2. A prebendary. [Not in use.] *Bacon.*

**PREBEND/AL**, *a.* Pertaining to a prebend.

*Chesterfield.*

**PREBENDARY**, *n.* [Fr. *prebendier.*] An ecclesiastic who enjoys a prebend; the stipendiary of a cathedral church.

*Swift.*

A prebendary differs from a canon in this; the prebendary receives his prebend in consideration of his officiating in the church; the canon merely in consequence of his being received into the cathedral or college.

*Encyc.*

**PREBENDARYSHIP**, *n.* The office of a prebendary; a canonry.

*Wotton.*

**PRECA/RIOUS**, *a.* [L. *precarious*, from *precor*, to pray or entreat; primarily, depending on request, or on the will of another.]

1. Depending on the will or pleasure of another; held by courtesy; liable to be changed or lost at the pleasure of another. A privilege depending on another's will is *precarious*, or held by a *precarious* tenure.

*Addison.*

2. Uncertain; held by a doubtful tenure; depending on unknown or unforeseen causes or events. Temporal prosperity is

*precarious*; personal advantages, health, strength and beauty are all *precarious*, depending on a thousand accidents.

*Rogers.*

We say also, the weather is *precarious*; a phrase in which we depart not more from the primary sense of the word, than we do in a large part of all the words in the language.

**PRECA/RIOUSLY**, *adv.* At the will or pleasure of others; dependently; by an uncertain tenure; as, he subsists *precariously*.

*Lesley. Pope.*

**PRECA/RIOUSNESS**, *n.* Uncertainty; dependence on the will or pleasure of others, or on unknown events; as the *precariousness* of life or health.

**PRE/CATIVE**, { a. [L. *precor*, to pray.]

**PRE/CATORY**, { a. Suppliant; beseeching.

*Harris. Hopkins.*

**PRECA/TION**, *n.* [Fr. from L. *precautus*, *præcaveo*; *præ*, before, and *caveo*, to take care.]

Previous caution or care; caution previously employed to prevent mischief or secure good in possession.

*Addison.*

**PRECA/TION**, *v. t.* To warn or advise beforehand for preventing mischief or securing good.

*Locke.*

**PRECA/TIONAL**, *a.* Preventive of mischief.

*Montague.*

**PRECA/TIONARY**, *a.* Containing previous caution; as *precautionary* advice or admonition.

2. Proceeding from previous caution; adapted to prevent mischief or secure good; as *precautionary* measures.

**PRECEDA/NEOUS**, *a.* [from *precede*, L. *præcedo*.]

Preceding; antecedent; anterior. [Not used.]

*Hale.*

**PRECE/DE**, *v. t.* [L. *præcedo*; *præ*, before, and *cedo*, to move.]

1. To go before in the order of time. The corruption of morals *precedes* the ruin of a state.

2. To go before in rank or importance.

3. To cause something to go before; to make to take place in prior time.

It is usual to *precede* hostilities by a public declaration. [Unusual.] *Kent.*

**PRECE/DED**, *pp.* Being gone before.

**PRECE/DENCE**, { The act or state of

**PRECE/DENCY**, { *n.* going before; priority in time; as the *precedence* of one event to another.

2. The state of going or being before in rank or dignity or the place of honor; the right to a more honorable place in public processions, in seats or in the civilities of life.

*Precedence* depends on the order of nature or rank established by God himself, as that due to age; or on courtesy, custom or political distinction, as that due to a governor or senator, who, though younger in years, takes rank of a subordinate officer, though older; or it is settled by authority, as in Great Britain. In the latter case, a violation of the right of *precedence* is actionable.

*Precedence* went in truck,

And he was competent whose purse was so.

*Couper.*

3. The foremost in ceremony.

*Milton.*

4. Superiority; superior importance or influence.

Which of the different desires has *precedence* in determining the will to the next action.

*Locke.*

**PRECE/DENT**, *a.* Going before in time; anterior; antecedent; as *precedent* services; a *precedent* fault of the will.

The world, or any part thereof, could not be *precedent* to the creation of man.

*Hale.*

1 *precedent* condition, in law, is a condition which must happen or be performed before an estate or some right can vest, and on failure of which the estate or right is defeated.

*Blackstone.*

**PRECE/DEMENT**, *n.* Something done or said, that may serve or be adduced as an example to authorize a subsequent act of the like kind.

Examples for cases can but direct as *precedents* only.

*Hooker.*

2. In law, a judicial decision, interlocutory or final, which serves as a rule for future determinations in similar or analogous cases; or any proceeding or course of proceedings which may serve for a rule in subsequent cases of a like nature.

**PRECE/DEMENTED**, *a.* Having a precedent; authorized by an example of a like kind.

**PRECE/DEMENTLY**, *adv.* Beforehand; antecedently.

**PRECE/LLENCE**, *n.* Excellence. [Not in use.] *Sheldon.*

**PRECE/N/TOR**, *n.* [Low L. *præcentor*; Fr. *précenteur*; It. *précentore*; L. *præ*, before, and *canto*, to sing.]

The leader of the choir in a cathedral; called also the chanter or master of the choir.

*Encyc.*

**PRECE/PT**, *n.* [Fr. *precepte*; Sp. *precepto*; It. *precetto*; L. *præceptum*, from *præcipio*, to command; *præ*, before, and *cipio*, to take.]

1. In a *general* sense, any commandment or order intended as an authoritative rule of action; but applied particularly to commands respecting moral conduct. The ten commandments are so many *precepts* for the regulation of our moral conduct.

No arts are without their *precepts*. *Dryden.*

2. In law, a command or mandate in writing.

*Encyc.*

**PRECEP/TIAL**, *a.* Consisting of precepts. [Not in use.] *Shak.*

**PRECEP/TION**, *n.* A precept. [Not in use.] *Hall.*

**PRECEP/TIVE**, *a.* [L. *præceptivus*.] Giving precepts or commands for the regulation of moral conduct; containing precepts; as the *preceptive* parts of the Scriptures.

2. Directing in moral conduct; giving rules or directions; didactic.

The lesson given us here is *preceptive* to us.

*L'Estrange.*

*Preceptive* poetry.

*Encyc.*

**PRECEP/TOR**, *n.* [L. *præceptor*. See *Precept*.]

1. In a *general* sense, a teacher; an instructor.

2. In a *restricted* sense, the teacher of a school; sometimes, the principal teacher of an academy or other seminary.

**PRECEPTO/RIAL**, *a.* Pertaining to a preceptor.

*Lit. Magazine.*

**PRECEPTORY**, *a.* Giving precepts.

*Anderson.*

**PRECEPTORY**, *n.* A subordinate religious house where instruction was given.