BLACK'S
LAW DICTIONARY

Definitions of the Terms and Phrases of American and English Jurisprudence,
Ancient and Modern

By

HENRY CAMPBELL BLACK, M. A.

Author of Treatises on Judgments, Tax Titles, Intoxicating Liquors,
Bankruptcy, Mortgages, Constitutional Law, Interpretation
of Laws, Rescission and Cancellation of Contracts, Etc.

FIFTH EDITION

BY

THE PUBLISHER'S EDITORIAL STAFF

Contributing Authors

JOSEPH R. NOLAN
Associate Justice, Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court
and
M. J. CONNOLLY
Associate Professor of Linguistics
and Eastern Languages, Boston College

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PREFACE

In the period since the Fourth Edition of Black’s Law Dictionary, most all areas of the law have undergone substantial change and development. The vocabulary of the law has shown corresponding change and growth, particularly in the areas of commercial and constitutional law, civil and criminal procedure, taxes, finance, uniform laws, and federal legislation. In addition, many common law doctrines and concepts have been replaced or modified with new statutory rights and remedies. These major developments have occasioned the need to not only greatly expand the legal words and terms included in Black’s Law Dictionary, but also to reexamine all existing entries for currentness of legal usage. This thorough review has resulted in the inclusion of over 10,000 new or revised entries, as well as numerous new usage examples, in this Fifth Edition. It should also be mentioned however, that, while this new edition reflects the very latest changes and developments in law and practice, old English, European and feudal law words and terms have been retained in that such continue to form the foundation for much of our modern jurisprudence.

A considerable effort has been made in this Fifth Edition to provide more than basic definitions of legal words and terms. In those instances where traditional legal concepts and doctrines have over the years been either superseded, modified or supplemented by court decisions or legislation, such developments and changes are fully reflected. Additionally, because so many areas of law and practice are now governed by uniform or model acts and rules, such major sources of law as the Uniform Commercial Code, Restatements of the Law, and Federal Rules (Civil, Criminal, Appellate, and Evidence) are fully reflected. Similarly, the growth and importance of federal legislation and agencies, with their impact on matters that were traditionally state or local in nature, is evidenced with a considerable number of new entries covering federal acts, agencies, departments and officials. Likewise, the ever expanding importance of financial terminology has necessitated the inclusion of numerous new tax and accounting terms.

Because of the inter-relationship of so many legal words and terms, the number of internal cross-references has been greatly increased. The number of abbreviation entries has also been substantially expanded, as has the Table of Abbreviations. The following new Appendices have also been added: Constitution of the United States; Listing of Justices and Terms of U.S. Supreme Court; and U.S. Government Organizational Chart.

A major new feature in this Fifth Edition is the inclusion of pronunciation guides after all entries which pose pronunciation difficulties. A comprehensive explanation of these guides is set forth on pages VII-XIV with a shorter pronunciation Key appearing on the inside front cover.
PREFACE

New and revised words and terms for this Fifth Edition were contributed by Joseph R. Nolan, Associate Justice, Massachusetts Superior Court. The pronunciation transcription system and guides were prepared by M. J. Connolly, Associate Professor of Linguistics and Eastern Languages, Boston College.

For additional definitions of legal words, terms and phrases, reference should be made to “Words and Phrases.”

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## CONTENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Preface</td>
<td>III</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Pronunciation of Latin</td>
<td>VII</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outline of Latin Pronunciations</td>
<td>IX</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transcription</td>
<td>XI</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Guide to Pronunciation Symbols</td>
<td>XII</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Text of Definitions ........................................ 1

Appendices

- Table of Abbreviations .............................. 1455
- Constitution of the United States .............. 1491
- Time Chart of the United States Supreme Court 1505
- U.S. Government Organizational Chart .......... 1509
- Table of British Regnal Years .................. 1511
THE PRONUNCIATION OF LATIN

A majority of the Latin terms in this revised edition of *Black's Law Dictionary* and also occasional English and foreign terms have been provided with pronunciation entries. The pronunciations follow a descriptive scheme and are based on actual usage rather than on any attempt to prescribe a uniform pronunciation. Where alternate pronunciations exist the philologically more 'appropriate' pronunciation generally receives first listing, however. The entries provide an acceptable pronunciation in a transcription system compatible with the major varieties of North American English and extendable to other pronunciations.

Despite its continuing decline as a working language of scholarship and jurisprudence, Latin still supplies a formidable stock of legal terms and phrases. The ability to use a Latin phrase correctly and pronounce it with authority and consistency belongs to the equipment of a well-rounded jurist. Those who actually study Latin today, however, will in all probability learn a pronunciation (either the reformed philological or the Italianate) at variance with the Anglo-Latin system which prevails in legal and medical spheres. Injection of the 'newer' school pronunciations actually serves to increase confusion and uncertainty: Where masculine plural *alumni* and feminine plural *alumnae* were once differentiated in speech as /alámnay/ and /alámnîy/ respectively, one widespread variant of the philological pronunciation actually reverses the opposition with masculine /alánnîy/ and feminine /alámnay/. The status of *amicus curiae*, traditionally pronounced /amýkás kûríyiy/, now has variants /amýkás kûríyy/ (adapted philological), /amýkus kûríyêy/ (Italianate), and numerous hybrids. A parliamentarian of the old school, perhaps even well versed in Latin, adjourns a meeting *sine die* /sáynîy dáiyîy/ only to have a junior colleague suggest that the 'correct' pronunciation is /sîynîy diyêy/.

Strictly speaking, of course, any attempt at 'correct' pronunciations of foreign terms can at best be only weak approximations. The linguistic contortions of a purist attempting to weave foreign sounds and intonations into the texture of an English sentence usually strike us as pedantic or affected. Although Julius Caesar may have pronounced his name something like /yûwliyus kâysar/ and later Romans may have called him /chêyżar/, few speakers of English have place for anything other than the Anglo-Latin /jûwl(i)yâs siyżar/.

Three major systems of Latin pronunciation, outlined below, coexist in the English-speaking world. Each has its proper cultural and scholarly context. The reformed (or new, or philological, or Roman) pronunciation represents a modification to English speech habits of the reconstructed sounds of Latin as it must have been in the classical period. Philologists, classical historians, and most teachers of Latin employ this pronunciation in their professional activity. Anglo-Latin (or English) pronunciation, the form most commonly encountered in law, medicine, the natural sciences,
and in general usage, reflects the centuries of sound change that English has undergone. Although it may not possess the authenticity of linguistic reconstruction, the Anglo-Latin system enjoys the authority of a persevering and distinct cultural tradition. The Italianate pronunciation is derived from the pronunciation of Later Latin and is viewed as the standard in Roman Catholicism (including canon law), in music, in art history, and in medieval studies. Thus, a school master may leave the classroom, where he has just taught his pupils Latin imperatives including venite 'come' /weniyte/, go to chapel to rehearse with the choir the Venite /vənáydi/ (Psalm 95 in Anglican morning prayer), and then sing the text in a Latin setting as /veyniytey ɛksultᵉýmus/. Each pronunciation is correct in its own context.
### OUTLINE OF LATIN PRONUNCIATIONS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Letter</th>
<th>Reformed Philological</th>
<th>Italianate</th>
<th>Anglo-Latin</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>a</td>
<td>/a/</td>
<td>/a, æ, ə, o/</td>
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<td>/ch/ before /i, e/</td>
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<td>/k/ elsewhere</td>
<td>/s, sh, z, k/</td>
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<td>/d/</td>
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<td>/ey, e/</td>
<td>/e, ey, ə, i, iy/</td>
<td></td>
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<td>f</td>
<td>/f/</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>g</td>
<td>/η/ before /n/</td>
<td>/j/ before /i, e/</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>/g/ elsewhere</td>
<td>/g/ elsewhere</td>
<td>/j, g/</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
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<td>/gn/ pronounced /ny/</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>h</td>
<td>/h/</td>
<td>/h/ or silent</td>
<td>/h/ or silent</td>
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<td>/k/ in nihil, mihi</td>
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<td>i</td>
<td>/i, iy/</td>
<td>/i, iy, ay, ø/</td>
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<td>/o, ø, ø, ow/</td>
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<td>s</td>
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<td>/z/ between vowels</td>
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<td></td>
<td>/s/ elsewhere</td>
<td>/s, z, sh, zh/</td>
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<td>t(h)</td>
<td>/t/</td>
<td>/ts/ before /i/ plus</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>vowels except</td>
<td>/t, d, sh, ch/</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>after /s, t, x/</td>
<td>th as /θ/</td>
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<td></td>
<td>/t/ elsewhere</td>
<td></td>
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<td>u</td>
<td>/u, ow, w/</td>
<td>/w/ after /q/ or /ng/</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>/uw/ elsewhere</td>
<td>/yuw, uw, u,</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>ya, ø, ə, i, ɾw/</td>
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</table>
OUTLINE OF LATIN PRONUNCIATIONS

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Letter</th>
<th>Reformed Philological</th>
<th>Italianate</th>
<th>Anglo-Latin</th>
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</thead>
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<tr>
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<td>/w/</td>
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<td>x</td>
<td>/ks/</td>
<td>/ks, gz, z, s/</td>
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<td></td>
<td>x + /ch/ = /kʃ/</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>y</td>
<td>/i, iy/</td>
<td>/iy/ or Gmn ü</td>
<td>/ay, iy, i, y/</td>
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<tr>
<td>z</td>
<td>/z/</td>
<td>/z, dz/</td>
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Attested forms in Anglo-Latin pronunciation sometimes fail to correspond in qualitative or accentual details with the forms we might expect on an etymological or systematic basis. Thus,

- *bona fide* appears as /bównə fáydi/ instead of */bónə fidiy/
- *industry* appears as /indəstri/ instead of */indəstriy/
- *minor* appears as /máynər/ instead of */mínər/, etc.

Numerous developments in the sound system of English have tended to override the expected forms. Analogies with sibling or quasi-sibling forms often keep doublets flourishing side by side:

- licet ‘it is permitted’ as /láysət/ (cf. license) or /lísət/ (cf. licit)
- debet ‘one must’ as /diybat/ or /débat/ (cf. debit and credit)
- capias ‘thou shouldst seize’ as /káypiəs/ (cf. cape) or /kápiəs/ (cf. capture)

Language traditions usually resolve such conflicts in good time, favoring ‘usage’ over ‘correctness’, and then promptly create new conflicts.
TRANSCRIPTION

The transcription system employed for these listings is derived from one of the traditional phonemic analyses of American English (Trager-Smith). The values of the symbols vary with context, i.e., their specific pronunciations depend on the nature of the surrounding sounds. The pronunciation habits of a normal speaker of English will, however, in practically all cases supply the accustomed variants for that speaker's usage if the elements presented in the key are substituted in accordance with the sample indications. This system enables the speakers of a range of dialects to use one and the same transcription and yet produce a pronunciation natural to their speech. For this reason, in addition to the considerations given above concerning the treatment of foreign terms in English, sounds foreign to English have been represented by the customary English substitutes. Thus, for example, the voiceless velar fricative of German Bach would be rendered with a simple stop /k/ and French front rounded eu with /yuu/. Readers who wish to affect the foreign sounds will find guidance in their own linguistic experience or in the appropriate grammars and dictionaries. Similarly, readers who prefer pronunciations closer to the spelling than those presented here should feel free to substitute their preferences, e.g., /t/ for intervocalic, post-tonic t, various changes for unaccented /a/, even to restoring the t in often. Finally, readers who already feel secure (or even superior) in their own renderings of words and phrases should retain these. The editors will always appreciate information on local variants and will welcome suggestions for improving the transcriptions.

The rubrics (sets of examples) under any given major symbol should always be applied in order. The earlier, more specific contexts take preference over the later, 'elsewhere' variant.

The special symbols

/æ/ (ash) /ɛ/ (edh) /ə/ (schwa) /ŋ/ (angma) /θ/ (theta)
appear respectively after

/a/ /d/ /e/ /n/ /t/

The reader will, of course, be aware that the transcription symbols do not necessarily have the same alphabetic values as in English. Rather, the symbols must be viewed as arbitrary signs, although in many cases their forms will aid the user in remembering and associating the key sounds and symbols.
GUIDE TO PRONUNCIATION SYMBOLS

/a/ as in the bold portions of aye, eye, I /áy/ lie /láy/
    buy, by, bye /báy/ high /háy/ aisle, isle, I'll /ål/ idea /aíd/ /a/ as in cut /kát/

/b/ as in bill /bil/

/ch/ as in chill /chil/ church /chárch/ nature /néychär/ question /kwés(h)chän/

/d/ as in dill /dil/ odor /ódör/. In many dialects better, bed-
    der may both appear as /béd/.

/ð/ as in this /ðis/ smooth /smúwð/ thou /ðów/ not to be con-
    fused with /ð/

/e/ as in they /dék/ make /mék/ sail, sale /séyl/ neigh, nay /néy/ /ehr/ as in error /êhr/ merry /mërri/ /e/ elsewhere as in dell /dél/ bet /bét/

/ə/ as in current /káhrant/. In dialects where /ə/ is not distinct
    from /ə/ the diacritic /h/ may be ignored.
/ər/ as in murder /mórdr/ were /wér/ mother /mádr/ world /wórd/ whirr /(h)wér/
/ə/ /ə/ (with either primary or secondary stress) as in but, butt /bát/
    blood /blád/ above /əbáv/
/a/ elsewhere (unstressed) as in sofa /sówf/ another /ənádr/ /f/ as in fill, Phil /fil/ rough /ríf/
GUIDE TO PRONUNCIATION SYMBOLS

/g/ always 'hard' as in gall /gól/ Gaul /góe/ lag /lág/

/h/ as silent diacritic in combinations /ehr, ahr, ihr, ohr/ and /ch, sh, zh/ otherwise as in hill /hil/ mousehole /máws-hówl/

/i/ elsewhere as in sit /sit/ pretty /prídiy/ (or /pádiy/)

/j/ as in Jill /jíl/ general /jén(a)ral/ edge /éj/ soldier /sówljar/ carriage /káraj/

/k/ as in kill /kil/ cool /kúwl/

/l/ as in Lill /líl/

/m/ as in mill /mil/

/n/ as in nil /nǐl/

/o/ as in thing /θíŋ/ singer /síŋer/ finger /fíŋer/

/p/ as in pill /píl/ lip /líp/

/r/ as in rill /ríl/. See also the coloring function of /r/ in diphthongs /ar, e(h)r, e(h)r, i(h)r, o(h)r, ur/.
GUIDE TO PRONUNCIATION SYMBOLS

/s/ as in shill /ʃɪl/ sugar /ʃʊɡər/ issue /ɪʃyʊər/
/s/ as in sill /sɪl/ city /sɪdɪər/

/t/ as in till /tɪl/ hit /hɪt/

/θ/ as in thin /θɪn/ thought /θɔt/ not to be confused with /ð/:
  ether /ɪˈθɜr/  either /ɪˈθɜr/

/u/ as in too, two /tʊ/ through, threw /θrʊw/ crude /krʊd/  
  /ur/ as in jury /ˈjʊri/ poor /pʊr/  
  /u/ elsewhere as in put /pʊt/ good /ɡʊd/ could /kʊd/  

/w/ as in will /wɪl/ weather /ˈweðər/. See also the function of /w/ in diphthongs /aw, ow, uw/.

/y/ as in yes /ˈjɛs/ union /ˈjʌwnən/. See also the function of /y/ in diphthongs /ay, ey, iy, oy/.

/z/ as in zoo /zʊw/ rose, rows (lines) /rɔwz/ Xenophon /ˈzɛnəfɔn/

primary (strong) stress ∆ secondary (weaker) stress
  telegraphic /tɛləˈɡræfɪk/  
  telegram /tɛləˈɡræm/

( ) ‘may include or exclude’; optional elements
  e.g. new /n(ə)w/ pronounced either /njuː/ or /nʌw/  
  ratio /ˈreɪʃ(ə)ʊ/ pronounced /ˈreɪʃiəʊ/ or /ˈreɪʃəʊ/  

○ ‘and the rest that precedes/follows’; replaces identical parts of variant pronunciations  
  e.g. alumni /əˈlaʊmnə/ /ˈni/ = /əˈlaʊmnə/ or /əˈlaʊmiə/  
  inter alios /ɪntər ˈɛl(i)əʊs/ /ˈɛl/*  
  = /ɪntər ˈɛl(i)əʊs/ or /ɪntər ˈɛl(i)əʊs/  
  habeas corpus /həˈbiːəs kɔrˈpʊs/ /hiˈbiːəs kɔrˈpʊs/  
  = /həˈbiːəs kɔrˈpʊs/ or /hiˈbiːəs kɔrˈpʊs/.

XIV
A. The first letter in the English and most other alphabets derived from the Roman or Latin alphabet, which was one of several ancient Italian alphabets derived from the Greek, which was an adaptation of the Phoenician. The first letter in the Phoenician alphabet was called aleph, meaning "ox", which is also the meaning of the first letter in the Greek alphabet, alpha. Alpha and the second letter of the Greek alphabet, beta, were combined to form "alphabet," which is largely the same in different languages.

A in Latin and law Latin. Anglo-American law abounds in Latin and French words and phrases, and the use of A in these languages is important to the English-speaking lawyer. In Latin “A” was used both as an abbreviation and as a symbol. For example “A” was an abbreviation for “Aulus”, a praenomen, or the first of the usual three names of a person by which he was distinguished from others of the same family; also for “ante” in “a.d.,” ante diem (before the day), and for “anno” (year) in a.u.c., anno urbis conditae (the year of the building of the city) and in anno ab urbe condita (from the year of the building of the city). As a preposition, the form was either A, AB or ABS. A was used before consonants; AB was usually used before vowels, but sometimes before consonants, whereas ABS was used before “c” or “t.” The meaning was “from,” “away from,” “on the side of,” “at,” “after,” “since,” “by,” “by means of,” “out of,” “with reference to,” “in regard of,” “near by,” and “along.” For example, A fronte in front; ab ergo, from behind; a puertitia, from youth; ab sole orbe, from or at sunrise; ab intestato, without a will, intestate. In law Latin, “a” means “by,” “with,” “from,” “in,” “of,” and “on,” and AB means “by,” “from,” and “in.”

A in French and law French. In French A is a preposition, the meaning of which largely depends on context. It is usually translated as “into,” “at,” “to,” “in,” “by,” “of,” “with,” “on,” “from,” “for,” “under,” “till,” “within,” “between,” etc. It also changes into au and aux when combined with “the.” A is also the third person, singular number, present tense, indicative mood of the verb avoir, (to have): Il a (he has). In law French “a” is used as a preposition meaning “at,” “for,” “in,” “of,” “on,” “to,” and “with.”

The word “a” has varying meanings and uses. “A” means “one” or “any,” but less emphatically than either. It may mean one where only one is intended, or it may mean any one of a great number. It is placed before nouns of the singular number, denoting an individual object or quality individualized.

The article “a” is not necessarily a singular term; it is often used in the sense of “any” and is then applied to more than one individual object. Lewis v. Spies, 43 A.D.2d 714, 350 N.Y.S.2d 14, 17. So under a statute providing that the issuance of “a” certificate to one carrier should not bar a certificate to another over the same route, a certificate could be granted to more than two carriers over the same route. State ex rel. Crown Coach Co. v. Public Service Commission, 238 Mo.App. 287, 179 S.W.2d 123, 127. But the meaning depends on context. For example, in Workmen’s Compensation Act, on, or in or about “a” railway, factory, etc., was held not to mean any railway, factory, etc., but the railway, factory, etc., of the employer. Where the law required the delivery of a copy of a notice to husband and a copy to wife, the sheriff’s return that he had delivered “a copy” to...
husband and wife was insufficient. State v. Davis, Tex.Civ.App., 139 S.W.2d 638, 640.

AAA. Agricultural Adjustment Act; American Accounting Association; American Arbitration Association.

A.A.C. Anno ante Christum, the year before Christ.

A.A.C.N. Anno ante Christum natum, the year before the birth of Christ.

AALS. Association of American Law Schools.

A aver et tener /éy éyvar et tévar/. L. Fr. (L. Lat. habendum et tenendum.) To have and to hold. A aver et tener a luy et a ses heires, a tous jours,—to have and to hold to him and his heirs forever.

Ab. The eleventh month of the Jewish civil year, and the fifth of the sacred year. It answers to the moon that begins in July, and consists of thirty days. On the 24th is observed a feast in memory of the abolishment of the Sabboxean law, which required sons and daughters to be equal heirs and heiresses of their parents' estates.

Ab, at the beginning of English-Saxon names of places, is generally a contraction of abbot or abbey; whence it is inferred that those places once had an abbey there, or belonged to one elsewhere, as Abingdon in Berkshire.

A.B. Able-bodied seaman. In English law a seaman is entitled to be rated A. B. when he has served at sea three years before the mast. In the United States the term "Able Seaman" is used. For the requirements of able seaman, see 46 U.S.C.A. § 672. Also artium baccalaureus, bachelor of arts. In England, generally written B. A.

A.B.A. American Bar Association.

Ab; Abr. Abridgment.

Ab abusu ad usum non valet consequentia /æb abyúzw(ʊ)w /æd yúzwam non vaëst kon- sakwésh(ɪ)w/. A conclusion as to the use of a thing from its abuse is invalid.

Abacista or abacista /æbasista/ A caster of accounts, an arithmetician.

Abaction /æbakshən/. A carrying away by violence.

Ab actis /æb akts/. Lat. An officer having charge of acta, public records, registers, journals, or minutes. An officer who entered on record the acta or proceedings of a court; a clerk of court; a notary or actuary. See "Acta." This, and the similarly formed epiteths à cancellis, à secretis, à libellis, were also ancietly the titles of a chancellor (cancellarius) in the early history of that office.

Abactor /æbaktkər/. A stealer and driver away of cattle or beasts by herds or in great numbers at once, as distinguished from a person who steals a single animal or beast. Also called abigeus, q.v.

Ab agendo /æb eyjéndow/. Disabled from acting; unable to act; incapacitated for business or transactions of any kind.


Aballenate /æbélíyanéy / To transfer interest or title.

Aballenatio /æbélíyanésh(ɪ)w/. In Roman law, the perfect conveyance or transfer of property from one Roman citizen to another. This term gave place to the simple alienatio, which is used in the Digest and Institutes, as well as in the feudal law, and from which the English "alienation" has been formed.

Ab allenation /æbélíyanéshan/. In the civil law, a making over of realty, or chattels to another by due course of law.

Abamita /æba'midos/. In the civil law, a great-great-grandfather's sister (abavi soror). Called amita maxima.

Abandon. To desert, surrender, forsake, or cede. To relinquish or give up with intent of never again resuming one's right or interest. To give up or to cease to use. To give up absolutely; to forsake entirely; to renounce utterly; to relinquish all connection with or concern in; to desert. It includes the intention, and also the external act by which it is carried into effect.

Abandonee. A party to whom a right or property is abandoned or relinquished by another. Applied to the insurers of vessels and cargoes.

Abandonment. The surrender, relinquishment, disclaimer, or cession of property or of rights. Voluntary relinquishment of all right, title, claim and possession, with the intention of not reclaiming it. State v. Bailey, 97 N.J.Super. 396, 235 A.2d 214, 216. The giving up of a thing absolutely, without reference to any particular person or purpose, as vesting property with the intention of not retaining, so that it may be appropriated by the next comer or finder. Intention to forsake or relinquish the thing is an essential element, to be proved by visible acts. The voluntary relinquishment of possession of thing by owner with intention of terminating his ownership, but without vesting it in any other person. Dober v. Ukase Inv. Co., 139 Or. 626, 10 P.2d 356, 357. The relinquishing of all title, possession, or claim, or a virtual, intentional throwing away of property.

"Abandonment" includes both the intention to abandon and the external act by which the intention is carried into effect. In determining whether one has abandoned his property or rights, the intention is the first and paramount object of inquiry, for there can be no abandonment without the intention to abandon. Roebeck v. Mecosta County Road Commission, 59 Mich.App. 128, 229 N.W.2d 343, 345. Generally, "abandonment" can arise from a single act or from a series of acts. Holly Hill Lumber Co. v. Grooms, 198 S.C. 118, 16 S.E.2d 816, 821.

Time is not an essential element of "abandonment", although the lapse of time may be evidence of an intention to abandon, and where it is accompanied by acts manifesting such an intention, it may be considered in determining whether there has been an abandonment. Ullman ex rel. Eramo v. Payne, 127 Conn. 239, 16 A.2d 286, 287.

"Abandonment" differs from surrender in that surrender requires an agreement, and from forfeiture, in that forfeiture may be against the intention of the party alleged to have forfeited.

See also Desertion; Discharge; Release; Waiver.
Abandonment

Actions, in general. Failure to prosecute or bring action within statutorily prescribed period (see Statute of limitations); failure to object to or submit jury instructions (Fed.R.Civ.P. 51); failure to demand jury trial (Fed.R.Civ.P. 38).

Adverse possession. To destroy continuity of adverse claimant's possession, there must be an intent to relinquish claim of ownership as well as an act of relinquishment of possession and mere temporary absence is not sufficient. Bruch v. Benedict, 62 Wyo. 213, 165 P.2d 561.


Children. Desertion or willful forsaking. Foregoing parental duties. Wright v. Fitzgibbons, 198 Miss. 471, 21 So.2d 709, 710. See also Desertion.

Contracts. To constitute "abandonment" by conduct, action relied on must be positive, unequivocal, and inconsistent with the existence of the contract. Abandonment is a matter of intent. Lohn v. Fletcher Oil Co., 38 Cal.App.2d 26, 100 P.2d 505, 507, and implies not only nonperformance, but an intent not to perform which may be inferred from acts which necessarily point to actual abandonment.

Copyright. "Abandonment" of a copyright turns on state of mind of copyright proprietor and occurs whenever he engages in some overt act which manifests his purpose to surrender his rights in the work and to allow the public to enjoy it. Rexnord, Inc. v. Modern Handling Systems, Inc., D.C.Del., 379 F.Supp. 1190, 1199.

Easements. To establish "abandonment" of an easement created by deed, there must be some conduct on part of owner of servient estate adverse to and inconsistent with existence of easement and continuing for statutory period, or nonuser must be accompanied by unequivocal and decisive acts clearly indicating an intent on part of owner of easement to abandon use of it. Permanent cessation of use or enjoyment with no intention to resume or reclaim. Intention and completed act are both essential. A mere temporary or occasional obstruction or use of an easement by the servient owner is not an "abandonment". Gerber v. Appel, Mo.App., 164 S.W.2d 225, 228.

Ground for divorce. Abandonment as cause for divorce must be willful and intentional without intention of returning, and without consent of spouse abandoned. This ground is commonly termed "desertion" in state divorce statutes. See also Desertion.

Inventions. The giving up of rights by inventor, as where he surrenders his idea or discovery or relinquishes the intention of perfecting his invention, and so throws it open to the public, or where he negligently postpones the assertion of his claims or fails to apply for a patent, and allows the public to use his invention. Electric Storage Battery Co. v. Shimadzu, Pa., 307 U.S. 5, 613, 616, 59 S.Ct. 675, 681, 83 L.Ed. 1071.

Leases in general. To constitute an "abandonment" of leased premises, there must be an absolute relinquishment of premises by tenant consisting of act and intention.

Mineral leases. "Abandonment" consists of an actual act of relinquishment, accompanied with the intent and purpose permanently to give up a claim and right of property. A distinction exists between "abandonment" and "surrender" which is the relinquishment of a thing or a property right thereto to another, which is not an essential element of abandonment. Distinction also exists between elements of "abandonment" and those of estoppel. Neither formal surrender of oil and gas lease nor release is necessary to effectuate "abandonment"; for example, failing to start work under the lease for more than 40 years, Chapman v. Continental Oil Co., 149 Kan. 822, 89 P.2d 833, 834; breach of implied obligation to proceed with search and development of land with reasonable diligence, Wood v. Arkansas Fuel Oil Co., D.C.Ark., 40 F.Supp. 42, 45; no drilling on leased land for more than two years, and failure to pay rentals, Rehart v. Klossner, 48 Cal.App.2d 40, 119 P.2d 145, 147; drawing of casing from well with no intention of replacing it, have all been held to constitute "abandonment". But there must be an intention by lessee to relinquish leased premises, Carter Oil Co. v. Mitchell, C.C.A.Okl., 100 F.2d 945, 950, 951; or an intention not to drill, Carter Oil Co. v. Mitchell, C.C.A.Okl., 100 F.2d 945, 950, 951. And ceasing of operations is not alone sufficient. Fisher v. Dixon, 188 Okl. 7, 105 P.2d 776, 777.

Office. Abandonment of a public office is a species of resignation, but differs from resignation in that resignation is a formal relinquishment, while abandonment is a voluntary relinquishment through non-user. It is not wholly a matter of intention, but may result from the complete abandonment of duties of such a continuance that the law will infer a relinquishment. It must be total, and under such circumstances as clearly to indicate an absolute relinquishment; and whether an officer has abandoned an office depends on his overt acts rather than his declared intention. It implies nonuser, but nonuser does not, of itself constitute abandonment. The failure to perform the duties pertaining to the office must be with actual or imputed intention on the part of the officer to abandon and relinquish the office. The intention may be inferred from the acts and conduct of the party, and is a question of fact. Abandonment may result from an acquiescence by the officer in his wrongful removal or discharge, but, as in other cases of abandonment, the question of intention is involved. McCall v. Cull, 51 Ariz. 237, 75 P.2d 696, 698.

Patents. There may be an abandonment of a patent, where the inventor dedicates it to the public use; and this may be shown by his failure to sue infringers, sell licenses, or otherwise make efforts to realize a personal advantage from his patent. Sandlin v. Johnson, C.C.A.Mo., 141 F.2d 660.

Property. "Abandoned property" in a legal sense is that to which owner has relinquished all right, title, claim, and possession, with intention of not reclaiming it or resuming its ownership, possession or enjoyment. Jackson v. Steinberg, 186 Or. 129, 200 P.2d 376, 377, 378. There must be concurrence of act and intent, that is, the act of leaving the premises or
property vacant, so that it may be appropriated by the next comer, and the intention of not returning. Relinquishment of all title, possession, or claim; a virtual intentional throwing away of property. Ex parte Szczygiel, Sup., 51 N.Y.52d 699, 702.

Rights in general. The relinquishment of a right. It implies some act of relinquishment done by the owner without regard to any future possession by himself, or by any other person, but with an intention to abandon. See Waiver.

Trade-marks and trade names. There must be not only nonuser, but also an intent to abandon and to give up use of trade-marks permanently. Neva-Wet Corporation of America v. Never Wet Processing Corporation, 277 N.Y. 163, 13 N.E.2d 755, 761.

Water rights. "Abandonment," as applied to water rights may be defined to be an intentional relinquishment of a known right. It is not based on a time element, and mere nonuser will not establish "abandonment" for any less time, at least, than statutory period, controlling element in "abandonment" being matter of intent. Hammond v. Johnson, 94 Utah 20, 66 P.2d 894, 899. To desert or forsake right. The intent and an actual relinquishment must concur. Concurrence of relinquishment of possession, and intent not to resume it for beneficial use. Neither alone is sufficient. Osnes Livestock Co. v. Warren, 103 Mont. 284, 62 P.2d 206, 211.

Abandon, abandum, or abandonum /aˌbændən(ə)m/-. Anything sequestered, proscribed, or abandoned. Abandon, i.e., in bannum res missa, a thing banded or denounced as forfeited or lost, whom to abandon, desert, or forsake, as lost and gone.

Ab ante /əb əntɪ/-. Lat. Before; in advance. Thus, a legislature cannot agree ab ante to any modification or amendment to a law which a third person may make.

Ab antecedente /əb əntəsiˈdɛntɪ/-. Lat. Beforehand; in advance.

Ab antiquo /əb əntɪˈkwʌʊ/-. From old times: from ancient time; of old; of an ancient date. 3 BI.Comm. 95.

Abarnare /əˈbɑːrnəri/-. Lat. To discover and disclose to a magistrate any secret crime.

Ab assuetis non fit injuria /əb əˈswɪjədəs nɒn fɪt ɪnˈdʒɪriə/-. From things to which one is accustomed (or in which there has been long acquiescence) no legal injury or wrong arises. If a person neglects to insist on his right, he is deemed to have abandoned it.

Abatable nuisance. A nuisance which is practically susceptible of being suppressed, or extinguished, or rendered harmless, and whose continued existence is not authorized under the law. Fort Worth & Denver City Ry. Co. v. Muncy, Tex.Civ.App., 31 S.W.2d 491, 494.

Abatement /əbəˈdɛmtənt/-. L. Lat. In old English law, an abatement of freehold; an entry upon lands by way of interposition between the death of the ancestor and the entry of the heir.

Abate /əˈbeitərri/-. To abate.

Abate. To throw down, to beat down, destroy, quash. To do away with or nullify or lessen or diminish. In re Stevens’ Estate, Cal.App., 150 P.2d 530, 534. To bring entirely down or demolish, to put an end to, to do away with, to nullify, to make void, Sparks Milling Co. v. Powell, 283 Ky. 669, 143 S.W.2d 75, 77. See also Abatement; Abatement of action.

Abatement. A reduction, a decrease, or a diminution. The suspension or cessation, in whole or in part, of a continuing charge, such as rent.

Legacies. A proportional diminution or reduction of the pecuniary legacies, when the funds or assets out of which such legacies are payable are not sufficient to pay them in full. Model Probate Code, § 184. See Ademption, infra, as to specific legacies and devises.

Nuisance. See Nuisance.

Plea in abatement. See Plea.

Taxes. Diminution or decrease in the amount of tax imposed. Abatement of taxes relieves property of its share of the burdens of taxation after the assessment has been made and the tax levied. Sheppard v. Hidalgo County, 126 Tex. 550, 83 S.W.2d 649, 657.

Abatement of action. Abatement is an entire overthrow or destruction of the suit so that it is quashed and ended. Carver v. State, 217 Tenn. 482, 398 S.W.2d 719. By local court rule in certain U.S. district courts a civil action may be abated (dismissed) if service of process is not made within a specified period after filing of the complaint.

Pleas in abatement have been abolished by Fed.R. Civil P. 7(c); such being replaced by a motion to dismiss under Rule 41. In certain states however this plea still exists to attack jurisdiction, or service of process, or to allege that a prior action between the same parties concerning the same subject matter is pending.

Abator /əˈbɛyda(r)/-. In real property law, a stranger who, having no right of entry, contrives to get possession of an estate of freehold, to the prejudice of the heir or devisee, before the latter can enter, after the ancestor’s death. In the law of torts, one who abates, prostrates, or destroys a nuisance.

Abatuda /əˈbætjʊdə/-. Anything diminished. Moneta abatuda is money clipped or diminished in value.

Abavía /əˈbæviə/-. Lat. In the civil law, a great-great-grandmother.

Abavita /əbəˈmɑːdə/-. A great-great-grandfather’s sister. This is a misspelling for abamita (q.v.).

Abavunculus /əˌbævɪŋkəˈlʌs/-. Lat. In the civil law, a great-great-grandmother’s brother (avavioe frater). Called avunculus maximus.

Abavus /əˈbævəs/-. Lat. In the civil law, a great-great-grandfather.

Abbacinare /əˌbɑsəˈnɛrɪ/-. To blind by placing a burning basin or red-hot irons before the eyes. A form of punishment in the Middle Ages. Also spelled “ababcinare.” The modern Italian is spelled with two b’s, and means to blind. Abbccination. Blinding by placing burning basin or red-hot irons before the eyes.
Abbay /əbəsi/. The government of a religious house, and the revenues thereof, subject to an abbot, as a bishopric is to a bishop. The rights and privileges of an abbot.

Abbey. A monastery or nunnery for the use of an association of religious persons, having an abbot or abbess to preside over them.

Abbot. A prelate in the 13th century who had had an immemorial right to sit in the national assembly.

Abbot, abbat. The spiritual superior or governor of an abbey. Feminine, Abbess.

Abbreviatio placitorum /əbriviˈiːəʃ(ɪ)əˌplæsətəˈrʌm/. An abstract of ancient judicial records, prior to the Year Books.

Abbreviators /əbriˈviɛɪərdʒə/. In ecclesiastical law, officers whose duty it is to assist in drawing up the Pope's briefs, and reducing petitions into proper form to be converted into papal bulls.

Abbroachment, or abroachment /æbrəwˈʃmənt/. The act of forestalling a market, by buying up at wholesale the merchandise intended to be sold there, for the purpose of selling it at retail. See Forestalling the market.

Abbuttais. See Abbuttais.

ABC test. Unemployment compensation law exclusion tests providing that employer is not covered if individuals he employs are free from his control, the services are performed outside employer's places of business, and employees are customarily engaged in independently established trades or professions are known as the "ABC tests". Employment Sec. Commission v. Wilson, Alaska, 461 P.2d 425, 427.

ABC transaction. In mining and oil drilling operations, a transfer by which A, the operator, conveys the working interest to B for cash consideration, reserving a production payment usually larger than the cash consideration paid by B. Later, A sells the reserved production payment to C for cash. The tax advantages of this type of transaction were eliminated by the Tax Reform Act of 1969.

Abdication /əbdəkəˈʃən/. Renunciation of the privileges and prerogatives of an office. The act of a sovereign in renouncing and relinquishing his government or throne, so that either the throne is left entirely vacant, or is filled by a successor appointed or elected beforehand. Also, where a magistrate or person in office voluntarily renounces or gives it up before the time of service has expired. It differs from resignation, in that resignation is made by one who has received his office from another and restores it into his hands, as an inferior into the hands of a superior; abdication is the relinquishment of an office which has devolved by act of law. It is said to be a renunciation, quitting, and relinquishing, so as to have nothing further to do with a thing, or the doing of such actions as are inconsistent with the holding of it.

Abditorium /əbdəˈtɔriəm/. An abituary or hiding place, to hide and preserve goods, plate or money.

Abduction. The offense of taking away a wife, child, or ward, by fraud and persuasion, or open violence. Model Penal Code, § 212.4.

To take away surreptitiously by force in kidnap- ping. The unlawful taking or detention of any female for purposes of marriage, concubinage, or prostitu- tion. In many states this offense is created by statute and in most cases applies to females under a given age. By statute in some states, abduction includes the withdrawal of a husband from his wife, as where another woman alienates his affection and entices him away and causes him to abandon his wife.

See also Alienation of affections; Kidnapping.

Abearance /əbərəns/. Behavior; as a recognition to be of good abearance signifies to be of good behavior.

Ab epistolis /əb iˈpiːstɔləs/. Lat. An officer having charge of the correspondence (epistola) of his superior or sovereign; a secretary.

Aberemurder /əˈbɛrmɜːrəd/. (From Sax. abere, apparent, notorious; and mord, murder.) Plain or down-right murder, as distinguished from the less heinous crime of manslaughter, or chance medley.

Abesse /əbɛsi/. Lat. In the civil law, to be absent; to be away from a place. Said of a person who was extra continentia urbis, (beyond the suburbs of the city.)

Abet. To encourage, incite, or set another on to commit a crime. This word is usually applied to aiding the commission of a crime. To abet another to commit a murder is to command, procure, counsel, encourage, induce, or assist. Short v. Commonwealth, 240 Ky. 477, 42 S.W.2d 696, 697; Wyatt v. U. S., 388 F.2d 395, 400 (10 Cir.). To facilitate the commission of a crime, promote its accomplishment, or help in advancing or bringing it about. State v. Lord, 42 N.M. 638, 84 P.2d 80, 86. It includes knowledge of the wrongful purpose of the perpetrator and counsel and encouragement in the crime. People v. Terman, 4 Cal.App.2d 345, 40 P.2d 915, 916.

A French word combined of two words "a" and "beter"—to bait or excite an animal.

See also Abettor; Accomplice; Aid and abet.

Abetment. Act of encouraging, inciting or aiding another.

Abettor /əbɛtər/. L. Lat. In old English law, an abettor. See Abettor.

Abettor /əbɛtər/. An instigator, or setter on; one who promotes or procures a crime to be committed. Handy v. State, 326 A.2d 189. One who commands, advises, instigates, or encourages another to commit a crime. A person who, being present or in the neighborhood, incites another to commit a crime, and thus becomes a principal. To be an "abettor" accused must have instigated or advised commission of crime or been present for purpose of assisting in its commission; he must share criminal intent with which crime was committed. People v. Francis, 71 C.2d 66, 75 Cal.Rptr. 199, 203, 450 P.2d 591.

Ab extra /əb ekstə/. Lat. Extra, beyond, without. From without.
Abeyance /abéyan(t)s/. Lapse in succession during which there is no person in whom title is vested. In the law of estates, the condition of a freehold when there is no person in being in whom it is vested. In such cases the freehold has been said to be in nubibus (in the clouds), in pendenti (in suspension); and in gremio legis (in the bosom of the law). Where there is a tenant of the freehold, the remainder or reversion in fee may exist for a time without any particular owner, in which case it is said to be in abeyance. A condition of being undetermined or in state of suspension or inactivity. Sales to third parties, of property acquired by county at tax sale, being held in "abeyance", means that certain rights or conditions are in expectancy. Willard v. Ward County, 72 N.D. 291, 6 N.W.2d 566, 568.

Ablaticus, or avlaticus /əvliːjɪˈɛðəks/. L. Lat. In feudal law, a son’s son; a grandson in the male line.

Abide. To accept the consequences of; to rest satisfied with; to wait for. With reference to an order, judgment, or decree of a court, to perform, to execute.

Abide by. To adhere to, to obey, to accept the consequences of. Detroit Fidelity & Surety Co. v. U. S., C.C.A. Ohio, 36 F.2d 692, 683.


Abigeatrices /əbjɪˈjɛtərɪərs/. See Abigeus.

Abigeatrices /əbjɪˈjɛtərɪərs/. Lat. In the civil law, the offense of stealing or driving away cattle. See Abigeus.

Abigei /əbjɪˈjɛi/. See Abigeus.

Abiger /əbjɪˈjɛr/. Lat. In the civil law, to drive away. Applied to those who drove away animals with the intention of stealing them. Applied, also, formerly to the similar offense of cattle stealing on the borders between England and Scotland. See Abigeus.

To drive out; to expel by force; to produce abortion.

Abigeus /əbjɪˈjɛəs/. Lat. (pl., abigei, or more rarely abigeatrices.) In the civil law, a stealer of cattle; one who drove or drew away (subtraxit) cattle from their pastures, as horses or oxen from the herds, and made booty of them, and who followed this as a business or trade. The term was applied also to those who drove away the smaller animals, as swine, sheep, and goats. In the latter case, it depended on the number taken, whether the offender was fur (a common thief) or abigeus. But the taking of a single horse or ox seems to have constituted the crime of abigeus. And those who frequently did this were clearly abigei, though they took but an animal or two at a time. 4 Bl.Comm. 239.

Ability. Capacity to perform an act or service; e.g. to support spouse and family. Financial ability is usually construed as referring to pecuniary ability. See also Capacity; Incapacity.

Ab inconvenienti /əb inkəvənʃəntɪ/. From hardship, or inconvenience. An argument founded upon the hardship of the case, and the inconvenience or disadvantageous consequences to which a different course of reasoning would lead.

Ab initio /əb inɪʃ(ɪ)əʊ/. Lat. From the beginning; from the first act; from the inception. A party may be said to be a trespasser, an estate said to be good, an agreement or deed said to be void, or a marriage or act said to be unlawful, ab initio. Contrasted in this sense with ex post facto, or with postea.

Ab initio mundi /əb initɪˈoʊ mʌndɪ/. Lat. From the beginning of the world. Ab initio mundi usque ad hodiernum diem, from the beginning of the world to this day.

Ab Intestate. Intestate.

Ab intestato /əb intestəˈtəʊ/. Lat. In the civil law, from an intestate; from the intestate; in case of intestacy. Haereditas ab intestato, an inheritance derived from an intestate. Successio ab intestato, succession to an intestate, or in case of intestacy. This answers to the descent or inheritance of real estate at common law. 2 Bl.Comm. 490, 516. "Heir ab intestato." The phrase "ab intestato" is generally used as the opposite or alternative of ex testamento, (from, by, or under a will.) Vel ex testamento, vel ab intestato [haereditates pertinent,—inheritances are derived either from a will or from an intestate (one who dies without a will)."

Ab invito /əb invɪˈtoʊ/. Unwillingly. Against one’s will. By or from an unwilling party. A transfer ab invito is a compulsory transfer. See In invitum; Invito.

Ab irato /əb aɪˈrəʊʊ/. Lat. By one who is angry. A devise or gift made by a man adversely to the interest of his heirs, on account of anger or hatred against them, is said to be made ab irato. A suit to set aside such a will is called an action ab irato.

Abishing, or abishering /əbɪʃər(ɪ)ŋ/. Quit of amercements. It originally signified a forfeiture or amercement, and is more properly called mishering, mishersing, or miskering, according to certain writers. It has since been termed a liberty of freedom, because, wherever this word is used in a grant, the persons to whom the grant is made have the forfeitures and amercements of all others, and are themselves free from the control of any within their fee.

Abjudicatio /əbjuˈwɪdəkəʃ(ɪ)əʊ/. In Old English law, the depriving of a thing by the judgment of a court; a putting out of court; the same as forisjudicatio, for judgment, forjudger. A removal from court. Used to indicate an adverse decision in a writ of right: Thus, the land is said to be abjudged from one of the parties and his heirs.

Abjuration /əbˈdʒʊərəʃ(ə)n/. A renunciation or abandonment by or upon oath. The renunciation under oath of one’s citizenship or some other right or privilege. See also Abjure.

Abjuration of the realm /əbˈdʒʊərəʃ(ə)n əv də rɛlm/. In ancient English law, a renunciation of one’s country, a species of self-imposed banishment, under an oath never to return to the kingdom unless by permission.
Abjure. To renounce, or abandon, by or upon oath. See Abjuration.

Able. See Ability.

Able-bodied. As used in a statute relating to service in the militia, this term does not imply an absolute freedom from all physical ailment. It imports an absence of those palpable and visible defects which evidently incapacitate the person from performing the ordinary duties of a soldier.

Ablegati /əˈblɛɡəti/ day/. Papal ambassadors of the second rank, who are sent to a country where there is not a nuncio, with a less extensive commission than that of a nuncio. This title is equivalent to envoy.


Able to earn. The phrase in Workers' Compensation Act in reference to wages does not mean the maximum sum earned in any one pay period, but a fair average of the weekly or monthly wages which an employee is able to earn covering a sufficient period of time to determine his earning capacity. Amount one is capable of earning if employed. Ferrara v. Clifton Wright Hat Co., 125 Conn. 140, 3 A.2d 842, 843.

Ability to obtain and hold employment means that the person referred to is either able or unable to perform the usual duties of whatever employment may be under consideration, in the manner that such duties are customarily performed by the average person engaged in such employment. Kinyon v. Kinyon, 230 Mo.App. 623, 71 S.W.2d 78, 82.

Able to purchase. “Ability” in sales contracts, dependent on ability to purchase, usually means financial ability. Anderson v. Craig, 111 Mont. 182, 108 P.2d 205, 206; House v. Hornburg, Sup., 39 N.Y.S.2d 20, 22. Purchaser must have financial ability and legal capacity to acquire land. Campbell v. Hood, Tex. Com.App., 35 S.W.2d 93, 95. Purchaser is able to purchase, as respects broker’s right to commission, if he is financially able to command the necessary funds to close the deal within the time required. Hersh v. Garau, 218 Cal. 460, 23 P.2d 1022. See Financially able.

Abloca /əˈblɔkə/ yo/ /w/. A letting out to hire, or leasing for money. Sometimes used in the English form “ablocation.”

Abmatetera /əˈmætətərə/ /w/. Lat. In the civil law, a great-great-grandmother’s sister (abvice soror). Called matertera maxima.

Abnepo /əbnɛpɔ/w/. /w/. Lat. A great-great-grandson. The grandson of a grandson or granddaughter.

Abnepis /əbnɛpis/ /w/. Lat. A great-great-granddaughter. The granddaughter of a grandson or granddaughter.


Ab olim /əb ˈɔlɪm/ /w/. Of old.

Abolish. To do away with wholly; to annul; to repeal; to rescind; to abrogate; to dispense with. Put an end to. Stretch v. Murphy, 166 Or. 439, 112 P.2d 1018, 1021. Imports absolute destruction having its root in the Latin word “aboleri,” meaning to destroy utterly. Applies particularly to things of a permanent nature, such as institutions, usages, customs, as the abolition of slavery.

Abolition. The destruction, annihilation, abrogation, or extinguishment of anything. See Abolish.

In the Civil, French and German law, abolition is used nearly synonymously with pardon, remission, grace.

A bon droit /ˈbɔn drɔt/ /w/. With good reason; justly; rightfully.


Abortee /əˈbɔrti/ /w/. The woman upon whom an abortion is performed.

Abortifacient /əˈbɔrtɪfəˈʃənt/ /w/. Drug or medicine capable of, or used for, producing abortion.

Abortion. The knowing destruction of the life of an unborn child or the intentional expulsion or removal of an unborn child from the womb other than for the principal purpose of producing a live birth or removing a dead fetus. However, prior to approximately the end of the first trimester of pregnancy the attending physician in consultation with his patient is free to determine, without regulation by state, that in his medical judgment the patient’s pregnancy should be terminated, and if that decision is reached such judgment may be effectuated by an abortion without interference by the state. Roe v. Wade, 410 U.S. 113, 93 S.Ct. 705, 35 L.Ed.2d 147. See also Viability; Viable child.

Abortionist. One who criminally produces abortions, or one who follows business or practices of crime of producing abortions.

Abortus /əˈbɔrtoʊs/ /w/. Lat. The fruit of an abortion; the child born before its time, incapable of life.

About. Near in time, quantity, number, quality, or degree. Substantially, approximately, almost, or nearly. Odom v. Langston, 351 Mo. 609, 173 S.W.2d 826, 829.

When used with reference to time, the term is of flexible significance, varying with the circumstances and the connection in which it is employed. But its
use does not necessarily render time immaterial, nor make a contract one terminable at will. In a charter party, "about to sail" means just ready to sail. With relation to quantity, the term suggests only an estimate of probable amount. Its import is that the actual quantity is a near approximation to that mentioned, and it has the effect of providing against accidental variations. Nottorin v. Wright, 115 U.S. 188, 6 S.Ct. 12, 29 L.Ed. 366. It may be given practically the same effect as the phrase more or less.

Synonymous with "on" or "upon," as in offense of carrying concealed weapons. Near by, close at hand, convenient of access. Brown v. U. S., 30 F.2d 474, 475, 58 App.D.C. 311. As to number, it merely implies an estimate of a particular lot or class and not a warranty. In connection with distance or locality, the term is of relative significance, varying with the circumstances.

Aboutissement /abùtwismón/. Fr. An abuttal or abutment.

About. Higher; superior. As, court above; plaintiff or defendant above. About all incumbrances means in excess thereof. Principal, as distinguished from what is auxiliary or instrumental.

Abpatruus /abpètrùwás/. Lat. A great-great-uncle; or, a great-great-grandfather's brother (abavi frater). It sometimes means uncle, and sometimes great-uncle.

Abridge. To reduce or contract; usually spoken of written language. See Abridgment.

Copyright law. To epitomize; to reduce; to contract. It implies preserving the substance, the essence, of a work, in language suited to such a purpose. In making extracts there is no condensation of the author's language, and hence no abridgment. To abridge requires the exercise of the mind; it is not copying. Between a compilation and an abridgment there is a clear distinction. A compilation consists of selected extracts from different authors; an abridgment is a condensation of the views of one author.

Abridgment. Condensation; contraction. An epitome or compendium of another and larger work, wherein the principal ideas of the larger work are summarily contained. Abridgments of the law are brief digests of the law, arranged alphabetically. In this context, the term "digest" (q.v.) has generally supplanted that of "abridgment." See also Abstract; Headnote; Sylabus.

Abridgment of damages. The right of the court to reduce the damages in certain cases. See Remittitur.

Abroad. In English chancery law, beyond the seas.

Abrogate /əbrəgræyət/. To annul, cancel, repeal, or destroy. To annul or repeal an order or rule issued by a subordinate authority; to repeal a former law by legislative act, or by usage.

Abrogation /əbrəgəˈrɛʃən/. The destruction or annuling of a former law, by an act of the legislative power, by constitutional authority, or by usage. It stands opposed to rogation; and is distinguished from derogation, which implies the taking away only some part of a law; from subrogation, which denotes the substitution of a clause; from dispensation, which only sets it aside in a particular instance; and from antiquation, which is the refusing to pass a law. Implied abrogation takes place when the new law contains provisions which are positively contrary to former laws, without expressly abrogating such laws; and also when the order of things for which the law has been made no longer exists. Ex parte Lum Poy, D.C.Wash., 23 F.2d 690.

For "Express abrogation," see that title. See also Annul; Repeal.

Abscond /əbskɔnd/. To go in a clandestine manner out of the jurisdiction of the courts, or to lie concealed, in order to avoid their process. To hide, conceal, or absent oneself clandestinely, with the intent to avoid legal process. Postponing limitations. Keck v. Pickens, 207 Ark. 757, 182 S.W.2d 873, 875. Fleeing from arresting or prosecuting officers of the state. See Fugitive.

Absconding debtor. One who absconds from his creditors. An absconding debtor is one who lives without the state, or who has intentionally concealed himself from his creditors, or withdrawn himself from the reach of their suits, with intent to frustrate their just demands. Such act was formerly an "Act of bankruptcy" (q.v.). Thus, if a person departs from his usual residence, or remains absent therefrom, or conceals himself in his house, so that he cannot be served with process, with intent unlawfully to delay or defraud his creditors, he is an absconding debtor; but if he departs from the state or from his usual abode, with the intention of again returning, and without any fraudulent design, he has not absconded, nor absented himself, within the intendment of the law. Doughnut Corporation of America v. Tsakirides, 121 N.J.L. 136, 1 A.2d 467, 469.

Absence. The state of being absent, removed, or away from one's domicile, or usual place of residence. Not present at particular time; opposite of appearance at a specified time.

Absent. Being away from; at a distance from; not in company with.

Absente /əbsɛntɪ/. Lat. Being absent; often used in the old reports of one of the judges not present at the hearing of a cause.

Absente reo /əbsɛntɪ riɔw/. The defendant being absent.

Absentee. One who is absent from his usual place of residence or domicile.

Absentee landlord. Lessor of real property (normally the owner) who does not live on the premises.

Absentee voting. Participation (usually by mail) in elections by qualified voters who, because of serious illness, military service, or absence from home for business or other reasons, are unable to appear at the polls in person on election day.

Absentem accipere debemus eum qui non est eo loci in quo petitur /əbsɛntəm əskəˈpɛri dəˈbiːjəməs iəm ˈkwɔː nɔn est iəwɔ́ ˈlɔːswɔ́ iŋ kwanwə ˈpɛðədə/. We ought to consider him absent who is not in the place where he is demanded (or sought).
Abstract

Absentia ejus qui reipublicae causa abest, neque ei neque alli damnosa esse debet /ēbsēsh(y)i/ ējās kwāy riyəywąsbłiisə kōza abest, nıykwiy iyay nıykwiy əliyəy dəmənwəsə əsiy dəyət/. The absence of him who is away in behalf of the republic (on business of the state) ought not to be prejudicial either to him or to another.

Absolve, assoll, asoll. To pardon; to deliver from excommunication.

Absoluta sententia expositore non indiget /ēbsal(y)dwə saŋtēnsh(y)i/ ekspozatɔɾiyo non ɪndæjət/. An absolute sentence or proposition (one that is plain without any scruple, or absolute without any saving) needs not an expositor.

Absolute. Complete; perfect; final; without any condition or incumbrance; as an absolute bond (simplex obligatio) in distinction from a conditional bond. Unconditional; complete and perfect in itself; without relation to or dependence on other things or persons.

As to absolute Conveyance; Covenant; Delivery; Divorce; Estate; Gift; Guaranty; Interest; Legacy; Nuisance; Nullity; Obligation; Property; Rights; Rule; Sale; Title, see those titles.

Absolute deed. A document of conveyance without restriction or defeasance; generally used in contradistinction to mortgage deed.

Absolute law. The true and proper law of nature, immutable in the abstract or in principle, in theory, but not in applications; for very often the object, the reason, situation, and other circumstances, may vary its exercise and obligation. See also Natural law.


Absolutely. Completely, wholly; without qualification; without reference or relation to, or dependence upon, any other person, thing, or event. Thus, absolutely void means utterly void. Absolutely necessary may be used to make the idea of necessity more emphatic. Independently or unconditionally, wholly or positively. Collins v. Hartford Accident & Indemnity Co., 178 Va. 501, 17 S.E.2d 413, 418.

"Absolutely void" is that which the law of things forbids to be enforced at all, and that is relatively void which the law condemns as a wrong to individuals and refuses to enforce against them. Kyle v. Chaves, 42 N.M. 21, 74 P.2d 1030; Scudder v. Hart, 45 N.M. 76, 110 P.2d 536, 541.

Absolution. In Canon Law, a juridical act whereby the clergy declare that the sins of such as are penitent are remitted. Among Protestants it is chiefly used for a sentence by which a person who stands excommunicated is released or freed from that punishment.

In the Civil Law, a sentence whereby a party accused is declared innocent of the crime laid to his charge.

In French Law, the dismissal of an accusation.

Absolutism /ēbsal(y)uwitizəm/. In politics, a system of government in which public power is vested in some person or persons, unchecked and uncontrolled by any law, institution, constitutional device, or coordinate body. Currently refers to any government which is run by a dictator whose power is without restriction and without any checks or balances.

Absolve. To set free, or release, as from obligation, debt, or responsibility. State ex rel. St. Louis Car Co. v. Hughes, 348 Mo. 125, 152 S.W.2d 193, 194. See also Amnesty; Pardon.

Absorption /ēbzoɾpʃən/. Term used in collective bargaining agreements to provide seniority for union members if employer's business is merged with another. Humphrey v. Moore, Ky., 375 U.S. 335, 84 S.Ct. 363, 369. Partial or complete payment of freight charges by seller or freight carrier.

Absque /ēbskwiy/. Without. Occurs in phrases taken from the Latin; such as those immediately following.

Absque aliquo inde redendo /ēbskwiy ələkwəwəi ndiə rdəndəw/. Lat. Without reserving any rent therefrom; without rendering anything therefrom. A term used of a free grant by the crown.

Absque consideratione curiae /ēbskwiy kən-sidəreʃiəwiyiŋiy kyərɨə/. In old practice, without the consideration of the court; without judgment.

Absque hoc /ēbskwiy hək/. Without this. These are technical words of denunciation, used in pleading at common law by way of special traverse, to introduce the negative part of the plea, following the affirmative part or inducement. See also Traverse.

Absque impetitione vestri /ēbskwiy əmpətiʃiəwiyiŋiy vɛstəri/. Without impeachment of waste; without accountability for waste; without liability to suit for waste. A clause anciently often inserted in leases (as the equivalent English phrase sometimes is) signifying that the tenant or lessee shall not be liable to suit (impetitio) or challenged, or called to account, for committing waste. See Waste.

Absque tali causa /ēbskwiy təˈlæl kəˈza/. Lat. Without such cause. A form of replication, now obsolete, in an action ex delicto which works a general denial of the whole matter of the defendant's plea of de injuria.


Abstinence. Refraining completely from indulgence in some act such as eating or drinking, unlike temperance which presupposes moderate indulgence. Mayfield v. Fidelity & Casualty Co. of N. Y., 16 C.A.2d 611, 61 P.2d 83.

Abstract /ēbstræk/. A less quantity containing the virtue and force of a greater quantity; an abridgment. A transcript is generally defined as a copy, and is more comprehensive than an abstract. Summary or epitome, or that which comprises or concentrates in
ABSTRACT

itself the essential qualities of a larger thing or of several things. Robbins Inv. v. Robbins, 49 Cal. App.2d 446, 122 P.2d 91, 92. See Abridg; Abridgment; Digest; Headnote; Syllabus.

Abstract /abstrækt/, v. To take or withdraw from; as, to abstract the funds of a bank. To remove or separate. To summarize or abridge.

Abstraction. Taking from with intent to injure or defraud. "Wrongful abstraction" is "unauthorized and illegal taking or withdrawing of funds, etc., and appropriation thereof to taker's benefit." Pacific Coast Adjustment Bureau v. Indemnity Ins. Co. of North America, 115 Cal.App. 583, 2 P.2d 218, 219.

Abstract of a fine. In old English conveyancing, one of the parts of a fine, being an abstract of the writ of covenant, and the concord, naming the parties, the parcels of land, and the agreement. 2 Bl.Comm. 351. More commonly called the "note" of the fine. See Fine; Concord.

Abstract of record. A complete history in short, abbreviated form of the case as found in the record, complete enough to show that the questions presented for review have been properly reserved. Synopsis or summary of facts, rather than table of contents of transcript. Abbreviated accurate and authentic history of proceedings. Brown v. Reichmann, 237 Mo. App. 136, 164 S.W.2d 201, 207.

Abstract of title. A condensed history of the title to land, consisting of a synopsis or summary of the material or operative portion of all the conveyances, of whatever kind or nature, which in any manner affect said land, or any estate or interest therein, together with a statement of all liens, charges, or liabilities to which the same may be subject, and of which it is in any way material for purchasers to be apprised. An epitome of the record evidence of title, including maps, plats, and other aids. Commissioners' Court of Madison County v. Wallace, 118 Tex. 279, 15 S.W.2d 535, 536. An epitome of the conveyances, transfers, and other facts relied on as evidence of title, together with all such facts appearing of record as may impair the title. State ex rel. Freeman v. Abstracters Board of Examiners, 99 Mont. 564, 45 P.2d 668, 670. Memorandum or concise statement in orderly form of the substance of documents or facts appearing on public records which affect title to real property. State ex rel. Doria v. Ferguson, 145 Ohio St. 12, 60 N.E.2d 476, 478. See also Torrens title system.

Abstract question. One which does not rest upon existing facts or rights. Morris Plan Bank of Fort Worth v. Ogden, Tex.Civ.App., 144 S.W.2d 998, 1004. Hypothetical question.

Absurdity. Anything which is so irrational, unnatural, or inconvenient that it cannot be supposed to have been within the intention of men of ordinary intelligence and discretion. Obviously and flatly opposed to the manifest truth; inconsistent with the plain dictates of common sense; logically contradictory; nonsensical; ridiculous.

Abundans cautela non nocet /abündanz kotiylä non nöset/. Abundant or extreme caution does no harm. This principle is generally applied to the construction of instruments in which superfluous words have been inserted more clearly to express the intention.

Ab urbe condita /áb urbi köndida/. From the founding of the city. See A.U.C.

Abus de confiance /abüw də kôñfiyön(t)s/. Fraudulently misusing or spending to anybody's prejudice goods, cash, bills, documents, or contracts handed over for a special object.

Abuse /abüwəs/, n. Everything which is contrary to good order established by usage. Departure from reasonable use; immoderate or improper use. Physical or mental maltreatment. Misuse. Deception.

"Abuse" means to wrong in speech, reproach coarsely, disparage, revile, and malign. State v. Neubauer, 2 Conn.Cir. 169, 197 A.2d 93, 96. See Defamation.

Child abuse. See Child abuse.

Civil law. The destruction of the substance of a thing in using it. See Abuse, v.

Corporate franchise or entity. The abuse or misuse of its franchises by a corporation signifies any positive act in violation of the charter and in derogation of public right, willfully done or caused to be done. The use of rights or franchises as a pretext for wrongs and injuries to the public.

Discretion. "Abuse of discretion" is synonymous with a failure to exercise a sound, reasonable, and legal discretion. It is a strict legal term indicating that appellate court is of opinion that there was commission of an error of law by the trial court. It does not imply intentional wrong or bad faith, or misconduct, nor any reflection on the judge but means the clearly erroneous conclusion and judgment—one is that clearly against logic and effect of such facts as are presented in support of the application or against the reasonable and probable deductions to be drawn from the facts disclosed upon the hearing: an improvident exercise of discretion; an error of law. State v. Draper, 83 Utah 115, 27 P.2d 39; Ex parte Jones, 246 Ala. 433, 20 So.2d 859, 862. A discretion exercised to an end or purpose not justified by and clearly against reason and evidence. Unreasonable departure from considered precedents and settled judicial custom, constituting error of law. Beck v. Wings Field, Inc., C.C.A.Pa., 122 F.2d 114, 116, 117. "Abuse of discretion" by trial court is any unreasonable, unconscionable and arbitrary action taken without proper consideration of facts and law pertaining to matter submitted. Harvey v. State, Okl.Cr., 458 P.2d 336, 338.

Drug abuse. See that title.

Female child. An injury to the genital organs in an attempt at carnal knowledge, falling short of actual penetration. Lee v. State, 246 Ala. 69, 18 So.2d 706, 707. But, according to other authorities, "abuse" is here equivalent to ravishment or rape. Any injury to private parts of girl constitutes "abuse" within meaning of criminal statute proscribing abuse of girl under age of 12 years in attempt to have carnal knowledge of her; mere hurting of private parts of girl, even though they are not bruised, cut, lacerated or torn, is sufficient. Ard v. State, 57 Ala.App. 250, 327 So.2d 745, 747. See also Carnal abuse; Child abuse.
Police officer. As used in statute prohibiting one from obstructing, resisting, or abusing an officer, word “abuses” means to wrong in speech, reproach coarsely, disparage, revile, or malign an officer who is performing his duty. State v. Neuberger, 2 Conn.Cir. 168, 197 A.2d 93.

Power. Use of one who possesses it in a manner contrary to law. Improper use of power, distinguished from usurpation of power which presupposes exercise of power not vested in the offender. Swenson v. Cahoon, 111 Fla. 798, 152 So. 203, 204.

Process. The gist of an action for “abuse of process” is improper use or perversion of process after it has been issued. Publix Drug Co. v. Breyer Ice Cream Co., 347 Pa. 346, 32 A.2d 413, 415. A malicious abuse of legal process occurs where the party employs it for some unlawful object, not the purpose which it is intended by the law to effect; in other words, a perversion of it. 500 West 174 St. v. Vasquez, 67 Misc.2d 993, 325 N.Y.S.2d 256, 258. Thus, where the purpose of a prosecution for issuance of a check without funds was to collect a debt, the prosecution is an abuse of criminal process. Regular and legitimate use of process, although with a bad intention, is not a malicious “abuse of process.” Priest v. Union Agency, 174 Tenn. 304, 125 S.W.2d 142, 143. Action for “abuse of process” is distinguished from action for “malicious prosecution,” in that action for abuse of process rests upon improper use of regularly issued process, while “malicious prosecution” has reference to wrong in issuance of process. McNinn v. Atlantic Inv. Corporation, 137 Or. 648, 4 P.2d 314, 315; Lobel v. Trade Bank of New York, 132 Misc. 643, 229 N.Y.S. 778, 781. See also Malicious abuse of legal process; Malicious use of process.

Abuse əbjuːwz/. v. To make excessive or improper use of a thing, or to employ it in a manner contrary to the natural or legal rules for its use. To make an extravagant or excessive use, as to abuse one’s authority.

Abused and neglected children. Those who are suffering serious physical or emotional injury inflicted on them, including malnutrition. See Abuse (Female child); Child abuse.

Abusive. Tending to deceive; practicing abuse; prone to ill-treat by coarse, insulting words or harmful acts. Using ill treatment; injurious, improper, hurtful, offensive, reproachful.

Abut. To reach; to touch. To touch at the end; be contiguous; join at a border or boundary; terminate on; end at; border on; reach or touch with an end. The term “abutting” implies a closer proximity than the term “adjacent.” No intervening land.

Abuttals əbədəl/. The butttings or boundaries of lands, showing to what other lands, highways, or places they belong or are abutting. It has been used to express the end boundary lines as distinguished from those on the sides, as “buttals and sidings”.

Abutter. One whose property abuts, is contiguous, or joins at a border or boundary, as where no other land, road, or street intervenes.

Abutting owner. An owner of land which abuts or adjoins. The term usually implies that the relative parts actually adjoin, but is sometimes loosely used without implying more than close proximity. See Abut.

A.C. Anno Christi, the year of Christ.

A/C means account and is much used by bookkeepers. As used in a check, it has been held not a direction to the bank to credit the amount of the check to the person named, but rather a memorandum to identify the transaction in which the check was issued.

Academic. Pertaining to college, university, or preparatory school. Sisters of Mercy v. Town of Hooksett, 93 N.H. 301, 42 A.2d 222, 225. A question or issue which is not relevant to case or is premature or hypothetical. In re Battell’s Will, 286 N.Y. 97, 35 N.E.2d 913. See Academic question.


Academic question. An issue which does not require answer or adjudication by court because it is not necessary to case; hypothetical or moot question. In re Electrolux Corp., 288 N.Y. 440, 43 N.E.2d 480. See Hypothetical question.

Academy. An institution of higher learning. An association of experts in some particular branch of art, literature, or science. In its original meaning, an association formed for mutual improvement, or for the advancement of science or art; in later use, a species of educational institution, of a level between the elementary school and the college. U. S. ex rel. Jacobides v. Day, C.C.A.N.Y., 32 F.2d 542, 544; Sisters of Mercy v. Town of Hooksett, 93 N.H. 301, 42 A.2d 222, 225. In current usage, term commonly refers to private high school or one of the service academies (e. g. Air Force Academy). See School.

A cancellando /əkənsəldəʊnəʊ/. From cancelling. 3 Bl.Comm. 46.

A cancellis /əkənsəlíz/. The Chancellor.

A cancellis curiae explodii /əkənsəlíz kyəriːrɪj eksploʊdiː. To be expelled from the bar of the court.

Acapte. In French feudal law, a species of relief; a seignorial right due on every change of a tenant. A feudal right which formerly prevailed in Languedoc and Guyenne, being attached to that species of heritable estates which were granted on the contract of emphyteusis.

A causa de cy /ə kəʊzə doʊˈsiː/. For this reason.

Accedas ad curiam /əkəsiːdəs æd kyəriːrɪjəm/. (Lat. That you go to court.) An original writ out of chancery directed to the sheriff, for the purpose of removing a replevin suit from a Court Baron or a hundred court to one of the superior courts of law. It directs the sheriff to go to the lower court, and enroll the proceedings and send up the record. 3 Bl.Comm. 34.
Accede. To consent; agree.

Accelerated cost recovery system. System for recovering costs of business assets through tax deductions, replacing prior depreciation rules. ACRS permits a more rapid write-off of costs without regard, as under prior depreciation rules, to how long the assets are expected to be in use. I.R.C. § 168 (1981).

Accelerated depreciation. Various methods of depreciation that yield larger deductions in the earlier years of the life of an asset than the straight-line method. Examples include the double declining-balance and the sum of the years' digits methods of depreciation. See Accelerated cost recovery system; Depreciation.

Acceleration. The shortening of the time for the vesting in possession of an expectant interest. Hastening of the enjoyment of an estate which was otherwise postponed to a later period. Blackwell v. Virginia Trust Co., 177 Va. 299, 14 S.E.2d 301, 304. If the life estate fails for any reason the remainder is "accelerated". Elliott v. Brintlinger, 376 Ill. 147, 33 N.E.2d 199, 201.

Doctrine of "acceleration", as applied to law of property, refers to hastening of owner of future interests toward status of present possession or enjoyment by reason of failure of preceding estate. Aberg v. First Nat'l Bank in Dallas, Tex.Civ.App., 450 S.W.2d 403, 408. A remedy used where there has been an anticipatory repudiation or a possibility of a future breach. Rose City Transit Co. v. City of Portland, 18 Or.App. 369, 525 P.2d 1325, 1335.

Accelaration clause. A provision or clause in a mortgage, note, bond, deed of trust, or other credit agreement, which allows a lender the opportunity to call monies due under the instrument. Such clause operates when there has been a default such as nonpayment of principal, interest, or failure to pay insurance premiums. General Motors Acceptance Corp. v. Shuey, 243 Ky. 74, 47 S.W.2d 968. U.C.C. § 1–208 provides that if the provision for acceleration is "at will" such demand must be made only under a "good faith" belief that the prospect of payment is impaired.

Acceleration of remainders. Hastening of owner of remainder interest in property toward status of present possession or enjoyment by reason of failure preceding estate. Aberg v. First Nat'l Bank in Dallas, Tex.Civ.App., 450 S.W.2d 403, 408.

Acceleration premium. Increased rate of pay for increased production.

Accept. To receive with approval or satisfaction; to receive with intent to retain. Morris v. State, 102 Ark. 513, 145 S.W. 213, 214. Also, in the capacity of drawee of a bill, to recognize the draft, and engage to pay it when due (see Acceptance, infra). Admit and agree to; accede to or consent to; receive with approval; adopt; agree to. Rocha v. Hulen, 6 Cal. App.2d 245, 44 P.2d 478, 482, 483. Means something more than to receive, meaning to adopt, to agree to carry out provisions, to keep and retain.

Acceptance. The taking and receiving of anything in good part, and as it were a tacit agreement to a preceding act, which might have been defeated or avoided if such acceptance had not been made. The act of a person to whom a thing is offered or tendered by another, whereby he receives the thing with the intention of retaining it, such intention being evidenced by a sufficient act. Aetna Inv. Corporation v. Chandler Landscape & Floral Co., 227 Mo.App. 17, 50 S.W.2d 195, 197. The exercise of power conferred by an offer by performance of some act. In re Larney's Estate, 148 Misc. 871, 266 N.Y.S. 564.

Commercial paper. Acceptance is the drawee's signed engagement to honor the draft as presented. It must be written on the draft, and may consist of his signature alone. It becomes operative when completed by delivery or notification. U.C.C. § 3–410. Certification of a check is acceptance. U.C.C. § 3–411. A draft may be accepted although it has not been signed by the drawee or is otherwise incomplete or is overdue or has been dishonored. U.C.C. § 3–410(2). See also Acceptee; Banker's acceptance; Honor.

Contracts. Compliance by offeree with terms and conditions of offer constitute an "acceptance". Davis & Clanton v. C. I. T. Corporation, 190 S.C. 151, 2 S.E.2d 382, 383. See also Confirmation; Offer and acceptance.


Insurance. In a contract of insurance, the "acceptance" occurs when insurer agrees to accept application and to issue policy. Acacia Mut. Life Ass'n v. Berry, 54 Ariz. 208, 94 P.2d 770, 772. Delay or inaction on the part of an insurer cannot constitute an "acceptance". French American Banking Corporation v. Fireman's Fund Ins. Co., D.C.N.Y., 43 F.Supp. 494, 498. More than mere mental resolution or determination on part of insurer to accept application is required; such must be communicated to applicant. Limbaugh v. Monarch Life Ins. Co., Springfield, Mass., Mo.App., 84 S.W.2d 208, 212. Term as applied to policy means assent, acquiescence or agreement to terms and conditions of policy. Baker v. St. Paul Fire & Marine Ins. Co., Mo.App., 427 S.W.2d 281, 291.

Sale of goods. U.C.C. § 2–606 provides three ways a buyer can accept goods: (1) by notifying the seller that the goods are conforming or that he will accept them in spite of their nonconformity, (2) by failing to make an effective rejection, and (3) by doing an act inconsistent with the seller's ownership. Acceptance of a part of any commercial unit is acceptance of that entire unit.

Types of acceptance.

Conditional. An engagement to pay the draft or accept the offer on the happening of a condition. A "conditional acceptance" is in effect a statement that the offeree is willing to enter into a bargain differing in some respects from that proposed in the original offer. The conditional acceptance is, therefore, itself a counter offer.

Express. An undertaking in direct and express terms to pay the bill, draft, etc.; an absolute acceptance.

Implied. An undertaking to pay the draft inferred from acts of the drawee of a character which fairly
warrant such an inference. In case of a bilateral contract, “acceptance” of an offer need not be expressed, but may be shown by any words or acts indicating the offeree’s assent to the proposed bargain.

Qualified. One either conditional or partial, and which introduces a variation in the sum, mode, or place of payment. In contract law, an acceptance based on a variation of the terms of the offer and hence a counteroffer. In negotiable instruments, a variation in the terms of the instrument by the acceptor.

Acceptance au besoin /ækˈseptəns əʊ bɔzˈwɑːn/. Fr. Acceptance in case of need. An acceptance by one whom a bill is drawn au besoin, that is, in case of refusal or failure of the drawee to accept.

Acceptare /ækˈseptəri/. Lat. To accept; to assent; to assent to a promise made by another.

Accepteur par intervention. In French law, acceptor of a bill of honor.

Acceptation /ækˈseptəˈleɪʃən/. In the civil and Scotch law, release made by a creditor to his debtor of his debt, without receiving any consideration. It is a species of donation, but not subject to the forms of the latter, and is valid unless in fraud of creditors. The verbal extinction of a verbal contract, with a declaration that the debt has been paid when it has not; or the acceptance of something merely imaginary in satisfaction of a verbal contract.

Acceptors. One who engages that he will pay the draft according to its tenor at the time of his engagement or as completed pursuant to authority on incomplete instruments. U.C.C. § 3-413.

Acceptors supra protest /ækˈseptər s(ˈy)uˈwprə prɔwˈtɛst/. One who accepts a bill which has been protested, for the honor of the drawer or any one of the indorsers.

Access. Freedom of approach or communication; or the means, power, or opportunity of approaching, communicating, or passing to and from. Sometimes importing the occurrence of sexual intercourse, Jackson v. Jackson, 182 Okl. 74, 76 P.2d 1062, 1066; otherwise as importing opportunity of communication for that purpose as between husband and wife.

In real property law, the term “access” denotes the right vested in the owner of land which adjoins a road or other highway to go and return from his own land to the highway without obstruction. See Access, easement of. “Access” to property does not necessarily carry with it possession. People v. Brenneauer, 101 Misc. 156, 166 N.Y.S. 801, 806.

Multiple access. The defense of several lovers in paternity actions. Yarmark v. Strickland, 193 So.2d 212.

Public records. The right of access to public records includes not only a legal right of access but a reasonable opportunity to avail oneself of the same. See Freedom of Information Act.

Accessory. See Accessory.

Access, easement of /ˈɛzəmənt əv əˈkses/. An easement of access is the right which an abutting owner has of ingress to and egress from his premises, in addition to the public easement in the street.

Accessio /əˈkseʃəˈriəʊ/. In Roman law, an increase or addition; that which lies next to a thing, and is supplementary and necessary to the principal thing; that which arises or is produced from the principal thing; an “accessory obligation” (q.v.). One of the modes of acquiring property, being the extension of ownership over which that grows from, or is united to, an article which one already possesses.

Accessio includes both accession and accretion as used in the common law. See Adjunction.

Accession. Coming into possession of a right or office; increase; augmentation; addition.

The right to all which one’s own property produces, whether that property be movable or immovable; and the right to that which is united to it by accession, either naturally or artificially. The right to own things that become a part of something already owned; e.g. riparian owners’ right to abandoned river beds and rights of alluvion by accretion and reliction. Manry v. Robison, 122 Tex. 213, 56 S.W.2d 438, 443, 444. See Accretion.

A principle derived from the civil law, by which the owner of property becomes entitled to all which it produces, and to all that is added or united to it, either naturally or artificially, (that is, by the labor or skill of another) even where such addition extends to a change of form or materials; and by which, on the other hand, the possessor of property becomes entitled to it, as against the original owner, where the addition made to it by his skill and labor is of greater value than the property itself, or where the change effected in its form is so great as to render it impossible to restore it to its original shape.

The commencement or inauguration of a sovereign’s reign.

International law. The absolute or conditional acceptance by one or several nations of a treaty already concluded between other sovereignties. It may be of two kinds: First, the formal entrance of a third state into a treaty so that such nation becomes a party to it; and this can only be with the consent of the original parties. Second, a nation may accede to a treaty between other nations solely for the purpose of guarantee, in which case, though a party, it is affected by the treaty only as a guarantor. See Adhesion.

Accessions. Goods which are installed in or affixed to other goods. U.C.C. § 9-314(1).

Accessorium non duci, sed sequitur suum principale /əˈkseʃəˈriəm nɒn ˈduːvst ˌsed əˈskɛkwɚdə ˈʃiːwəm prɪnsəˈpliə/. That which is the accessory or incident does not lead, but follows, its principal.

Accessorius sequitur naturam sui principalis /əˈkseʃəˈriəs əˈskɛkwɚdə ˈneɪfərəm ˈʃiːwəm prɪnsəˈpliələs/. An accessory follows the nature of his principal. One who is accessory to a crime cannot be guilty of a higher degree of crime than his principal.

Accessory. Anything which is joined to another thing as an ornament, or to render it more perfect, or which accompanies it, or is connected with it as an incident, or as subordinate to it, or which belongs to or with it.
ACCESSORY

Adjunct or accompaniment. Louis Werner Saw Mill Co. v. White, 205 La. 242, 17 So.2d 264, 270. A thing of subordinate importance. Aiding or contributing in secondary way or assisting in or contributing to as a subordinate. Gilfoil v. Greenspon, La.App., 216 So.2d 829, 831.

Accessory after the fact. A person who, knowing a felony to have been committed by another, receives, relieves, comforts or assists the felon, in order to enable him to escape from punishment, or the like. Robinson v. State, 5 Md.App. 723, 249 A.2d 504, 507; 18 U.S.C.A. § 3. See also Harbor; Obstructing justice.

Accessory before the fact. One who orders, counsels, encourages, or otherwise aids and abets another to commit a felony and who is not present at the commission of the offense. Com. v. Leach, 455 Pa. 448, 317 A.2d 293, 294. The primary distinction between the accessory before the fact and the principal in the second degree is presence. Virtually all states have now expressly abrogated the distinction between principals and accessories before the fact; the latter now being classified as principals.

Accessory during the fact. One who stands by without interfering or giving such help as may be in his power to prevent the commission of a criminal offense.

Criminal law. Contributing to or aiding in the commission of a crime. One who, without being present at the commission of a felonious offense, becomes guilty of such offense, not as a chief actor, but as a participant, as by command, advice, instigation, or concealment; either before or after the fact or commission; a particeps criminis. Model Penal Code, § 2.06.

One who is not the chief actor in the offense, nor present at its performance, but in some way concerned therein, either before or after the act committed. One who aids, abets, commands, or counsels another in the commission of a crime. See also Abettor; Aid and abet; Accomplice.

Accessory building. Structures used for benefit of main building; e.g. tool shed. Out-buildings.

Accessory contract. An accessory contract is made for assuring the performance of a prior contract, either by the same parties or by others; such as suretyship, mortgage, and pledge.

Accessory obligation. An obligation which is incidental to another or principal obligation; e.g. the obligation of a surety.

Accessory use. With reference to zoning law, an "accessory use" in its ordinary significations is a use which is dependent on or pertains to principal or main use. Town of Foxborough v. Bay State Harness Horse Racing & Breeding Ass'n, Inc., Mass.App., 366 N.E.2d 773, 777. Accessory use is one which is subordinate to, clearly incidental to, customary in connection with, and ordinarily located on same lot with, principal use. Board of County Comm's of Boulder County v. Thompson, 177 Colo. 277, 493 P.2d 1358, 1360.

Access to counsel. Right of one to consult with his attorney guaranteed by the 6th Amendment. U.S. Const. Geders v. U. S., 425 U.S. 80, 96 S.Ct. 1330, 47 L.Ed.2d 592. See also Counsel, right to.


Accident. The word "accident" is derived from the Latin verb "accidere" signifying "fall upon, befall, happen, chance." In an etymological sense anything that happens may be said to be an accident and in this sense, the word has been defined as befalling a change; a happening; an incident; an occurrence or event. In its most commonly accepted meaning, or in its ordinary or popular sense, the word may be defined as meaning: a fortuitous circumstance, event, or happening; an event happening without any human agency, or if happening wholly or partly through human agency, an event which under the circumstances is unusual and unexpected by the person to whom it happens; an unusual, fortuitous, unexpected, unforeseen or unlooked for event, happening or occurrence; an unusual or unexpected result attending the operation or performance of a usual or necessary act or event; chance or contingency; fortune; mishap; some sudden and unexpected event taking place without expectation, upon the instant, rather than something which continues, progresses or develops; something happening by chance; something unforeseen, unexpected, unusual, extraordinary or phenomenal, taking place not according to the usual course of things or events, out of the range of ordinary calculations; that which exists or occurs abnormally, or an uncommon occurrence. The word may be employed as denoting a calamity, casualty, catastrophe, disaster, an undesirable or unfortunate happening; any unexpected personal injury resulting from any looked for mishap or occurrence; any unpleasant or unfortunate occurrence, that causes injury, loss, suffering or death; some untoward occurrence aside from the usual course of events. An event that takes place without one's foresight or expectation; an unlooked for, sudden, and unexpected event. Kochring Co. v. American Auto. Ins. Co., C.A.Wis., 353 F.2d 993, 996. See also Act of God; Casualty; Inevitable accident.

Automobiles. The word "accident" as used in automobile liability policy requiring notice of any "accident" to be given to the insurer as a condition precedent to liability means an untoward and unforeseen occurrence in the operation of the automobile which results in injury to the person or property of another. Ohio Casualty Ins. Co. v. Marr, C.C.A.Okl., 98 F.2d 973, 975. The word "accident", requiring operator of vehicle to stop immediately in case of accident, contemplates any situation occurring on the highway wherein he so operates his automobile as to cause injury to the property or person of another using the same highway. See also Hit and run accident.

Insurance contract. An accident within accident insurance policies is an event happening without any human agency, or, if happening through such agency, an event which, under circumstances, is unusual and not expected by the person to whom it happens. A more comprehensive term than "negligence," and in its common significations the word means an unexpected happening without intention or design.
Maritime law. "Accidents of navigation" or "accidents of the sea" are such as are peculiar to the sea or to usual navigation or the action of the elements, which do not happen by the intervention of man, and are not to be avoided by the exercise of proper prudence, foresight, and skill. The G. R. Booth, 171 U.S. 450, 19 S.Ct. 9, 43 L.Ed. 234. See also Perils of the sea.

Unavoidable accident. One which is not occasioned in any degree, either directly or remotely, by the want of such care and prudence as the law holds every man bound to exercise. Vincent v. Johnson, Tex.Civ. App., 117 S.W.2d 135. One which could not have been prevented by exercise of due care by both parties under circumstances prevailing. Woodiwiss v. Rise, 3 Wash.App. 5, 471 P.2d 124, 126. One which occurs while all persons concerned are exercising ordinary care, which is not caused by fault of any of persons and which could not have been prevented by any means suggested by common prudence. Cavanaugh v. Jepson, Iowa, 167 N.W.2d 616, 623. See also Restatement, Second, Torts § 8.

Workers' compensation acts. A befalling; an event that takes place without one's foresight or expectation; an undesigned, sudden, and unexpected event; chance; contingency; often, an undesigned and unforeseen occurrence of an afflictive or unfortunate character; casualty; mishap; as, to die by an accident. Its synonyms are chance, contingency, mishap, mischance, misfortune, disaster, calamity, catastrophe.

Accidental. Happening by chance, or unexpectedly; taking place not according to usual course of things; casual; fortuitous. Norris v. New York Life Ins. Co., C.C.A.Md., 49 F.2d 62, 63; Murphy v. Travelers Ins. Co., 141 Neb. 41, 2 N.W.2d 576, 578, 579. See also Accident.

Accidental cause. That which produces result which is not foreseen; producing an unexpected effect. Fernandez v. Flint Bd. of Ed., C.A.Mich., 283 F.2d 906, 908.


Accidental killing. One resulting from an act which is lawful and lawfully done under a reasonable belief that no harm is possible; distinguished from "involuntary manslaughter," which is the result of an unlawful act, or of a lawful act done in an unlawful way.

Accidental vein. See Vein.

Accident proneness. Tendency towards being involved in or contributing to accidents.

Accidere /aksidirī/. Lat. To fall; fall in; come to hand; happen. Judgment is sometimes given against an executor or administrator to be satisfied out of assets quando acciderint; i.e., when they shall come to hand.

Accio /aksiyówin/. In Spanish law, a right of action; also the method of judicial procedure for the recovery of property or a debt.

Accipere quid ut justitiam facias, non est tam acclpere quam extorquere /aksipera kwid ut jāstishiyam feyshiyas, nōn est tām aksipera kwēm ekstörkvariy/. To accept anything as a reward for doing justice is rather extorting than accepting.

Accipitare /aksipatērīy/. To pay relief to lords of manors. Capitali domino accipitare, i.e., to pay a relief, homage, or obedience to the chief lord on becoming his vassal.

Accola /akōla/. Civil law. One who inhabits or occupies land near a place, as one who dwells by a river, or on the bank of a river.

Feudal law. A husbandman; an agricultural tenant; a tenant of a manor. A name given to a class of villeins in Italy.

Accomenda /ākomānēdā/. In maritime law, a contract between the owner of goods and the master of a ship, by which the former intrusts the property to the latter to be sold by him on their joint account. In such case, two contracts take place: First, the contract called mandatum, by which the owner of the property gives the master power to dispose of it; and the contract of partnership, in virtue of which the profits are to be divided between them. One party runs the risk of losing his capital; the other, his labor. If the sale produces no more than first cost, the owner takes all the proceeds. It is only the profits which are to be divided.

Accommodated party. One to whom the credit of the accommodation party is loaned, and is not necessarily the payee, since the inquiry always is as to whom did the maker of the paper loan his credit as a matter of fact; not third person who may receive advantage. See also Accommodation party.

Accommodation /ākomādēyshan/. An arrangement or engagement made as a favor to another, not upon a consideration received. Something done to oblige, usually spoken of a loan of money or commercial paper; also a friendly agreement or composition of differences. The word implies no consideration. While a party's intent may be to aid a maker of note by lending his credit, if he seeks to accomplish thereby legitimate objects of his own, and not simply to aid maker, the act is not for accommodation.

Accommodation bill or note. See Accommodation paper.

Accommodation indorse. See Indorsement.

Accommodation indorser. A party who places his name to a note without consideration for purpose of benefiting or accommodating some other party. U.C.C. § 3-415.
ACCOMMODATION LANDS

Accommodation lands. Land bought by a builder or 
speculator, who erects houses thereon, and then leases 
portions thereof upon an improved ground-rent.

Accommodation line. Insurance policies accepted by 
insurer because agent or brokers account in general 
is satisfactory, even though specific policy would 
otherwise likely not be acceptable.

Accommodation loan. Loan furnished as an act of 
friendship or assistance without tangible considera-
tion; money or credit extended for such reasons.

Accommodation maker. One who puts his name to a 
note without any consideration with the intention of 
leining his credit to the accommodated party. In re 
U.C.C. § 3–415. See also Accommodation party.

Accommodation note. One to which accommodating 
party has put his name, without consideration, to 
accommodate some other party, who is to issue it and 
is expected to pay it. U.C.C. § 3–415.

Accommodation paper. An accommodation bill or note 
is one to which the accommodating party, be he 
acceptor, drawer, or indorser, has put his name, with-
out consideration, for the purpose of benefiting or 
accommodating some other party who desires to 
raise money on it, and is to provide for the bill when 
due. Hickox v. Hickox, Tex.Civ.App., 151 S.W.2d 
913, 917. Such must be executed for the purpose of 
loaning credit, and incidental benefit to party is insuf-
ficient. Morrison v. Painter, Mo.App., 170 S.W.2d 
965, 970.

Accommodation party. One who signs commercial pa-
per in any capacity for purpose of lending his name 
to another party to instrument. U.C.C. § 3–415. 
Such party is a surety.

Accommodation road. A road opened for benefit of 
certain individuals to go from and to their homes, for 
service of the persons, and for use of some estates 
exclusively. See also Easement.

Accommodatum /skömədədəm/. The same as Com-
modatum (q.v.).

Accompany. To go along with. To go with or attend 
as a companion or associate; to occur in association 
with. United States v. Lee, C.C.A.Wis., 131 F.2d 464, 
466. The word has been defined judicially in cases 
involving varied facts; thus, an automobile driver 
under sixteen is not accompanied by an adult person 
unless the latter exercises supervision over the driver; 
a unlicensed driver is not accompanied by a licensed 
driver unless the latter is near enough to render 
advice and assistance.

Accompliee /skəmplis/. One who knowingly, volun-
tarily and with common intent unites with the principal 
offender in the commission of a crime. Smith v. 
State, Tenn.Cr.App., 525 S.W.2d 674, 676; Model 
Penal Code, § 2.06(3). One who is in some way 
concerned or associated in commission of crime; par-
taker of guilt; one who aids or assists, or is an 
465, 466. Equally concerned in the commission of 
crime. Fryman v. Commonwealth, 289 Ky. 540, 159 
S.W.2d 426, 429. An “accomplice” is one who is 
guilty of complicity in crime charged, either by being 
present and aiding or abetting in it, or having advised 
and encouraged it, though absent from place when it 
was committed, though mere presence, acquiescence, 
or silence, in the absence of a duty to act, is not 
ought, no matter how reprehensible it may be, to 
constitute one an accomplice. One is liable as an 
accomplice to the crime of another if he gave assist-
ance or encouragement or failed to perform a legal 
duty to prevent it with the intent thereby to promote 
or facilitate commission of the crime. See also Abet; 
Aid and abet; Accessory.

Accomplie liability. Criminal responsibility of one 
who acts with another before, during or after the 
perpetration of a crime. Model Penal Code, § 2.06.

Accomplie witness. A person who either as principal, 
accomplice, or accessory, was connected with crime 
by unlawful act or omission on his part, transpiring 
either before, at time of, or after commission of of-
fense, and whether or not he was present and partici-
S.W.2d 761, 763.

Accord, n. A satisfaction agreed upon between the 
party injuring and the party injured which, when 
performed, is a bar to all actions upon this account. 
An accord being a contract, the requirements of mu-
tal assent and consideration must be met. Buob v. 
Feenaughty Machinery Co., 191 Wash. 477, 71 P.2d 
559, 564. An agreement to accept, in extinguishment of 
an obligation, something different from or less than 
that to which the person agreeing to accept is entitled. 
Whepley Oil Co. v. Associated Oil Co., 6 Cal.App.2d 
94, 44 P.2d 670, 677. It may arise both where the 
demand itself is unliquidated or in dispute, and where 
the amount and nature of the demand is undisputed, 
and it is agreed to give and take less than the de-
mand. See Accord and satisfaction; Compromise and 
settlement; Executory accord.

Accord, v. In practice, to agree or concur, as one judge 
with another. In agreement with.

Accordance. Agreement; harmony; concord; con-
formity. City and County of San Francisco v. Boyd, 
22 Cal.2d 685, 140 P.2d 666, 668.

Accord and satisfaction. A method of discharging a 
claim whereby the parties agree to give and accept 
something in settlement of the claim and perform the 
agreement, the “accord” being the agreement and the 
“satisfaction” its execution or performance, and it is 
a new contract substituted for an old contract which 
is thereby discharged, or for an obligation or cause of 
action which is settled, and must have all of the 
elements of a valid contract. Holm v. Hansen, Iowa, 
248 N.W.2d 503, 506. An executory bilateral 
contract of “accord” is an agreement embodying a prom-
ise, express or implied, to accept at some future time 
a stipulated performance in satisfaction or discharge 
in whole or in part of any present claim, cause of 
action or obligation, and a promise express or implied 
to render such performance. An “accord and satis-
faction arises” where parties, by a subsequent agree-
ment, have satisfied the former one, and the latter 
agreement has been executed. The execution of a 
new agreement may itself amount to a satisfaction, 
where it is so expressly agreed by the parties; and
without such agreement, if the new promise is founded on a new consideration, in which case the taking of the new consideration amounts to the satisfaction of the former contract.

In some jurisdictions, novation is a species of accord and satisfaction.

See Composition; Compromise and settlement; Novation; Settlement.

Affirmative defense. A defense which must be pleaded affirmatively in the defendant’s answer. Fed.R.Civ.P. 8(c).

Accordant /əˈkɔrdənt/. Fr. and Eng. Agreeing; concurring.

Accord executory. A bilateral agreement of settlement which has not yet been performed (satisfied). Restatement of Contracts, § 417.

Accouchement /əˈkʌʃmənt/. The act of a woman in giving birth to a child. The fact of the accouchement, which may be proved by the direct testimony of one who was present, as a physician or midwife, is often important evidence in proving paternity.

Account. A detailed statement of the mutual demands in the nature of debit and credit between parties, arising out of contracts or some fiduciary relation. A statement in writing, of debts and credits, or of receipts and payments; a list of items of debts and credits, with their respective dates. A statement of pecuniary transactions; a record or course of business dealings between parties; a list or statement of monetary transactions, such as payments, losses, sales, debits, credits, etc., in most cases showing a balance or result of comparison between items of an opposite nature.

Any account with a bank; including a checking, time, interest or savings account. U.C.C. § 4–194.

Account means any right to payment for goods sold or leased or for services rendered which is not evidenced by an instrument or chattel paper, whether or not it has been earned by performance. This covers the ordinary account receivable. Rights arising under a ship charter are also accounts. See U.C.C. § 9–106.

See also Aging of accounts; Blocked account; Charge account; Common account; Community account; Custody account; Contra accounts; Escrow account; Impound account; Intermediate account; Liquidated account; Ledger; Long account; Margin account; Nominal account; Stated account; Statement of account. For Open account, see Open.

Account annexed. Form of simplified statement used in pleading a common count (e.g. money had and received) impliedly authorized for use under Fed.R.Civ.P. 8(a)(2).

Account balance. Difference between debit and credit sides of an account.

Account debtor. Person who is obligated on an account, chattel paper or general intangible. U.C.C. § 9–105(1)(a).

Account payable. A debt, owed by an enterprise, that arises in the normal course of business dealings and has not been replaced by a note payable of a debtor. For example, bills for materials received but not yet paid. Contract obligations owing by a person on open account. State Tax Commission v. Shattuck, 44 Ariz. 379, 38 P.2d 631, 639. A liability representing an amount owed to a creditor, usually arising from purchase of merchandise or materials and supplies; not necessarily due or past due.

Account receivable. A debt, owed to an enterprise, that arises in the normal course of business dealings and is not supported by negotiable paper. For example, the charge accounts of a department store. But income due from investments (unless investments are the business itself) is not usually shown in accounts receivable. A claim against a debtor usually arising from sales or services rendered; not necessarily due or past due. For accounts receivable insurance, see Insurance.

Account rendered. An account made out by the creditor, and presented to the debtor for his examination and acceptance. When accepted, it becomes an account stated.

Account settled. One in which the balance has been in fact paid, thereby differing from an account stated.

Account stated. An “account stated” arises where there have been transactions between debtor and creditor resulting in the creation of matured debts and the parties by agreement compute a balance which the debtor promises to pay and the creditor promises to accept in full payment for the items of account.

Adject account. An account that accumulates additions to another account.

Bank account. See Bank.

Book account. See Book.

Closed account. An account to which no further additions can be made on either side, but which remains still open for adjustment and set-off, which distinguishes it from an account stated.

Contra account. An account, such as accumulated depreciation, that accumulates subtractions from another account, such as machinery. Contrast with adjunct account, supra.

Current account. An open or running or unsettled account, between two parties; the antithesis of an account stated.

Mutual accounts. Accounts comprising mutual credits between the parties; or an existing credit on one side which constitutes a ground for credit on the other, or where there is an understanding that mutual debts shall be a satisfaction or set-off pro tanto between the parties.

Open account. An account which has not been finally settled or closed, but is still running or open to future adjustment or liquidation. Open account, in legal as well as in ordinary language, means an indebtedness subject to future adjustment, and which may be reduced or modified by proof.

Account, or account render. “Account,” sometimes called “account render,” was a form of action at common law against a person who by reason of some fiduciary relation (as guardian, bailiff, receiver, etc.) was bound to render an account to another, but refused to do so. Peoples Finance & Thrift Co. of Visalia v. Bowman, 58 Cal.App.2d 729, 137 P.2d 729, 731.
Accountability. State of being responsible or answerable. See also Liability.

Accountable. Subject to pay; responsible; liable.

Accountable receipt. An instrument acknowledging the receipt of money or personal property, coupled with an obligation.

Accountant. Person skilled in keeping books or accounts; in designing and controlling systems of account; in giving tax advice and preparing tax returns.

"Accountant" means accountant authorized under applicable law to practice public accounting, and includes professional accounting association, corporation, or partnership, if so authorized. Bankruptcy Act, § 101(1).

Certified Public Accountant (CPA). An accountant who has satisfied the statutory and administrative requirements of his or her jurisdiction to be registered or licensed as a public accountant. In addition to passing the Uniform CPA Examination administered by the AICPA, the CPA must meet certain business experience, educational and moral requirements that differ from jurisdiction to jurisdiction.

Cost accountant. See Cost.

Accountant privilege. Protection afforded to client from disclosure by accountant of materials submitted to or prepared by accountant.

Accountants, chartered. Persons skilled in the keeping and examination of accounts, who are employed for the purpose of examining and certifying to the correctness of accounts of corporations and others. British Commonwealth equivalent of Certified Public Accountant.

Accountant's lien. Possessory right of accountant to papers prepared by him and held until payment is made for his services.

Account book. A book kept by a merchant, trader, mechanic, or other person, in which are entered from time to time the transactions of his trade or business. Entries made therein are admissible in evidence as exception to hearsay rule under certain conditions. Fed.Evid.R. 803.

Account computatio. The primary idea of "account computatio", whether in proceedings of courts of law or equity, is some matter of debt and credit, or demand in nature thereof. Coleman v. Kansas City, 351 Mo. 254, 173 S.W.2d 572, 576.

Account for. To pay over the money to the person entitled thereto. U. S. v. Rehwald, D.C. Cal., 44 F.2d 663.

Accounting. An act or system of making up or settling accounts; a statement of account, or a debt and credit in financial transactions. Kansas City v. Burns, 137 Kan. 905, 22 P.2d 444. Rendition of an account, either voluntarily or by order of a court. In the latter case, it imports a rendition of a judgment for the balance ascertained to be due. The term may include payment of the amount due.

The methods under which income and expenses are determined for tax purposes. Major accounting methods are the cash basis and the accrual basis.

Special methods are available for the reporting of gain on installment sales, recognition of income on construction projects (i.e., the completed-contract and percentage-of-completion methods), and the valuation of inventories (i.e. last-in-first-out and first-in-first-out). The various types of accounting methods appear below:

Accrual method. A method of keeping accounts which shows expenses incurred and income earned for a given period, although such expenses and income may not have been actually paid or received. Right to receive and not the actual receipt determines inclusion of amount in gross income. When right to receive an amount becomes fixed, right accrues. H. Liebes & Co. v. Commissioner of Internal Revenue, C.C.A.9, 90 F.2d 932, 937. Obligations payable to or by taxpayer are treated as if discharged when incurred. H. Liebes & Co. v. Commissioner of Internal Revenue, C.C.A.9, 90 F.2d 932, 936. Entries are made of credits and debits when liability arises, whether received or disbursed. Insurance Finance Corporation v. Commissioner of Internal Revenue, C.C.A.3, 84 F.2d 382. See also Accrual basis; Accrue (Taxation).

Cash method. The practice of recording income and expense only when received or paid out; used in contradistinction to accrual method. See Cash basis accounting.

Completed contract method. A method of reporting gain or loss on certain long-term contracts. Under this method of accounting, gross income and expenses are recognized in the tax year in which the contract is completed.

Cost method. The practice of recording the value of assets in terms of their cost.

Fair value method. Refers to present value as used in valuation of assets; means same as actual value, market value. Kerr v. Klinchfield Coal Corp., 169 Va. 149, 192 S.E. 741, 744.


Installment method. Procedure applied in reflecting collection of sales price in installments.

Price level accounting. Modern method of valuing assets in a financial statement which requires use of gross national product to reflect current values. See also Change of accounting method.

See also Generally accepted accounting principles; Installment method; Interim statements; Percentage of completion method; Purchase method of accounting; T-Account; Trial balance.

Accounting for profits. Action for equitable relief against one in a fiduciary relation to recover profits taken in breach of relation.

Accounting period. The period of time, usually a year, used by a taxpayer for the determination of tax liability. Unless a fiscal year is chosen, taxpayers must determine and pay their income tax liability by using the calendar year (i.e., January 1 through December 31) as the period of measurement. An example of a
fiscal year is July 1 through June 30. A change in accounting periods (e.g., from a calendar year to a fiscal year) generally requires the consent of the Internal Revenue Service. New taxpayers, such as a newly formed corporation or an estate created upon the death of an individual taxpayer, are free to select either a calendar or a fiscal year without the consent of the Internal Revenue Service. See Annual accounting period; Fiscal year.

Account in trust. Account established by an individual to be held in trust for the benefit of another.

Account payable. See Account.

Account receivable. See Account.

Account stated. See Account.

Accouple. To unite; to marry. Ne unques accouple, never married.

Accredit /əkrédiːt/. To give official authorization or status. To recognize as having sufficient academic standards to qualify graduates for higher education or for professional practice. In international law: (1) To acknowledge; to receive as an envoy in his public character, and give him credit and rank accordingly. (2) To send with credentials as an envoy. This latter use is now the accepted one.

Accredited law school. Law school which has been approved by the state and the Association of American Law Schools and/or the American Bar Association. In certain states (e.g., Calif.) a law school might be accredited by the state, but not by either the AALS or ABA. In most states only graduates of AALS or ABA accredited law schools are permitted to take the state bar exam.

Accredited representative. As respects service of process, representative having general authority to act.

Accredulitare /əkrédylətəriː/. Lat. To purge an offense by oath.

Accretion /əkrɪtʃən/. The act of growing to a thing; usually applied to the gradual and imperceptible accumulation of land by natural causes, as out of the sea or a river.

Civil law. The right of heirs or legatees to unite or aggregate with their shares or portions of the estate the portion of any co-heir or legatee who refuses to accept it, fails to comply with a condition, becomes incapacitated to inherit, or dies before, the testator.

Land. Addition of portions of soil, by gradual deposition through the operation of natural causes, to that already in possession of owner. Willett v. Miller, 176 Okl. 278, 55 F.2d 90, 92. Accretion of land is of two kinds: By alluvion, i.e., by the washing up of sand or soil, so as to form firm ground; or by dereliction, as when the sea shrinks below the usual water-mark. The term “alluvion” is applied to deposit itself, while “accretion” denotes the act. However, the terms are frequently used synonymously. Land uncovered by gradual subsidence of water is not an “accretion” but a “relocation”.

Trust property. Receipts other than those ordinarily considered as income.

See Accrue; Alluvion; Avulsion; Relicton.

Accroat. To encroach; to exercise power without authority.

Accrocher /akroʃər/. Fr. To delay; retard; put off. Accrocher un proces, to stay the proceedings in a suit.

Accrual basis. A method of accounting that reflects expenses incurred and income earned for any one tax year. In contrast to the cash basis of accounting, expenses do not have to be paid to be deductible nor does income have to be received to be taxable. Unearned income (e.g., prepaid interest and rent) generally is taxed in the year of receipt regardless of the method of accounting used by the taxpayer. See Accounting.

Accrual, clause of. See Accrual, clause of.

Accrual method of accounting. See Accounting.

Accrue /əkrjuː/. Derived from the Latin, “ad” and “cresco,” to grow to. In past tense, in sense of due and payable; vested. It means to increase; to augment; to come by way of increase; to be added as an increase, profit, or damage. Acquired; falling due; made or executed; matured; occurred; received; vested; was created; was incurred. H. Liebes & Co. v. Commissioner of Internal Revenue, C.C.A.9, 90 F.2d 932, 936. To attach itself to, as a subordinate or accessory claim or demand arises out of, and is joined to, its principal. Lifson v. Commissioner of Internal Revenue, C.C.A.8, 98 F.2d 508.

The term is also used of independent or original demands, meaning to arise, to happen, to come into force or existence; to vest; as in the phrase, “The right of action did not accrue within six years.” Amy v. Dubuque, 98 U.S. 470, 476, 25 L.Ed. 228. To become a present right or demand; to come to pass. H. Liebes & Co. v. Commissioner of Internal Revenue, C.C.A.9, 90 F.2d 932, 936. See also Vested.


Taxation. Income “accrues” to taxpayer when there arises to him a fixed or unconditional right to receive it. Franklin County Distilling Co. v. Commissioner of Internal Revenue, C.C.A.6, 125 F.2d 800, 804, 805. But not unless there is a reasonable expectancy that the right will be converted into money or its equivalent. Swastika Oil & Gas Co. v. Commissioner of Internal Revenue, C.C.A.6, 123 F.2d 382, 384. Where
taxpayer makes returns on accrual basis, item "accrues" when all events occur which fix amount payable and determine liability of taxpayer. Hudson Motor Car Co. v. U. S., Ct.Cl., 3 F.Supp. 834, 847. Tax "accrues" for deduction when all events have occurred which fix amount of tax and determine liability of taxpayer for it, although there has not yet been assessment or maturity. Elmhirst v. Duggan, D.C.N.Y., 14 F.Supp. 782, 784.

Accrued alimony. Alimony which is due but not yet paid.

Accrued compensation. Awarded compensation, due and payable, but not yet paid.

Accrued depreciation. Amount reserved each year in the accounting system for replacement of asset. Portion of useful service life which has expired. State ex rel. City of St. Louis v. Public Service Commission, 341 Mo. 920, 110 S.W.2d 749, 768. A loss which is not restored by current maintenance, and which is due to all factors involved causing ultimate retirement of the property, including wear, tear, decay, and inadequacy. Iowa-Illinois Gas & Elec. Co. v. Iowa City, 255 Iowa 1341, 124 N.W.2d 840, 845.

Accrued dividend. A share of net earnings declared but not yet paid as a dividend.

Accrued expense. Expense incurred but not yet paid.

Accrued income. Income which is earned but not yet due and payable. In re Schlinger's Will, 48 Misc.2d 345, 438, 265 N.Y.S.2d 32, 35.

Accrued interest. Interest that has been earned but is not yet paid or payable.

Accrued liability. An obligation or debt which is properly chargeable in a given accounting period but which is not paid or yet payable.

Accrued right. A matured cause of action, as legal authority to demand redress.

Accrued salary. Compensation to employee which is chargeable to employer but not yet payable.

Accrued taxes. Taxes which are properly chargeable in a given accounting period but not yet payable.

Accrue (or accrual), clause of. An express clause, frequently occurring in the case of gifts by deed or will to persons as tenants in common, providing that upon the death of one or more of the beneficiaries his or their shares shall go to the survivor or survivors. The share of the decedent is then said to accrue to the others.

Accruing /əkrú'wig/. Inchoate; in process of maturing. That which will or may, at a future time, ripen into a vested right, an available demand, or an existing cause of action. Arising by way of increase or augmentation. Globe Indemnity Co. v. Bruce, C.C.A. Okl., 81 F.2d 143, 153.

Accounting. Allocation of income and expense, which has been earned or incurred but not yet collected or paid out, to the accounting period in which the income is earned or expense incurred.

Accruing costs. Costs and expenses incurred after judgment.

Accruing interest. Running or accumulating interest, as distinguished from accrued or matured interest. Interest daily accumulating on the principal debt but not yet due and payable.

Accruing right. One that is increasing, enlarging, or augmenting.

Acct. Abbreviation for "account", of such universal and immemorial use that the courts will take judicial notice of its meaning.

Accumulated dividend. Dividend due shareholder which has not been paid. See Accumulative dividends; Dividend (Cumulative).

Accumulated earnings credit. A deduction allowed in arriving at accumulated taxable income for purposes of determining the accumulated earnings tax. See Accumulated earnings tax; Accumulated taxable income.

Accumulated earnings tax. A special tax imposed on corporations that accumulate (rather than distribute via dividends) their earnings beyond the reasonable needs of the business. The accumulated earnings tax is imposed on accumulated taxable income in addition to the corporate income tax. See also Excess profits tax.

Accumulated legacy. Portion of distributable estate not yet paid to legatees or donees.


Accumulated surplus. In statutes relative to the taxation of corporations, this term refers to the fund which the company has in excess of its capital and liabilities.

Accumulated taxable income. The income upon which the accumulated earnings tax is imposed. Basically, it is the taxable income of the corporation as adjusted for certain items (e.g., the Federal income tax, excess charitable contributions, the 85% dividends received deduction) less the dividends paid deduction and the accumulated earnings credit.

Accumulations /ækju'mäléʃənz/. Increase by continuous or repeated additions, or, if taken literally, means either profit accruing on sale of principal assets, or increase derived from their investment, or both. Adding of interest or income of a fund to principal pursuant to provisions of a will or deed, preventing its being expended. When an executor or other trustee masses the rents, dividends, and other income which he receives, treats it as a capital, invests it, makes a new capital of the income derived therefrom, invests that, and so on, he is said to accumulate the fund, and the capital and accrued income thus procured constitute accumulations.

Accumulations, rule against. A rule rendering an accumulation of income beyond the period of perpetuities void.
Accumulation trust. A trust in which the trustee is directed to accumulate income for a period of time before distribution.

Accumulative. That which accumulates, or is heaped up; additional. Said of several things heaped together, or of one thing added to another.

Accumulative dividends. Same as cumulative dividends; characteristic of preferred stockholders' agreement by which they receive the agreed dividends before common stockholders. Dividends which accumulate from year to year when not paid. See Dividend (Cumulative).

Accumulative judgment. Where a person has already been convicted and sentenced, and a second or additional judgment is passed against him, the execution of which is postponed until the completion of the first sentence, such second judgment is said to be accumulative. See also Accumulative sentence.

Accumulative legacy. A second, double or additional legacy; a legacy given in addition to another given by the same instrument, or by another instrument. See also Legacy.

Accumulative sentence. A sentence, additional to others, imposed on a defendant who has been convicted upon an indictment containing several counts, each of such counts charging a distinct offense, or who is under conviction at the same time for several distinct offenses; one of such sentences to begin at the expiration of another. Consecutive sentences. See Sentence.

Accusation /âkyazéýshan/. A formal charge against a person, to the effect that he is guilty of a punishable offense, laid before a court or magistrate having jurisdiction to inquire into the alleged crime. See Accuse; Indictment; Information.

Accusatory body. Body such as grand jury whose duty is to hear evidence to determine whether a person should be accused (charged) of a crime; to be distinguished from a traverse or petit jury which is charged with duty of determining guilt or innocence.

Accusatory instrument. A document in which an accusation of crime is set forth like an indictment, information or complaint.

Accusatory part. The "accusatory part" of an indictment is that part where the offense is named.

Accusatory pleading. An indictment or complaint in which a person is accused of crime and on which the government tries such person. Fed.R.Crim.P. 3.

Accusatory procedure. System of American jurisprudence in which the government accuses and bears the burden of proving the guilt of a person for a crime; to be distinguished from inquisitorial system. Rogers v. Richmond, 365 U.S. 534, 81 S.Ct. 735, 5 L.Ed.2d 760.

Accuse. To bring a formal charge against a person, to the effect that he is guilty of a crime or punishable offense, before a court or magistrate having jurisdiction to inquire into the alleged crime. See also Indictment; Information.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Accused. The generic name for the defendant in a criminal case. Person becomes "accused" within meaning of guarantee of speedy trial only at point at which either formal indictment or information has been returned against him, or when he becomes subject to actual restraints on his liberty imposed by arrest, whichever first occurs. State v. Almeida, 54 Haw. 443, 509 P.2d 549, 551.

Accuser. The person by whom an accusation is made.

Accustomed. Habitual; often used; synonymous with usual or customary.

A ce. For this purpose.

A cel jour /a sêl zhûr/. At this day.

Aceaquia /asîykwiya/. A ditch, channel, or canal, through which water, diverted from its natural course, is conducted, for use in irrigation or other purposes; public ditches.

Ac etiam /âk âshiyam/. (Lat. And also.) The introduction of the statement of the real cause of action, used formerly in those cases where it was necessary to allege a fictitious cause of action to give the court jurisdiction, and also the real cause in compliance with the statutes. It is sometimes written acetiam. See Bill of Middlesex under Bill, definition 2.


Acid test. Method of financial analysis; ratio of cash and receivables to current liabilities. Sum of cash, marketable securities, and receivables divided by current liabilities. Also called the "quick ratio."

Acknowledge. To own, avow, or admit; to confess; to recognize one's acts, and assume the responsibility therefor.

Acknowledgment. To "acknowledge" is to admit, affirm, declare, testify, avow, confess, or own as genuine. Favello v. Bank of America Nat. Trust & Savings Ass'n, 24 Cal.App.2d 342, 74 P.2d 1057, 1058. Implying obligation or incurring responsibility. Weyerhaeuser Timber Co. v. Marshall, C.C.A.Wash., 102 F.2d 78, 81. Most states have adopted the Uniform Acknowledgment Act. See also Receipt.

Debt. Part payment of obligation which tolls statute of limitations is a form of "acknowledgment of debt". In re Badger's Estate, 156 Kan. 734, 137 P.2d 198, 205.

Instruments. Formal declaration before authorized official, by person who executed instrument, that it is his free act and deed. The certificate of the officer on such instrument that it has been so acknowledged. See also Attestation clause; Jurat; Notary public; Verification.

Paternity. An avowal or admission that the child is one's own. Recognition of a parental relation, either by a written agreement, verbal declarations or statements, by the life, acts, and conduct of the parties, or any other satisfactory evidence that the relation was recognized and admitted.

A.C.L.U. American Civil Liberties Union.
A CÉLÓ USQUE AD CENTRUM

A celo usque ad centrum /ˈɛː sɪˈlɔːr əskwiːl æd sɛnˈtrəm/. From the heavens to the center of the earth. Or more fully, Cujus est solum ejus est usque ad caelum et ad inferos. The owner of the soil owns to the heavens and also to the lowest depths. Or, Cujus est solum est usque ad caelum,—the owner of the soil owns to the heavens. This doctrine has, however, been abrogated; the flight of airplanes and oil and gas regulations have qualified the owner's dominion not only in the heavens but in the lowest depths. See Air rights.

A communi observantia non est recedendum /ˈɛː kəmˈwɪjɪnətə nən ɪst rɛˈsɛdəndəm/. From common observance there should be no departure; there must be no departure from common usage. A maxim formerly applied to the practice of the courts, to the ancient and established forms of pleading and conveyancing, and to professional usage generally. Lord Coke applies it to common professional opinion.

A confectione /ˈɛː kənˈʃɛkʃənə/ From the making.

A confectione præsentium /ˈɛː kənˈʃɛkʃənə prərˈzentəm/. From the making of the indentures.

A consilis /ˈɛː kənsəlɪs/. (Lat. consilium, advice.) Of counsel; a counsellor. The term is used in the civil law by some writers instead of a responsus.

A contrario sensu /ˈɛː kəntrəˈrɪriəw sɛnˈsuː/. On the other hand; in the opposite sense.

Acquainted. Having personal, familiar, knowledge of a person, event, or thing. “Acquaintance” expresses less than familiarity; familiarity less than intimacy. Acquaintance springs from occasional intercourse, familiarity from daily intercourse, intimacy from unrestrained intercourse. Atkins Corporation v. Tourny, 6 Cal.2d 206, 57 P.2d 480, 483. To be “personally acquainted with,” and to “know personally,” are equivalent terms; Kelly v. Calhoun, 95 U.S. 710, 24 L.Ed. 544. When used with reference to a paper to which a certificate or affidavit is attached, it indicates a substantial knowledge of the subject-matter thereof.

Acquereur /ˈaˌkərər/. In French and Canadian law, one who acquires title, particularly to immovable property, by purchase.

Acquest /ˈskʌst/. An estate acquired newly, or by purchase.

Acquêts /ˈaˌkɛt/. In the civil law, property which has been acquired by purchase, gift, or otherwise than by succession. Immovable property which has been acquired otherwise than by succession. Profits or gains of property, as between husband and wife. Civil Code La. art. 2402. The profits of all the effects of which the husband has the administration and enjoyment, either of right or in fact, of the produce of the joint industry of both husband and wife, and of the estates which they may acquire during the marriage, either by donations made jointly to them both, or by purchase, or in any other similar way, even though the purchase be only in the name of one of the two, and not of both. See Community; Conquêts.

Acquiesce /ˈakwiːs/. To give an implied consent to a transaction, to the accrual of a right, or to any act, by one's mere silence, or without express assent or acknowledgment.

Acquiescence /ˈakwiːsəns/. Conduct recognizing the existence of a transaction, and intended, in some extent at least, to carry the transaction, or permit it to be carried, into effect. It is some act, not deliberately intended to ratify a former transaction known to be voidable, but recognizing the transaction as existing, and intended, in some extent at least, to carry it into effect, and to obtain or claim the benefits resulting from it, and thus differs from “confirmation,” which implies a deliberate act, intended to renew and ratify a transaction known to be voidable. De Boe v. Prentice Packing & Storage Co., 172 Wash. 514, 20 P.2d 1107, 1110. Passive compliance or satisfaction; distinguished from avowed consent on the one hand, and, on the other, from opposition or open discontent. Paul v. Western Distributing Co., 142 Kan. 816, 52 P.2d 379, 387. Acquiescence from which assent may be reasonably inferred. Frank v. Wilson & Co., 24 Del.Ch. 237, 9 A.2d 82, 86. Equivalent to assent inferred from silence with knowledge or from encouragement and presupposes knowledge and assent. Imports tacit consent, concurrence, acceptance or assent. Natural Soda Products Co. v. City of Los Angeles, Cal.App., 132 P.2d 558, 563. A silent appearance of consent. Failure to make any objections. Submission to an act of which one had knowledge.

It is to be distinguished from avowed consent, on the one hand, and from open discontent or opposition, on the other.

It arises where a person who knows that he is entitled to impeach a transaction or enforce a right neglects to do so for such a length of time that, under the circumstances of the case, the other party may fairly infer that he has waived or abandoned his right. A form of equitable estoppel. Schmitt v. Wright, 317 Ill.App. 384, 46 N.E.2d 184, 192.

Acquiescence and laches are cognate but not equivalent terms. The former is a submission to, or resting satisfied with, an existing state of things, while laches implies a neglect to do that which the party ought to do for his own benefit or protection. Hence laches may be evidence of acquiescence. Laches imports a merely passive assent, while acquiescence implies active assent. In re Wilbur's Estate, 334 Pa. 45, 5 A.2d 325, 331. “Acquiescence” relates to inaction during performance of an act while “laches” relates to delay after act is done.

See also Admission; Confession; Estoppel; Ratification.

Internal Revenue Service. In agreement with the result reached. The I.R.S. follows a policy of either acquiescing (i.e., Acq.) or non-acquiescing (i.e., NA, Non-Acq.) in the results reached in the regular decisions of the U.S. Tax Court.

Acquiescence, estoppel by. Acquiescence is a species of estoppel. An estoppel arises where party aware of his rights sees other party acting upon mistaken notion of his rights. Injury accruing from one's acquiescence in another's action to his prejudice creates "estoppel". Lebov v. Inland Steel Co., C.C.A.III., 125
Acquiescentandis pleglis /əkwɪˈɛsɛntəndəs plɪˈjɪjəs/. A writ of justices, formerly lying for the surety against a creditor who refuses to acquit him after the debt has been satisfied.

Acquire. To gain by any means, usually by one’s own exertions; to get as one’s own; to obtain by search, endeavor, investment, practice, or purchase; receive or gain in whatever manner; come to have. In law of contracts and of descents, to become owner of property; to make property one’s own. To gain ownership of. Commissioner of Insurance v. Broad Street Mut. Casualty Ins. Co., 312 Mass. 261, 44 N.E.2d 683, 684. The act of getting or obtaining something which may be already in existence, or may be brought into existence through means employed to acquire it. Ronnow v. City of Las Vegas, 57 Nev. 332, 65 P.2d 133, 140. Sometimes used in the sense of “procure.” It does not necessarily mean that title has passed. Includes taking by devise. U. S. v. Merriam, 267 U.S. 179, 44 S.Ct. 69, 70, 68 L.Ed. 240. See also Accession; Acquisition; Purchase.


Acquired rights. Those which one does not naturally enjoy, but which are owing to his or her own procurement, as sovereignty, or the right of commanding, or the right of property.

Acquired surplus. Surplus arising from changes of the capital structure of one or more businesses; e.g. from the purchase of one business by another business.

Acquisition /əˈkwɪwəzɪʃən/. The act of becoming the owner of certain property; the act by which one acquires or procures the property in anything. State ex rel. Fisher v. Sherman, 135 Ohio St. 458, 21 N.E.2d 467, 470. Used also of the thing acquired. Taking with, or against, consent. Scribner v. Wikstrom, 93 N.H. 17, 34 A.2d 658, 660. Term refers especially to a material possession obtained by any means. Jones v. State, 126 Tex.Cr.R. 469, 72 S.W.2d 260, 263.

See Accession; Acquire; Purchase; Tender offer.

Derivative acquisitions are those which are procured from others. Goods and chattels may change owners by act of law in the cases of forfeiture, succession, marriage, judgment, insolvency, and intestacy; or by act of the parties, as by gift or sale.

Original acquisition is that by which a man secures a property in a thing which is not at the time he acquires it, and in its then existing condition, the property of any other individual. It may result from occupancy; accession; intellectual labor—namely, for inventions, which are secured by patent rights; and for the authorship of books, maps, and charts, which is protected by copyrights.

An acquisition may result from the act of the party himself, or those who are in his power acting for him, as his children while minors.

Acquisitive offenses. A generic term to describe all forms of larceny and offenses against the title or possession of property.

Acquit /əˈkwɪt/. To set free, release or discharge as from an obligation, burden or accusation. To absolve one from an obligation or a liability; or to legally certify the innocence of one charged with crime. See also Acquittal.

Acquittal. See Absolution.

Acquittal /əˈkwɪtəl/. Contracts. A release, absolution, or discharge from an obligation, liability, or engagement.

Criminal law. The legal and formal certification of the innocence of a person who has been charged with crime; a deliverance or setting free a person from a charge of guilt; finding of not guilty. Also, one legally acquitted by a judgment rendered otherwise than in pursuance of a verdict, as where he is discharged by a magistrate because of the insufficiency of the evidence, or the indictment is dismissed by the court or a nol. pros. entered. Or, it may occur even though the question of guilt or innocence has never been submitted to a jury, as where a defendant, having been held under an indictment or information, is discharged because not brought to trial within the time provided by statute.

Acquittals in fact are those which take place when the jury, upon trial, finds a verdict of not guilty. Acquittals in law are those which take place by mere operation of law; as where a man has been charged merely as an accessory, and the principal has been acquitted.

See Autrefois acquit; Jeopardy; Nolle prosequi; Verdict.

Feudal law. The obligation on the part of a mesne lord to protect his tenant from any claims, entries or molestations by lords paramount arising out of the services due to them by the mesne lord.

Acquittance /əˈkwɪstænds/. A written discharge, whereby one is freed from an obligation to pay money or perform a duty. This word, though perhaps not strictly speaking synonymous with “receipt,” includes it. A receipt is one form of an acquittance; a discharge is another. A receipt in full is an acquittance, and a receipt for a part of a demand or obligation is an acquittance pro tanto.

Acquitted /əˈkwɪstid/. Released; absolved; purged of an accusation. Judicially discharged from accusation; released from debt, etc. Includes both civil and criminal prosecutions. See Acquittal.

Acre. A quantity of land containing 160 square rods, 4,840 square yards, or 43,560 square feet of land, in whatever shape. See Land measure.

Acre foot. 325,850 gallons, or the amount of water which will cover one acre one foot in depth.

Acre right. Formerly the share of a citizen of a New England town in the common lands. The value of the
ACRE RIGHT

acre right was a fixed quantity in each town, but varied in different towns. A 10-acre lot or right in a certain town was equivalent to 113 acres of upland and 12 acres of meadow, and a certain exact proportion was maintained between the acre right and salable lands.

Across. From side to side. Transverse to the length of. It may mean "over," or "upon and along," or "upon," or "within".

Act, n. Denotes external manifestation of actor's will. Restatement, Second, Torts § 2. Expression of will or purpose; carries idea of performance; primarily that which is done or doing; exercise of power, or effect of which power exerted is cause; a performance; a deed. In its most general sense, this noun signifies something done voluntarily by a person; the exercise of an individual's power; an effect produced in the external world by an exercise of the power of a person objectively, prompted by intention, and proximately caused by a motion of the will. In a more technical sense, it means something done voluntarily by a person, and of such a nature that certain legal consequences attach to it. Thus a grantor acknowledges the conveyance to be his "act and deed," the terms being synonymous. It may denote something done by an individual, as a private citizen, or as an officer, or by a body of men, as a legislature, a council, or a court of justice; including not merely physical acts, but also decrees, edicts, laws, judgments, resolves, awards, and determinations. Some general laws made by the Congress of the United States are styled joint resolutions, and these have the same force and effect as those styled acts.

Acts under private signature are those which have been made by private individuals under their hands. Criminal act. External manifestation of one's will which is prerequisite to criminal responsibility. There can be no crime without some act, affirmative or negative. An omission or failure to act may constitute an act for purpose of criminal law.

Legislative act. An alternative name for statutory law. When introduced into the first house of the legislature, a piece of proposed legislation is known as a bill. When passed to the next house, it may then be referred to as an act. After enactment the terms "law" and "act" may be used interchangeably. An act has the same legislative force as a joint resolution but is technically distinguishable, being of a different form and introduced with the words "Be it enacted" instead of "Be it resolved."

Acts are either public or private. Public acts (also called general acts, or general statutes, or statutes at large) are those which relate to the community generally, or establish a universal rule for the governance of the whole body politic. Private acts (formerly called special), are those which relate either to particular persons (personal acts) or to particular places (local acts), or which operate only upon specified individuals or their private concerns. Unity v. Bur rage, 103 U.S. 447, 454, 26 L.Ed. 465. Public acts are those which concern the whole community and of which courts of law are bound to take judicial notice.

A "special" or "private" act is one operating only on particular persons and private concerns. A "local act" is one applicable only to a particular part of the legislative jurisdiction.

See also Governmental act; Legislation; Legislative act; Statute.

Private acts are those made by private persons as registers in relation to their receipts and expenditures, schedules, acquaintances, and the like.

Public acts are those which have a public authority, and which have been made before public officers, are authorized by a public seal, have been made public by the authority of a magistrate, or which have been extracted and been properly authenticated from public records.

Acta diurna /ækta dairnə/. Lat. In the Roman law, daily acts or chronicles; the public registers or journals of the daily proceedings of the senate, assemblies of the people, courts of justice, etc. Supposed to have resembled a modern newspaper.

Acta exteriorea indicant interiora secreta /ækta ekstirijorə indakənt intirjorə sakrɪjə/. External acts indicate undisclosed thoughts.

Acta in uno judicio non probant in allo nisi inter easdem personas /ækta in ju:nju:n juwdishyən non prəwənbənt in əlijju:nəy nəsəsəs inær ejədəm persənəsəsə/. Things done in one action cannot be taken as evidence in another, unless it be between the same parties.

Acta publica /ækta pó:wbla/. Lat. Things of general knowledge and concern; matters transacted before certain public officers.

Akte /ak'tə/ In French law, denotes a document, or formal, solemn writing, embodying a legal attestation that something has been done, corresponding to one sense or use of the English word "act."

Actes de naissance are the certificates of birth, and must contain the day, hour, and place of birth, together with the sex and intended christian name of the child, and the names of the parents and of the witnesses. Actes de mariage are the marriage certificates, and contain names, professions, ages, and places of birth and domicile of the two persons marrying, and of their parents; also the consent of these latter, and the mutual agreements of the intended husband and wife to take each other for better and worse, together with the usual attestations. Actes de décès are the certificates of death, which are required to be drawn up before any one may be buried. Les actes de l'état civil are public documents.

Akte authentique /ak'tə öntətjikə/. A deed executed with certain prescribed formalities, in the presence of a notary, mayor, greffier, huissier, or other functionary qualified to act in the place in which it is drawn up.

Akte de francisation /ak'tə da frənkəzəzyəmən/. The certificate of registration of a ship, by virtue of which its French nationality is established.

Akte d'héritier /ak'tə deʃrətjer/. Act of inheritance. Any action or fact on the part of an heir which manifests his intention to accept the succession; the acceptance may be express or tacit.

Akte extrajudicale /ak'tə ekstrəudiskəjələ/. A document served by a huissier, at the demand of one party upon another party, without legal proceedings.
Actio commodati directa /ékshiyow kómádédýday dárékta/. An action by a lender against a borrower, the principal object of which is to obtain a restitution of the thing lent.

Actio communi dividundo /ékshiyow kamyǘwnay divódándow/. An action to procure a judicial division of joint property. It was analogous in its object to proceedings for partition in modern law.

Actio conductio indebitati /ékshiyow końdi(k)sheyow indébéstédýay/. An action by which the plaintiff recovers the amount of a sum of money or other thing he paid by mistake.

Actio confessoria /ékshiyow kónfásóríya/. An affirmative petitory action for the recognition and enforcement of a servitude. So called because based on plaintiff's affirmative allegation of a right in defendant's land. Distinguished from an actio negatoria, which was brought to repel a claim of defendant to a servitude in plaintiff's land.

Actio contrario /ékshiyow kántrérijyow/. Counter action or cross action.

Actio criminalis /ékshiyow krimánéylas/. Criminal action.

Actio damni injuria /ékshiyow dámmay injúriya/. The name of a general class of actions for damages, including many species of suits for losses caused by wrongful or negligent acts. The term is about equivalent to our "action for damages."

Actio de dolo malo /ékshiyow diý dówlow málow/. An action of fraud; an action which lay for a defrauded person against the defrauder and his heirs, who had been enriched by the fraud, to obtain the restitution of the thing of which he had been fraudulently deprived, with all its accessions (cum omni causa;) or, where this was not practicable, for compensation in damages.

Actio de peculio /ékshiyow diý pokúwliwyow/. An action concerning or against the peculiare, or separate property of a party.

Actio de pecunia constituta /ékshiyow diý pokúwnya kónstényúwda/. An action for money engaged to be paid; an action which lay against any person who had engaged to pay money for himself, or for another without any formal stipulation.

Actio depositi contraria /ékshiyow dápózaday kántrériya/. An action which the depository has against the depositor, to compel him to fulfill his engagement towards him.

Actio depositi directa /ékshiyow dápózaday dárékta/. An action which is brought by the depository against the depositary, in order to get back the thing deposited.

Actio de tigno juncto /ékshiyow diý tignow jáŋktow/. An action by the owner of material built by another into his building.

Actio directa /ékshiyow dárékta/. A direct action; an action founded on strict law, and conducted according to fixed forms; an action founded on certain legal obligations which from their origin were accurately
defined and recognized as actionable. See Actio util-
is.

Actio empti /ákshiyo w émp(t)ay/. An action em-
ployed in behalf of a buyer to compel a seller to 
perform his obligations or pay compensation; also to 

efforce any special agreements by him, embodied in 
a contract of sale.

Actio ex conducto /ákshiyo w éks kandáktow/. An 
action which the bailor of a thing for hire may bring 
against the bailee, in order to compel him to redeliver 
the thing hired.

Actio ex contractu /ákshiyo w éks kontráktyuu/. In 
the civil and common law, an action of contract; an 
action arising out of, or founded on, contract. 3 
Bl.Comm. 117.

Actio ex delicto /ákshiyo w éks dalíktow/. In the civil 
and common law, an action of tort; an action arising 
out of fault, misconduct, or malfeasance. 3 Bl. 
Comm. 117. Ex maleficio is the more common 
expression of the civil law; which is adopted by Brac-
ton.

Actio exercitoria /ákshiyo w egzárstoúryia/. An action 
against the exercitor or employer of a vessel.

Actio ex locato /ákshiyo w éks lowkédow/. An action 
upon letting; an action which the person who let a 
thing for hire to another might have against the hirer.

Actio ex stipulatu /ákshiyo w éks stipyalétyuuw/. An 
action brought to enforce a stipulation.

Actio familiae erisçunde /ákshiyo w famíliyí ársi-
skándyí/. An action for the partition of an inheri-
tance.

Actio furti /ákshiyo w fárdaý/. An action of theft; an 
action founded upon theft. This could be brought 
only for the penalty attached to the offense, and not 
to recover the thing stolen, for which other actions 
were provided. An appeal of larceny. The old proc-

dess by which a thief can be pursued and the goods 
vindicated.

Actio honoraria /ákshiyo w (h)onórréryí/. An honor-
ary, or praetorian action. Actiones honorariæ are 
those forms of remedies which were gradually intro-
duced by the praetors and ediles, by virtue of their 
equitable powers, in order to prevent the failure of 
justice which too often resulted from the employment of 
the actiones civiles. These were found so benefi-
cial in practice that they eventually supplant the old 
remedies, of which in the time of Justinian hardly 
a trace remained.

Actio in factum /ákshiyo w fakťam/. In action 
adapting to the particular case, having an analogy to 
some actio in jus, the latter being founded on some 
subsisting acknowledged law. The origin of these 
actions is similar to that of actions on the case at 
common law.

Actio in personam /ákshiyo w persównam/. In the civil 

law, an action against the person, founded on a 
personal liability; an action seeking redress for the 
violation of a jus in personam or right available 
against a particular individual. See In personam.

Actio in rem /ákshiyo w in rém/. In the civil and 
common law, an action for a thing: an action for the 
recovery of a thing possessed by another. An action 
for the enforcement of a right (or for redress for its 
vasion) which was originally available against all 
the world, and not in any special sense against the 
individual sued, until he violated it. See In rem.

Actio judicati /ákshiyo w júwékéyad/. In the civil 

court, an action instituted after four months had 
elapsed after the rendition of judgment, in which the 
judge issued his warrant to seize, first, the movables, 
which were sold within eight days afterwards; and 
than the immovables, which were delivered in pledge 
to the creditors, or put under the care of a curator, 
and if, at the end of two months, the debt was not 
paid, the land was sold.

Actio leges aquilae /ákshiyo w lýtis akwiélyí/. An 
action under the Aquilian law; an action to recover 
damages for maliciously or injuriously killing or 
wounding the slave or beast of another, or injuring in 
any way a thing belonging to another. Otherwise 
called damnì injurìce actio.

Actio mandati /ákshiyo w mändéyad/. In the civil 

law, term included actions to enforce contracts of 
mandate or obligations arising out of them.

Actio mixta /ákshiyo w mixta/. A mixed action, an 
action brought for the recovery of a thing, or compen-
sation for damages, and also for the payment of a 
penalty; partaking of the nature both of an actio in 
rem and in personam.

Action. Conduct; behavior; something done; the 
condition of acting; an act or series of acts.

Term in its usual legal sense means a suit brought 
in a court; a formal complaint within the jurisdiction 
of a court of law. Pathman Const. Co. v. Knox 
County Hospital Ass'n, Ind.App., 326 N.E.2d 844, 853. 
The legal and formal demand of one's right from 
another person or party made and insisted on in a 
court of justice. An ordinary proceeding in a court of 
justice by which one party prosecutes another for the 

enforcement or protection of a right, the redress or 
prevention of a wrong, or the punishment of a public 
ofense. It includes all the formal proceedings in a 
court of justice attendant upon the demand of a right 
made by one person of another in such court, includ-
ing an adjudication upon the right and its enforce-
ment or denial by the court.

See also Case (Cases and controversies); Cause 
of action; Civil action; Collusive action; Counterclaim; 
Cross claim; Direct action; Forms of action; Penal 
action; Petitory action; Plenary action; Proceeding; 
Suit; Transitory action.

Merger of law and equity. In the federal courts, and 
most state courts, there is only one form of action— 
civil action—which embraces all actions formerly de-
nominated suits in equity and actions at law. While 
there has been a merger of law and equity for proce-
dural purposes, substantive principles of equity still 

Types of action. Such phrase is used to describe 
action for damages as distinguished from suit in equi-
ity for equitable relief. This distinction however has 
been abolished under Fed. Rules of Civil Procedure 
and in those states which have adopted Rules track-
Action for death. See Wrongful death action.

Action in equity. Action in which person seeks equitable relief as distinguished from damages; e.g. injunction or specific performance of real estate agreement. Term has been abolished by Fed. Rules of Civ. Procedure (Rule 2) in favor of single form of action—civil action—which embraces both law and equity actions.

Action in personam. See In personam.

Action in rem. See In rem.

Action quasi in rem. See In rem.

Civil actions are such as lie in behalf of persons to enforce their rights or obtain redress of wrongs in their relation to individuals. Fed.R.Civ.P. 2.

Class actions. See Class or representative action; Derivative action.

Common law actions are such as will lie, on the particular facts, at common law, without the aid of a statute. Actions are called, in common-law practice, ex contractu when they arise out of a contract, and ex delicto when they arise out of a tort. If a cause of action arises from a breach of promise, the action is "ex contractu"; and, if it arises from breach of duty growing out of contract, it is "ex delicto".

Criminal actions are such as are instituted by the sovereign power (i.e. government), for the purpose of punishing or preventing offenses against the public.

Local action. See Local action.

Mixed actions partake of twofold nature of real and personal actions, having for their object the demand and restitution of real property and also personal damages for a wrong sustained. In the civil law, an action in which some specific thing was demanded, and also some personal obligation claimed to be performed; or, in other words, an action which proceeded both in rem and in personam.

Penal actions are such as are brought, either by the state or by an individual under permission of a statute, to enforce a penalty imposed by law for the commission of a prohibited act.

Personal action. In civil law, an action in personam seeks to enforce an obligation imposed on the defendant by his contract or delict; that is, it is the contention that he is bound to transfer some dominion or to perform some service or to repair some loss. In common law, an action brought for the recovery of some debt or for damages for some personal injury, in contradistinction to the old real actions, which related to real property only. An action which can be brought only by the person himself who is injured, and not by his representatives. See In personam.

Popular actions, in English usage, were those actions which were given upon the breach of a penal statute, and which any man that will may sue on account of the king and himself, as the statute allowed and the case required. Because the action was not given to one especially, but generally to any that would prosecute, it was called "action popular;" and, from the words used in the process (qui tam pro domino rege sequitur quam pro se ipso, who sues as well for the king as for himself) it was called a qui tam action.

Real actions. At common law, one brought for the specific recovery of lands, tenements, or hereditaments. They are drollatural when they are based upon the right of property, and possessory when based upon the right of possession. They are either writs of right; writs of entry upon disseisin (which lie in the per, the per et cui, or the post), intrusion, or alienation; writs ancestral possessory, as mort d'ancestor, ael, besaile, cossinage, or nuper obit. The former class was divided into drollatural, founded upon demandant's own seisin, and ancestral drollatural upon the demandant's claim in respect of a mere right descended to him from an ancestor. Possessory actions were divided in the same way— as to the demandant's own seisin and as to that of his ancestor. Among the civilians, real actions, otherwise called "vindications," were those in which a man demanded something that was his own. They were founded on dominion, or jus in re. The real actions of the Roman law were not, like the real actions of the common law, confined to real estate, but they included personal, as well as real, property. See In rem.

Statutory actions are such as can only be based upon the particular statutes creating them. Contrast Common law actions, supra.

Transitory actions are those founded upon a cause of action not necessarily referring to or arising in any particular locality. Their characteristic feature is that the right of action follows the person of the defendant. Actions are "transitory" when the transactions relied on might have taken place anywhere, and are "local" when they could not occur except in some particular place; the distinction being in the nature of the subject of the injury, and not in the means used or the place at which the cause of action arises. The test of whether an action is local or transitory is whether the injury is done to a subject-matter which, in its nature, could not arise beyond the locality of its situation, in contradistinction to the subject causing the injury. Actions triable where defendant resides are termed "transitory" and those triable where the subject-matter is situated are termed "local."

Actionable. That for which an action will lie, furnishing legal ground for an action. (See Cause of action; Justiciable controversy.)

Actionable fraud. Deception practiced in order to induce another to part with property or surrender some legal right. A false representation made with an intention to deceive; may be committed by stating what is known to be false or by professing knowledge of the truth of a statement which is false, but in either case, the essential ingredient is a falsehood uttered with intent to deceive. To constitute "actionable fraud," it must appear that defendant made a material representation; that it was false; that when he made it he knew it was false, or made it recklessly without any knowledge of its truth and as a positive assertion; that he made it with intention that it should be acted on by plaintiff; that plaintiff acted in reliance on it; and that plaintiff thereby suffered injury. Vertes v. GAC Properties, Inc., D.C.Fla., 337 F.Supp. 256, 266. Essential elements are representation, falsity, scienter, deception, and injury. See Fraud.
Actionable misrepresentation. A false statement respecting a fact material to the contract and which is influential in procuring it. See Fraud; Misrepresentation.

Actionable negligence. The breach or nonperformance of a legal duty, through neglect or carelessness, resulting in damage or injury to another. It is failure of duty, omission of something which ought to have been done, or doing of something which ought not to have been done, or which reasonable man, guided by considerations which ordinarily regulate conduct of human affairs, would or would not do. Essential elements are failure to exercise due care, injury, or damage, and proximate cause. See Negligence.

Actionable nuisance. Anything wrongfully done or permitted which injures or annoys another in the enjoyment of his legal rights. Miller v. City of Dayton, 70 Ohio App. 173, 41 N.E.2d 728, 730. Anything injurious to health, or indecent, or offensive to the senses, or an obstruction to the free use of property so as to interfere with the comfortable enjoyment of life or property. See Nuisance.

Actionable per quod. Words actionable only on allegation and proof of special damage. Knapp v. Post Printing & Publishing Co., 111 Colo. 492, 144 P.2d 981, 984. Words not actionable per se upon their face, but only in consequence of extrinsic facts showing circumstances under which they were said or the damages resulting to slandered party therefrom. Not injurious on their face in their usual and natural signification, but only so in consequence of extrinsic facts and requiring innuendo. See Libelous per quod.

Actionable per se. Words in themselves libelous or slanderous. Knapp v. Post Printing & Publishing Co., 111 Colo. 492, 144 P.2d 981, 984. Words which law presumes must actually, proximately and necessarily damage defendant for which general damages are recoverable and whose injurious character is a fact of common notoriety, established by the general consent of men, necessarily importing damage. Actions based on such words require no proof of damages. Words actionable per se include imputation of crime, a loathsome disease, unchastity, or words affecting plaintiff’s business, trade, profession, office or calling. See Libelous per se.

Actionable tort. To constitute an “actionable tort,” there must be a legal duty, imposed by statute or otherwise, owing by defendant to the one injured, and in the absence of such duty damage caused is “injury without wrong” or “damnum absque injuria.” Coleman v. California Yearly Meeting of Friends Church, 27 Cal.App.2d 579, 81 P.2d 469, 470. See Tort.

Actionable words. In law of libel and slander, such words as naturally imply damage. See Libel; Slander.

Actionable wrong. Committed when a responsible person has neglected to use a reasonable degree of care for protection of another person from such injury as under existing circumstances should reasonably have been foreseen as a proximate consequence of that negligence.

Actionare /æksh(ə)rəri/. L. Lat. (From actio, an action.) To bring an action; to prosecute; or sue.

Actionary /æksh(ə)ri/. A foreign commercial term for the proprietor of an action or share of a public company’s stock; a stockholder.

Actio negotiorum gestorum /ækshiyow nêǵatórîyow jestórîm/. Included actions between principal and agent and other parties to an engagement, whereby one person undertook the transaction of business for another.

Actiones legis /ækshiyójînîyiz lijiyâs/. In the Roman law, legal or lawful action; actions of or at law (legitima actiones).

Actiones nominatae /ækshiyójînîyiz nóman'éyîyî/. (Lat. named actions). In the English chancery, writs for which there were precedents. The statute of Westminster, 2, c. 24, gave chancery authority to form new writs in consimili casu; hence the action on the case.


Action ex delicto /ækshan ek dolîktîw/. An action arising from a breach of duty growing out of contract.

Action for accounting. Action in equity based on inadequacy of legal remedy and particularly applicable to mutual and complicated accounts and where confidential or fiduciary relationship exists. Action to adjust mutual accounts and to strike a balance.

Action for money had and received. Action in assumpsit based upon promise to repay implied by law, and in respect of limitation is a stated or liquidated account. Action brought where one person has received money or its equivalent under such circumstances that in equity and good conscience he ought not to retain it and in justice it belongs to another. Interstate Life & Accident Co. v. Cook, 19 Tenn.App. 290, 86 S.W.2d 887, 891.

Action for paining /ækshan fốrdîng/. An action by a creditor to obtain a sequestration of the rents of land and the goods of his debtor for the satisfaction of his debt, or to enforce a distress.

Action in personam. See In personam.

Action in rem. See In rem.

Action of assize /ækshan əsáiz/. A real action at common law which proved the title of the demandant, merely by showing his ancestor’s possession.

Action of assumpsit. See Assumpsit.

Action of book debt. A form of common law action for the recovery of claims, such as are usually evidenced by a book-account.

Action of contract. An action brought to enforce rights whereof the contract is the evidence, and usually the sufficient evidence.
Actio of writ. A phrase in common law pleading used when a defendant pleads some matter by which he shows that the plaintiff had no cause to have the writ sued upon, although it may be that he is entitled to another writ or action for the same matter.

Actio non /ækshiyow nôn/. In the common law pleading, the Latin name of that part of a special plea which follows next after the statement of appearance and defense, and declares that the plaintiff "ought not to have or maintain his aforesaid action thereof against" the defendant (in Latin, actionem non habere debet).

Actio non accevit infra sex annos /ækshiyow nôn akriyvat infra séks ànów/. The name of the plea of the statute of limitations, when the defendant alleges that the plaintiff's action has not accrued within six years.

Actio non datur non damnificato /ækshiyow nôn dêydar nôn dämnaʃakêdyow/. An action is not given to one who is not injured.

Actio non factit reum, nisi mens sit rea /ækshiyow nôn féyast riým, náyáis méñz sit riya/. An act does not make one guilty, unless the intention be bad.

Action on the case. A common law species of personal action of formerly extensive application, otherwise called "trespass on the case," or simply "case," from the circumstance of the plaintiff's whole case or cause of complaint being set forth at length in the original writ by which formerly it was always commenced. In its most comprehensive signification it includes assumpsit as well as an action in form ex delicto; though when it is mentioned it is usually understood to mean an action in form ex delicto. It is founded on the common law or upon acts of Parliament, and lies generally to recover damages for torts not committed with force, actual or implied; or having been occasioned by force where the matter affected was not tangible, or the injury was not immediate but consequential; or where the interest in the property was only in reversion, in all of which cases trespass is not sustainable. In the progress of judicial contestation it was discovered that there was a mass of tortious wrongs unattended by direct and immediate force, or where the force, though direct, was not expended on an existing right of present enjoyment, for which the then known forms of action furnished no redress. The action on the case was instituted to meet this want. And wrongs which will maintain an action on the case are frequently committed in the nonobservance of duties, which are but the implication of contract obligation, duties of requisite skill, fidelity, diligence, and a proper regard for the rights of others, implied in every obligation to serve another. If the cause of action arises from a breach of promise, the action is "ex contractu"; but if the cause of action arises from a breach of duty growing out of the contract, it is in form ex delicto and case. When there is a contract, either express or implied, from which a common-law duty results, an action on the case lies for the breach of that duty. Such form of action no longer exists under Code and Rule pleading. See Assumpsit.

Actio non ulterius /ækshiyow nôn ɑtliriyas/. In English pleading, a name given to the distinctive clause in the plea to the further maintenance of the action, introduced in place of the plea puis darrein continuance; the averment being that the plaintiff ought not further (ulterius) to have or maintain his action.

Actio noxalis /ækshiyow noksénýas/. In civil law, a noxal action; an action which lay against a master for a crime committed or injury done by his slave; and in which the master had the alternative either to pay for the damage done or to deliver up the slave to the complaining party. So called from noxa, the offense or injury committed.

Action quasi in rem /ækshun kwêyás in rém/. An action brought against persons which only seeks to subject certain property of those persons to discharge of claims asserted and judgment therein is only conclusive between parties and their privies. Tobin v. McClellan, 225 Ind. 335, 75 N.E.2d 149, 151. See In rem.

Action redhibitory /ækshun ræ(ð)bit(a)riy/. See Redhibitory action.

Action to quiet title. One in which plaintiff asserts his own estate and declares generally that defendant claims some estate in the land, without defining it, and avers that the claim is without foundation, and calls on defendant to set forth the nature of his claim, so that it may be determined by decree. It differs from a "suit to remove a cloud," in that plaintiff therein declares on his own title, and also avers the source and nature of defendant's claim, points out its defect, and prays that it may be declared void as a cloud on plaintiff's estate. It embraces every sort of a claim whereby the plaintiff might be deprived of his property or his title clouded or its value depreciated, or whereby the plaintiff might be inconmoded or damnified by assertion of an outstanding title already held or to grow out of the adverse pretension. Bank of American Nat. Trust & Savings Ass'n v. Town of Atherton, 60 Cal.App.2d 268, 140 P.2d 678, 680.

Actionum genera maxime sunt servanda /ækshiyowm jēnara mêsksamiy sânt savvánda/. The kinds of actions are especially to be preserved.

Actio perpetua /ækshiyow pærpêçuwa/. An action without limitation period.

Actio personalis /ækshiyow påršnénýas/. In the civil and common law, a personal action. See In personam.

Actio personalis mortitur cum persona /ækshiyow påršnénýas mórëtâ kàm pàrsòñwèni/. A personal right of action dies with the person. The maxim was originally applied to almost every form of action, whether arising out of contract or tort, but the common law was modified by the Statute of 4 Edward the III. Monmad v. Twentieth-Century Fox Film Corporation, D.C.Ok., 37 F.Supp. 649, 652.

Actio pignoratitiva /ækshiyow pingareytiʃhiy/. An action of pledge; an action founded on the contract of pledge (pignus).

Actio penalis /ækshiyow pinýenýas/. Called also actio ex delicto. An action in which a penalty was recovered of the delinquent.
**Actio penalis**

Actiones penales and actiones mixtæ comprehended cases of injuries, for which the civil law permitted redress by private action, but which modern civilization universally regards as crimes; that is, offenses against society at large, and punished by proceedings in the name of the state alone. Thus, theft, receiving stolen goods, robbery, malicious mischief, and the murder or negligent homicide of a slave (in which case an injury to property was involved), gave rise to private actions for damages against the delinquent.

**Actio penalis in hæredem non datur, nisi forte ex damno harfydam nòn déydar náysay fôrdy ëks dáemnow lókyaplyfës haríyf-zA fàktas sit/. A penal action is not given against an heir, unless, indeed, such heir is benefited by the wrong.

**Actio prejudicialis** /ékshiyow prijuwdishiyéyas/. A preliminary or preparatory action. An action instituted for the determination of some preliminary matter on which other litigated matters depend, or for the determination of some point or question arising in another or principal action; and so called from its being determined before (prius, or præ judicari).

**Actio prescriptis verbis** /ékshiyow præskripstås várbs/. A form of action which derived its force from continued usage or the responsa prætium, and was founded on the unwritten law. The distinction between this action and an actio in factum is said to be, that the latter was founded not on usage or the unwritten law, but by analogy to or on the equity of some subsisting law.

**Actio prætoria** /ékshiyow prætoriya/. A prætorian action; one introduced by the prætor, as distinguished from the more ancient actio civilis (q.v.).

**Actio pro socio** /ékshiyow pwór sówshiyow/. An action of partnership. An action brought by one partner against his associates to compel them to carry out the terms of the partnership agreement.

**Actio publiciana** /ékshiyow publishiyénya/. An action which lay for one who had lost a thing of which he had bona fide obtained possession, before he had gained a property in it, in order to have it restored, under color that he had obtained a property in it by prescription. It was an honorary action, and derived its name from the prætor Publicius, by whose edict it was first given.

**Actio quellibet in sua via** /ékshiyow kwêlyábët in s(y)uwá wáy/. Every action proceeds in its own way.

**Actio quod jussu** /ékshiyow kwôd jasyuw/. An action given against a master, founded on some business done by his slave, acting under his order (jussu).

**Actio quod metus causa** /ékshiyow kwôd médas kôza/. An action granted to one who had been compelled by unlawful force, or fear (metus causa) that was not groundless (metus probabilis or justus) to deliver, sell, or promise a thing to another.

**Actio reallis** /ékshiyow riýéyas/. A real action. The proper term in the civil law was rei vindicatio.

**Actio redhibitoria** /ékshiyow rad(h)iwatöríyA/. An action to cancel a sale in consequence of defects in the thing sold. It was prosecuted to compel complete restitution to the seller of the thing sold, with its produce and accessories, and to give the buyer back the price, with interest, as an equivalent for the restitution of the produce. See Redhibitory action.

**Actio rerum amatorum** /ékshiyow rírám éymow-térA/. An action for things removed; an action which, in cases of divorce, lay for a husband against a wife, to recover things carried away by the latter, in contemplation of such divorce. It also lay for the wife against the husband in such cases.

**Actio rescissoria** /ékshiyow rëssësöríyA/. An action for restoring plaintiff to a right or title which he has lost by prescription, in a case where the equities are such that he should be relieved from the operation of the prescription. An action to rescind a prescriptive title by one who was entitled to exemption from the prescription law, as a minor, etc.

**Actio serviana** /ékshiyow sàrviyéyA/. An action which lay for the lessor of a farm, or rural estate, to recover the goods of the lessee or farmer, which were pledged or bound for the rent.

**Actio stricti juris** /ékshiyow striktay jiras/. An action of strict right. The class of civil law personal actions, which were adjudged only by the strict law, and in which the judge was limited to the precise language of the formula, and had no discretionary power to regard the bona fides of the transaction.

**Actio tèmparális** /ékshiyow tèmparyéyas/. An action which must be brought within a limited time. See Limitation.

**Actio tutela** /ékshiyow t(y)uwtlyly/. Action founded on the duties or obligations arising on the relation analogous to that of guardian and ward.

**Actio utilis** /ékshiyow yúwdálas/. In the civil law, a beneficial action or equitable action. An action founded on equity instead of strict law, and available for those who had equitable rights or the beneficial ownership of property. Actions are divided into actiones directæ or utiles. The former are founded on certain legal obligations which from their origin were accurately defined and recognized as actionable. The latter were formed analogically in imitation of the former. They were permitted in legal obligations for which the actiones directæ were not originally intended, but which resembled the legal obligations which formed the basis of the direct action.

**Actio venditi** /ékshiyow vëndaðay/. An action employed in behalf of a seller, to compel a buyer to pay the price, or perform any special obligations embodied in a contract of sale.

**Actio vi bonorum raptorum** /ékshiyow vây bownòrám raptòrA/. An action for goods taken by force; a species of mixed action, which lay for a party whose goods or movables (bona) had been taken from him by force (vi), to recover the things so taken, together with a penalty of triple the value. Bracton describes it as lying de rebus mobilibus vi abatis sive robbatis (for movable things taken away by force, or robbed).
Actio vulgaris. A legal action; a common action. Sometimes used for actio directa.

Active. That is in action; that demands action; actually subsisting; the opposite of passive. An active debt is one which draws interest. An active trust is a confidence connected with a duty. An active use is a present legal estate.

Active concealment. Term implies a purpose or design accomplished by words or acts, while passive concealment consists in mere silence where there is a duty to speak. Vendt v. Duenke, Mo.App., 210 S.W.2d 692, 699. Concealment becomes a fraud where it is effected by misleading and deceptive talk, acts, or conduct, where it is accompanied by misrepresentations, or where, in addition to a party's silence, there is any statement, word, or act on his part which tends affirmatively to a suppression of the truth. Such conduct is designated active concealment. Equitable Life Ins. Co. of Iowa v. Halsey, Stuart & Co., C.C.A.III., 112 F.2d 302, 309.

Active negligence. A term of extensive meaning embracing many occurrences that would fall short of willful wrongdoing, or of crass negligence, for example, all inadvertent acts causing injury to others, resulting from failure to exercise ordinary care; likewise, all acts the effects of which are misjudged or unforeseen, through want of proper attention, or reflection, and hence the term covers the acts of willful wrongdoing and also those which are not of that character. Cohen v. Noel, Tenn.App., 104 S.W.2d 1001, 1005.

Active negligence denotes some positive act or some failure in duty of operation which is equivalent of a positive act and is omission of due care and affirmative action by person in control, or negligence occurring in connection with activities conducted on the premises. Pachowitz v. Milwaukee & Suburban Transport Corp., 56 Wis.2d 383, 202 N.W.2d 268, 275. Difference between "active" and "passive" negligence is that one is only passively negligent if he merely fails to act in fulfillment of duty of care which law imposes upon him, while one is actively negligent if he participates in some manner in conduct or omission which caused injury. King v. Timber Structures, Inc. of Cal., 240 C.A.2d 178, 49 Cal.Rptr. 414, 417.

See also Negligence.

Active trust. See Trust.

Act malum in se. See Malum in se.

Act malum prohibitum. See Malum prohibitum.

Act of attaintment. A legislative act, attainting a person. See Attainder.

Act of bankruptcy. Any act which renders a person liable to be proceeded against involuntarily as a bankrupt, or for which he may be adjudged bankrupt.

The Bankruptcy Act, § 3 (11 U.S.C.A. § 21 (1952)) lists the following as acts of bankruptcy: Acts of bankruptcy by a person shall consist of his having (1) conveyed, transferred, concealed, removed, or permitted to be concealed or removed any part of his property, with intent to hinder, delay, or defraud his creditors or any of them; or (2) transferred, while insolvent, any portion of his property to one or more of his creditors with intent to prefer such creditors over his other creditors; or (3) suffered or permitted, while insolvent, any creditor to obtain a lien upon any of his property through legal proceedings and not having vacated or discharged such lien within thirty days from the date thereof or at least five days before the date set for any sale or other disposition of such property; or (4) made a general assignment for the benefit of his creditors; or (5) while insolvent or unable to pay his debts as they mature, procured, permitted, or suffered voluntarily or involuntarily the appointment of a receiver or trustee to take charge of his property; or (6) admitted in writing his inability to pay his debts and his willingness to be adjudged a bankrupt. The new Bankruptcy Act (effective Oct. 1, 1979) no longer provides for specific acts of bankruptcy but rather provides for involuntary bankruptcy when the debtor, in general, is not paying his debts as they become due. Bankruptcy Act, § 303.

Act of Elizabeth. See Act of supremacy.

Act of God. An act of nature without the interference or agency of any man. It means a natural necessity proceeding from physical causes alone without the intervention of man. It is an act, event, happening, or occurrence, due to natural causes and inevitable accident, or disaster; a natural and inevitable necessity which implies entire exclusion of human agency which operates without interference or aid from man and which results from natural causes and is in no sense attributable to human agency. It is an accident which could not have been occasioned by human agency but proceeded from physical causes alone. Watts v. Smith, D.C.App., 226 A.2d 160, 162; Middagh v. U. S., D.C.Wyo., 293 F.Supp. 977, 980. See Inevitable accident; Perils of the sea; Vis major.

Act of grace. The term is often used to designate a general act of parliament, originating with the crown, such as has often been passed at the commencement of a new reign, or the coming of age or marriage of a sovereign, or at the close of a period of civil troubles, declaring pardon or amnesty to numerous offenders. See also Days of grace; Grace period.

Act of insolveney. Within the meaning of the national currency act, an act which shows a bank to be insolvent, such as nonpayment of its circulating notes, bills of exchange, or certificates of deposit; failure to make good the impairment of capital, or to keep good its surplus or reserve; in fact, any act which shows that the bank is unable to meet its liabilities as they mature, or to perform those duties which the law imposes for the purpose of sustaining its credit. Kiliman & Co. v. Wooley, C.C.A.Miss., 83 F.2d 129, 132; Garvin v. Chadwick Realty Corporation, 212 Ind. 499, 9 N.E.2d 268, 271.

Act of law. The operation of fixed legal rules upon given facts or occurrences, producing consequences independent of the design or will of the parties concerned; as distinguished from "acts of parties." Also an act performed by judicial authority which prevents or precludes a party from fulfilling a contract or other engagement. See Act in pais.

Act of parliament. A statute; a law made by the British sovereign, with the advice and consent of the
lords and the commons, in parliament assembled. Acts of parliament form the legis scriptae, i.e., the written laws of the kingdom. Such acts are of three kinds: public, local or special, private or personal.

**Act of providence.** An accident against which ordinary skill and foresight could not guard. Equivalent to "act of God" (q.v.).

**Act of sale.** An official record of a sale of property, made by a notary who writes down the agreement of the parties as stated by them, and which is then signed by the parties and attested by witnesses.

**Act of settlement.** The English statute (12 & 13 Wm. III, c. 2) limiting the crown to the Princess Sophia of Hanover, and to the heirs of her body being Protestants. 1 Bl.Comm. 128. One clause of it made the tenure of judges' office for life or good behavior independent of the crown.

**Act of state.** An act done by the sovereign power of a country, or by its delegate, within the limits of the power vested in him. An act of state cannot be questioned or made the subject of legal proceedings in a court of law. See Act of state doctrine.


**Act of supremacy.** An act of 26 Hen. VII, c. 1, and also 1 Eliz., c. 1, which recognized the king as the only supreme head on earth of the Church of England having full power to correct all errors, heresies, abuses, offenses, contempts and enormities. The oath, taken under the act, denies to the Pope any other authority than that of the Bishop of Rome.

**Act of uniformity.** The English statute of 13 & 14 Car. II, c. 4, enacting that the book of common prayer, as then recently revised, should be used in every parish church and other place of public worship, and otherwise ordaining a uniformity in religious services, etc.

**Acton Burnel, statute of.** In English law, a statute, otherwise called Statutum Mercatorum or de Mercatoribus, the statute of the merchants, made at a parliament held at the castle or village of Acton Burnel in Shropshire, in the 11th year of the reign of Edward I. It was a statute for the collection of debts, the earliest of its class, being enacted in 1283. A further statute for the same object, and known as De Mercatoribus, was enacted 13 Edw. I, (c. 3). See Statute merchant.

**Act on petition.** A form of summary proceeding formerly in use in the high court of admiralty, in England, in which the parties stated their respective cases briefly, and supported their statements by affidavit.

**Actor.** One who acts. The term is used in the Restatement of Torts, Second, to designate either the person whose conduct is in question as subjecting him to liability toward another, or as precluding him from recovering against another whose tortious conduct is a legal cause of the actor's injury. Sec. 2.

**Old European law.** A patron, proctor, advocate, or pleader; one who acted for another in legal matters; one who represented a party and managed his cause. An attorney, bailiff, or steward; one who managed or acted for another. The Scotch "doer" is the literal translation.

**Roman law.** One who acted for another; one who attended to another's business; a manager or agent. A slave who attended to, transacted, or superintended his master's business or affairs, received and paid out moneys, and kept accounts. The word has a variety of closely-related meanings, very nearly corresponding with manager. Thus, actor dominæ, manager of his master's farm; actor ecclesiæ, manager of church property; actores provinciarum, tax-gatherers, treasurers, and managers of the public debt.

**Actor ecclesiæ.**—An advocate for a church; one who protects the temporal interests of a church. Actor villæ was the steward or head-bailiff of a town or village.

**Plaintiff or complainant.** In a civil or private action the plaintiff was often called by the Romans "petitor;" in a public action (causa publica) he was called "accusator." The defendant was called "reus," both in private and public causes. This term, however, might signify either party, as might be concluded from the word itself. In a private action, the defendant was often called "adversarius," but either party might be called so.

Also, the term is used of a party who, for the time being, sustains the burden of proof, or has the initiative in the suit.

**Actore non probante reus absolvitur /æktoʊriˈnɒn prəˈboʊntə rjuːs əbˈsɔlvətər/. When the plaintiff does not prove his case the defendant is acquitted (or absolved).

**Actori incumbit onus probandi /æktoʊriˈɪŋkəmbɪt ɒnʊs prəˈbændi/. The burden of proof rests on the plaintiff (or on the party who advances a proposition affirmatively.)

**Actor qui contra regulam quid adduxit, non est audien-dus /æktoʊr kwɪ kɒntrə rɪˈɡeləm kwiː ðəˈdɛksət, nɒn ɛst ɒˈdɪjɛndəs/. A plaintiff (or pleader) is not to be heard who has advanced anything against authority (or against the rule).

**Actor sequitur forum rei /æktoʊr ˌsɛkwɪtər fɔːrʊm rjuː/. According as rei is intended as the genitive of res, a thing, or reus, a defendant, this phrase means: The plaintiff follows the forum of the property in suit, or the forum of the defendant's residence.

**Actrix /æktrɪks/. Lat. A female actor; a female plaintiff.

**Acts of court.** Legal memoranda made in the admiralty courts in England, in the nature of pleas.

**Acts of possession.** To constitute adverse possession, acts of possession must be: (1) hostile or adverse, (2)
actual, (3) visible, notorious, and exclusive, (4) continuous, and (5) under claim of ownership. Bilyeu v. Plant, 75 Ill.App.2d 109, 220 N.E.2d 513. See Adverse possession.

Actual. Real; substantial; existing presently in act; having a valid objective existence as opposed to that which is merely theoretical or possible. Opposed to potential, possible, virtual, theoretical, hypothetical, or nominal. Something real, in opposition to constructive or speculative; something existing in act. It is used as a legal term in contradistinction to virtual or constructive as of possession or occupation. Actually is opposed to seemingly, pretended, or feignedly, as actually engaged in farming means really, truly in fact. As to actual Bias; Damages; Delivery; Fraud; Malice; Notice; Occupation; Ouster; Possession; Residue; Seisin; Total loss, see those titles.

Actual authority. In the law of agency, such authority as a principal intentionally confers on the agent, or intentionally or by want of ordinary care allows the agent to believe himself to possess. National Cash Register Co. v. Wichita Frozen Food Lockers, Tex. Civ.App., 172 S.W.2d 781, 787. Includes both express and implied authority.

Actual bias. See Bias.

Actual cash value. The fair or reasonable cash price for which the property could be sold in the market in the ordinary course of business, and not at forced sale. The price it will bring in a fair market after reasonable efforts to find a purchaser who will give the highest price. What property is worth in money, allowing for depreciation. Ordinarily, "actual cash value", "fair market value", and "market value" are synonymous terms. See Actual value; Fair market value; Fair value.

Actual change of possession. In statutes of frauds, an open, visible and unequivocal change of possession, manifested by the usual outward signs, as distinguished from a merely formal or constructive change.

Actual controversy. See Case (Cases and controversies).

Actual cost. The actual price paid for goods by a party, in the case of a real bona fide purchase, which may not necessarily be the market value of the goods. It is a general or descriptive term which may have varying meanings according to the circumstances in which it is used. It imports the exact sum expended or loss sustained rather than the average or proportional part of the cost. Its meaning may be restricted to materials, labor, and overhead or extended to other items.

Actual damages. Compensation for actual injuries or loss. Chappell v. City of Springfield, Mo., 423 S.W.2d 810, 814. Term used to denote the type of damage award as well as the nature of injury for which recovery is allowed; thus, actual damages flowing from injury in fact are to be distinguished from damages which are nominal, exemplary or punitive. Rector v. Retail Credit Co., 87 Wash.2d 516, 554 P.2d 1041, 1049.

Actual delivery. See Delivery.

Actual eviction. An actual expulsion of the tenant out of all or some part of the demised premises. A physical ouster or dispossession from the very thing granted or some substantial part thereof. Cauley v. Northern Trust Co., 315 Ill.App. 307, 43 N.E.2d 147, 155, 315. See Constructive eviction; Eviction; Foreclosural appeal and examiner; Summary process.

Actual fraud. See Fraud.

Actual loss. One resulting from the real and substantial destruction of the property insured.

Actual malice. See Malice.

Actual market value. In custom laws, the price at which merchandise is freely offered for sale to all purchasers; the price which the manufacturer or owner would have received for merchandise, sold in the ordinary course of trade in the usual wholesale quantities.

Actual notice. See Notice.

Actual possession. See Possession.

Actual practice. Active, open and notorious engagement in business, vocation or profession as opposed to casual or clandestine practice. State ex rel. Laughlin v. Washington State Bar Ass'n, 26 Wash.2d 914, 176 P.2d 301, 309.

Actual residence. The abode, where one actually lives, not mere naked legal residence. In re McGrath, 243 App.Div. 803, 278 N.Y.S. 135. See Domicile; Residency.

Actual use. Term "actual use" in automobile liability policy providing coverage for nonowned automobile if the actual operation or actual use of automobile by relative of insured is with permission of owner means present or active use or a use existing in fact or reality as distinguished from an imputed or constructive use. United Services Auto. Ass'n v. United States Fire Ins. Co., 36 C.A.3d 765, 111 Cal.Rptr. 595, 598.

Actual value. Actual value to be awarded in condemnation proceeding is price that would probably result from negotiations between willing seller and willing buyer. "Actual value," "market value," "fair market value," "just compensation" and the like may be used as convertible terms. "Saleable value," "actual value," "cash value," and other like terms used in directions to tax assessing officers, all mean generally the same thing. In re Lang Body Co., C.C.A. Ohio, 92 F.2d 338, 340.

Actual violence. An assault with actual violence is an assault with physical force put in action, exerted upon the person assailed. The term violence is synonymous with physical force, and the two are used interchangeably in relation to assaults.

Actualizal table /ôkchûwêrîyâl téybal/. A form of organized statistical data which indicates the life expectancy of a person and which is admissible in evidence through an expert witness. Leave v. Boston Elevated Railway, 306 Mass. 391, 397, 28 N.E.2d 483. Such tables are used by insurance companies in determining premiums. See also American experience table of mortality; Life tables; Mortality tables.
Actarius /ākchuwēriyas/. In Roman law, a notary or clerk. One who drew the acts or statutes, or who wrote in brief the public acts. An officer who had charge of the public baths; an officer who received the money for the soldiers, and distributed it among them; a notary. See also Actor.

Actuary /ākchuweriy/. A statistician who computes insurance and pension rates and premiums on the basis of experience tables.

Actum /āk̪tam/. Lat. A deed; something done.

Actus /āktas/. In the civil law, an act or action. Non tantum verbis, sed etiam actu; not only by words, but also by act.

A species of right of way, consisting in the right of driving cattle, or a carriage, over the land subject to the servitude. It is sometimes translated a "road," and included the kind of way termed "liter," or path.

In old English law, an act of parliament; a statute. A distinction, however, was sometimes made between actus and statutum. Actus parliamenti was an act made by the lords and commons; and it became statutum, when it received the king's consent.

Actus curie neminem gravabit /āktas kyūrjīyī nēnamam grāvēbat/. An act of the court shall prejudice no man. Where a delay in an action is the act of the court, neither party shall suffer for it.

Actus Dei nemini est damnosus /āktas diyāy nēmanay ēst dāmnōsas/. The act of God is hurtful to no one. That is, a person cannot be prejudiced or held responsible for an accident occurring without his fault and attributable to the "act of God." See Act of God.

Actus Dei nemini facit injuriam /āktas diyāy nēmanay fēysad ānjūriyām/. The act of God does injury to no one. 2 Bl.Comm. 122. A thing which is inevitable by the act of God, which no industry can avoid, nor policy prevent, will not be construed to the prejudice of any person in whom there was no laches.

Actus inceptus, cujus perfectio pendet ex voluntate partium, revocari potest; si autem pendet ex voluntate tertii personae, vel ex contingenti, revocari non potest /āktas īnsepṭas, kyūwīs parfēkshiyōw pōndas ēks vōlāntēdīyī tārshījīyī pārsōnīyī, vēl ēks kōntiŋjēntāyī, rēvākērāy nōn pōvdsat/. An act already begun, the completion of which depends on the will of the parties, may be revoked; but if it depend on the will of a third person, or on a contingency, it cannot be revoked.

Actus judiciarius coram non judice irritus habetur, de ministeriali autem a quoque punatur item esto /āktas jādshīēriyas kōrām nōn jūwādshīyī ḱhrādsh hābdīyār, diy mānśtīrīyēlāy ēdam ńy kwōkāngkāwīyī prāvlīnāt rēydām ēʃtow/. A judicial act by a judge without jurisdiction is void; but a ministerial act, from whomsoever proceeding, may be ratified.

Actus legis nemini est damnosus /āktas lījīs nēmanay ēst dāmnōswas/. The act of the law is hurtful to no one. An act in law shall prejudice no man.

Actus legis nemini facit injuriam /āktas lījīs nēmanay fēysad ānjūriyām/. The act of the law does injury to no one.

Actus legitiimi non recliunt modum /āktas lājīdāmay nōn rəsipaʃyānt mōwdām/. Acts required to be done by law do not admit of qualification.

Actus me invito factus non est meus actus /āktas miy ēnvāyədō fāktas nōn ēst miyās āktas/. An act done by me, against my will, is not my act.

Actus non facit reum, nisi mens sit rea /āktas non fēysat riya, nāsəy mēns sit riya/. An act does not make [the doer of it] guilty, unless the mind be guilty; that is, unless the intention be criminal. The intent and the act must both concur to constitute the crime.

Actus repugnus non potest in esse produci /āktas rēpəŋgas nōn pōwdest in ēsī prəw(d)ydsay/. A repugnant act cannot be brought into being, i.e., cannot be made effectual.

Actus reus /āktas riya/. A wrongful deed which renders the actor criminally liable if combined with mens rea; a guilty mind.

Actus servi in iis quibus opera ejus communiter adhibita est, actus dominī habetur /āktas sārvay in āyās kīwīs əwpārə fīyās kəməwənədər aðhibādā ēst āktas dōmanay həbydər/. The act of a servant in those things in which he is usually employed, is considered the act of his master.

A cueilllette /ā kəyēt/. In French law, in relation to the contract of affranchment, signifies when the cargo is taken on condition that the master succeeds in completing his cargo from other sources.

Ad /ād/. Lat. At; by; for; near; on account of; to; until; upon; with relation to or concerning.

A.D. An abbreviation of Anno Domini meaning in the year of our Lord.

Ad abundantiorum cautelam /ād əbundantshiyōrəm kōtəyəm/. Lat. For more abundant caution. Otherwise expressed, ad cautelam ex superabundanti.

Ad admittendum clericum /ād ədmitēndəm klērəkm/. For the admitting of the clerk. A writ in the nature of an execution, commanding the bishop to admit his clerk, upon the success of the latter in a quare impedit.

Ad aliud examen /ād əlīyiyəd agzēyəm/. To another tribunal; belonging to another court, cognizance, or jurisdiction.

Ad aliud diem /ād əlīyiyəm dāyəm/. At another day. A common phrase in the old reports.


Adapted. Capable of use. Indicates that the object referred to has been made suitable; has been made to conform to; has been made fit by alteration. Raynor v. United States, C.C.A.Ind., 89 F.2d 468, 471.

Ad assisas capiendas /ād əsəsəz kəpəjiŋdəys/. To take assisses; to take or hold the assisses. 3 Bl.Comm. 185, 352. Ad assisas capiendas; to take an assise.

A dato /ēy dēyōdow/. From the date. See A datu.

A datu /ēy dēyduw/. Law Latin. From the date. See A dato.
Audiendum considerationem curiae /ād ődiyéndam kansidareyshiyownam kyŭriy/. To hear the judgment of the court.

Audiendum et determinandum /ād ődiyéndam et datārmanėndam/. To hear and determine. 4 Bl. Comm. 278.

Barram /ād bāram/. To the bar; at the bar.

Barram evocatus /ād bāram lyvowkėydas/. Called to the bar.

Campi partem /ād kāmpay párdam/. For a share of the field or land, for champert.

Captum vulgi /ād kęptem vájay/. Adapted to the common understanding.

Coelum doctrine /ād siyam dōktran/. A person owns the space above his real estate to the extent that no one may acquire a right to such air space that will limit the owner's enjoyment of it. This doctrine has been rejected by most courts. U. S. v. Causby, 328 U.S. 256, 66 S.Ct. 1062, 90 L.Ed. 1206. Literally, to heaven. See Air rights.

Colligendum /ād kōlājendam/. For collecting; as an administrator or trustee ad colligendum.

Colligendum bona defuncti /ād kōlajendam bōwna dafāŋktay/. For collecting the goods of the deceased. See Administration of estates.

Communem legem /ād kamyūwnam liyjam/. At common law, the name of a writ of entry (now obsolete) brought by the reversions after the death of the life tenant, for the recovery of lands wrongfully alienated by him.

Commune nocumentum /ād kamyūwni nók-ynamèntam/. To the common nuisance.

Comparandum /ād kómpærondam/. To appear. Ad comparandum, et ad standum juri, to appear and to stand to the law, or abide the judgment of the court.

Computum reddendum /ād kampyūwdam râdèn- dam/. To render an account.

Decordabilis denaril /ād(d)kordēybalas daniyiyay/. Money paid by a vassal to his lord upon the selling or exchanging of a feud.

Culpam /ād kālpam/. Until misbehavior.

Curiam /ād kyūriyam/. At a court. To court.

Curiam vocare /ād kyūriyam vówkēry/. To summon to court.

Custagia /ād kástēyj(y)a/. At the costs.

Custum /ād kàstam/. At the cost. 1 Bl. Comm. 314.

Add. To unite; attach; annex; join. See also Addition; Additional.

Dammum /ād(d) dāmnam/. In pleading, "To the damage." The technical name of that clause of the writ, declaration, or, more commonly, the complaint, which contains a statement of the plaintiff’s money loss, or the damages which he claims. Fed.R.Civil P. 8(a).


Defendendum /ād(d) dafendēndam/. To defend. 1 Bl.Comm. 227.

Addendum /ādēndam/. A thing that is added or to be added; a list or section consisting of added material.

Addicere /ādǐsirij/. Lat. In the civil law, to adjudge or condemn; to assign, allot, or deliver; to sell. In the Roman law, addico was one of the three words used to express the extent of the civil jurisdiction of the praetors.

Addict. Any individual who habitually uses any narcotic drug so as to endanger the public morals, health, safety, or welfare, or who is or has been so far addicted to the use of such narcotic drugs as to have lost the power of self-control with reference to his addiction. 18 U.S.C.A. § 4251. People v. McKibben, 24 Ill.App.3d 692, 321 N.E.2d 362, 364.

Addictio /ādǐkshiyow/. In the Roman law, the giving up to a creditor of his debtor's person by a magistrate; also the transfer of the (deceased) debtor's goods to one who assumes his liabilities.

Addicive drugs. Any drug, natural or synthetic, which causes periodic or chronic intoxication by its repeated consumption.

Diem /ād(d) dāyam/. At a day; at the day. Ad diem, at another day. Ad certum diem, at a certain day. Solvit ad diem, he paid at or on the day.

Addition. Implies physical contact, something added to another. Structure physically attached to or connect ed with building itself. Mack v. Eyssell, 332 Mo. 671, 59 S.W.2d 1049. Extension; increase; augmentation. Meyering v. Miller, 330 Mo. 885, 51 S.W.2d 65, 66. That which has become united with or a part of. See Fixture.

In insurance law, the word "addition", as applied to buildings usually means a part added or joined to a main building; though the term has also been held to apply to buildings appurtenant to some other building though not actually in physical contact therewith.

At common law, whatever was added to a man's name by way of title or description. In English law, there were four kinds of additions.—additions of estate, such as yeoman, gentleman, esquire; additions of degree, or names of dignity, as knight, earl, marquis, duke; additions of trade, mystery, or occupation, as scrivener, painter, mason, carpenter; and additions of place of residence as London, Chester, etc.

Additional. This term embraces the idea of joining or uniting one thing to another, so as thereby to form one aggregate. Ex parte Boddie, 200 S.C. 379, 21 S.E.2d 4, 8.

Additional burden. See Eminent domain.

Additionales /ādǐsh(i)yənɛyliyə/. In the law of contracts, additional terms or propositions to be added to a former agreement.
Additional extended coverage. Insurance policy endorsement covering dwellings; covering water damage from plumbing and heating systems, vandalism and malicious mischief, glass breakage, falling trees, ice, snow, etc.

Additional instructions. Charge by judge to jury beyond the original instructions. Frequently required when the jury returns from deliberations with a question concerning the evidence, point of law, or some portion of the original charge.

Additional insured. Person(s) covered by policy in addition to the named insured; e.g. a person using another's automobile, which is covered by liability policy containing statutory omnibus clause, only when insured's permission is expressly or impliedly given for particular use. Stewart v. City of Rio Vista, 72 Cal.App.2d 279, 164 P.2d 274, 275.

Additional legacy. See Legacy.

Additional servitude. The imposition of a new and additional easement or servitude on land originally taken by eminent domain proceedings. A use of a different character, for which owner of property is entitled to compensation.

Additional work. Of nature involved in modifications and changes, not independent project. Maryland Casualty Co. v. City of South Norfolk, C.C.A.Va., 54 F.2d 1032, 1037. Work which results from a change or alteration in plans concerning work which has to be done under a contract, while "extra work" relates to work which is not included within the contract itself. De Martini v. Elade Realty Corp., Co.Ct., 52 N.Y.S.2d 487, 489.

Aditio probat minoritatem /ādīsh(i)yow/ prówbat minorâtēyēdē/. An addition [to a name] proves or shows minority or inferiority. That is, if it be said that a man has a fee tail, it is less than if he has the fee.

Additur /ādētār/. The power of trial court to assess damages or increase amount of an inadequate award made by jury verdict, as condition of denial of motion for new trial, with consent of defendant whether or not plaintiff consents to such action. Dorsey et al. v. Barba et al., Cal.App., 226 P.2d 677. This is not allowed in the Federal system. Dimick v. Schiedt, 293 U.S. 474, 55 S.Ct. 296, 79 L.Ed. 603.

Add on clause. A clause in an installment contract that makes earlier purchases with that firm security for new purchases.

Addone, addonne /ādōwni/. L. Fr. Given to.

Address. Place where mail or other communications will reach person. Munson v. Bay State Dredging & Contracting Co., 314 Mass. 485, 50 N.E.2d 633, 636. Generally a place of business or residence.

Bill of address. Provision in Massachusetts Constitution which provides that judges are subject to removal upon the address of a majority of both houses of the legislature with approval of the Governor and the Executive Council.

Equity pleading. Part of a bill wherein is given the appropriate and technical description of the court in which the bill is filed. See Caption.

Address to the crown. In England when the royal speech has been read in Parliament, an address in answer thereto is moved in both houses. Two members are selected in each house by the administration for moving and seconding the address. Since the commencement of the session 1890–1891, it has been a single resolution expressing their thanks to the sovereign for his gracious speech.

Adduce. To present, bring forward, offer, introduce. Used particularly with reference to evidence.

Ad ea que frequentius accident juræ adaptantur /ād ɪja kwɪwi frəkwɛnʃ(ɪ)yəs əksɛsad jʊrə ðæptəntər/. Laws are adapted to those cases which most frequently occur.

Adeem. To take away, recall, or revoke. To satisfy a legacy by some gift or substituted disposition, made by the testator, in advance. Woodburn Lodge No. 102, I. O. O. F. v. Wilson, 148 Or. 150, 34 P.2d 611, 614. See Ademption.

Ad effectum /ād əfɛktəm/. To the effect, or end. Ad effectum sequentem, to the effect following.

Adeling, or atheling /ād(ə)ling/. Noble; excellent. A title of honor among the Anglo-Saxons, properly belonging to the king's children.

Ademption /ādɛm(ˈ)pʃ(ə)l/. Extinction or withdrawal of legacy by testator's act equivalent to revocation or indicating intention to revoke. Tagnon's Adm'x v. Tagnon, 253 Ky. 374, 69 S.W.2d 714.

Removal. Lewis v. Hill, 387 Ill. 542, 56 N.E.2d 619, 621. Testator's giving to a legatee that which he has provided in his will, or his disposing of that part of his estate so bequeathed in such manner as to make it impossible to carry out the will. Hurley v. Schuler, 296 Ky. 118, 176 S.W.2d 275, 276. Revocation, recalling, or cancellation of a legacy, according to the apparent intention of the testator, implied by the law from acts done by him in his life, though such acts do not amount to an express revocation of it.

To take away, recall, revoke, or to satisfy legacy by some gift or substituted disposition, made by testator, in advance. In re Burnett's Estate, 49 N.J.Super. 439, 140 A.2d 242, 244.

The act by which the testator pays to his legatee, in his life-time, a general legacy which by his will he had proposed to give him at his death; and the act by which a specific legacy has become inoperative on account of the testator having parted with the subject. Dillender v. Wilson, 228 Ky. 758, 16 S.W.2d 173, 174.

See Advancement.

Adeo /ādiyow/. Lat. So, as. Adeo plene et integre, as fully and entirely.

Adequate. Sufficient; commensurate; equally efficient; equal to what is required; suitable to the case or occasion; satisfactory. Equal to some given occasion or work. Nissen v. Miller, 44 N.M. 487, 105 P.2d 324, 326.

Adequate care. Such care as a man of ordinary prudence would himself take under similar circumstances to avoid accident; care proportionate to the risk to be incurred. See also Care.
Adequate cause. Sufficient cause for a particular purpose.

In criminal law, adequate cause for the passion which reduces a homicide committed under its influence from the grade of murder to manslaughter, means such cause as would commonly produce a degree of anger, rage, resentment, or terror, in a person of ordinary temper, sufficient to render the mind incapable of cool reflection. Insulting words or gestures, or an assault and battery so slight as to show no intention to inflict pain or injury, or an injury to property unaccompanied by violence are not adequate causes. Berry v. State, 143 Tex.Cr.R. 67, 157 S.W.2d 650, 652. See Adequate provocation; Cause; Probable cause.

Adequate compensation. Just value of property taken under power of eminent domain, payable in money, as guaranteed by 5th Amendment. Market value of property when taken. It may include interest and may include the cost or value of the property to the owner for the purposes for which he designed it. Such only as puts injured party in as good a condition as he would have been in if injury had not been inflicted. Town of Winchester v. Cox, 129 Conn. 106, 26 A.2d 510, 517. See also Fair market value; Just compensation.

Adequate consideration. One which is equal, or reasonably proportioned, to the value of that for which it is given. One which is not so disproportionate as to shock our sense of that morality and fair dealing which should always characterize transactions between man and man. Fair and reasonable under circumstances. Reasonably just and equitable. See Fair market value; Fair value; Just compensation.


Adequate or reasonable facilities. Such railroad facilities as might be fairly demanded, with regard to size of place, extent of demand for transportation, cost of furnishing additional accommodation asked for, and to all other facts which would have bearing upon question of convenience and cost. Kurn v. State, 175 Okl. 379, 52 P.2d 841, 843.

Adequate preparation. Embraces full consultation with accused, interviews with witnesses, study of facts and law, and determination of character of defense to be made and policy to be followed during trial. Nelson v. Commonwealth, 295 Ky. 641, 175 S.W.2d 132, 133.

Adequate provocation. An adequate provocation to cause a sudden transport of passion that may suspend the exercise of judgment and exclude premeditation and a previously formed design is one that is calculated to excite such anger as might obscure the reason or dominate the volition of an ordinary reasonable man. See Adequate cause.

Adequate remedy. An "adequate remedy at law," for purposes of rule that a litigant who fails to avail himself of a remedy provided by law and who is subsequently barred from pursuing that remedy be-
Ad finem /æd fæynm/. Abbreviated ad fin. To the end. It is used in citations to books, as a direction to read from the place designated to the end of the chapter, section, etc. Ad finem litis, at the end of the suit.

Ad firmam /æd færnm/. To farm. Derived from an old Saxon word denoting rent. Ad firmam noctis was a fine or penalty equal in amount to the estimated cost of entertaining the king for one night. Ad feodi firmam, to feed farm.

Ad fundandam jurisdictionem /æd fændændam jʊrʊsdlɪkshɪˈɔʊnˌm/. To make the basis of jurisdiction.

Ad gaolas deliberandas /æd jəˈjəlas dəlɪbəˈrændəs/. To deliver the gaols; to empty the gaols. Ad gaolam deliberandum; to deliver the gaol; to make gaol delivery.

Ad gravamen /æd grævˈeɪm/. To the grievance, injury, or oppression.

Adhering. Joining, leagued with, cleaving to; as, “adhering to the enemies of the United States.” “Adhering” consists in giving to the United States the loyalty due from a citizen. United States v. Stephan, D.C. Mich., 50 F.Supp. 738, 741. Any intentional act furthering hostile designs of enemies of the United States, or an act which intentionally strengthens or tends to strengthen enemies of the United States, or which weakens or tends to weaken power of the United States to resist and attack such enemies, constitutes “adhering” to such enemies. United States v. Haupt, D.C.III., 47 F.Supp. 836, 839.

Adhesion. Agreement to join; adherence. The entrance of another nation into an existing treaty with respect only to a part of the principles laid down or the stipulations agreed to. Properly speaking, by adhesion the third nation becomes a party only to such parts as are specifically agreed to, and by accession it accepts and is bound by the whole treaty. See Accession.

Adhesion contract. Standardized contract form offered to consumers of goods and services on essentially “take it or leave it” basis without affording consumer realistic opportunity to bargain and under such conditions that consumer cannot obtain desired product or services except by acquiescing in form contract. Distinctive feature of adhesion contract is that weaker party has no realistic choice as to its terms. Wheeler v. St. Joseph Hospital, Cal.App., 63 Cal.App.3d 345, 133 Cal.Rptr. 775, 783; Standard Oil Co. of Calif. v. Perkins, C.A.Or., 347 F.2d 379, 383. Not every such contract is unconscionable. Lechmere Tire and Sales Co. v. Burwick, 360 Mass. 713, 720, 721, 277 N.E.2d 503.

Adhibere /ædɪˈbɛrɪ/. In the civil law, to apply; to employ; to exercise; to use. Adhibere diligentiam, to use care. Adhibere vim, to employ force.

Ad hoc /æd hə(w)k/. For this; for this special purpose. An attorney ad hoc, or a guardian or curator ad hoc, is one appointed for a special purpose, generally to represent the client or infant in the particular action in which the appointment is made.

Ad hoc arbitration. Submission of a particular issue to arbitration.

Ad hominem /æd (h)əʊˈmɛn/. To the person. A term used in logic with reference to a personal argument.

Ad hunc diem /æd (h)əŋk dɪˈɛm/. At this day.

Ad idem /æd ˈɛdəm/. To the same point, or effect. Ad idem facit, it makes to or goes to establish the same point.

A die confectionis /əˈdiː jɛˈdiːʃənɪs/. From the day of the making.

A die datus /əˈdiː ˈdætəs/. From the day of the date. Used in leases to determine the time or running of the estate, and when so used includes the day of the date.

Adieu /əˈdjʊə/. L. Fr. Without day. A common term in the Year Books, implying final dismissal from court.

A digniori fieri debet denominatio /əˈdɪgnɪˈɔːri fɪəri dɪˈbɛt dəˈnɒmɪnətiˈɒʃənəʊ/. Denomination ought to be from the more worthy. The description (of a place) should be taken from the more worthy subject (as from a will).

A digniori fieri debet denominatio et resolutio /əˈdɪgnɪˈɔːri fɪəri dɪˈbɛt dəˈnɒmɪnətiˈɒʃənəʊ ət rɛˈzʊliˈʃənəʊ/. The title and exposition of a thing ought to be derived from, or given, or made with reference to, the more worthy degree, quality, or species of it.

Ad inde /æd ɪndi/. Thereunto. Ad inde requisitus, thereunto required.

Ad infinitum /æd ɪnˈfɪnɪtəm/. Without limit; to an infinite extent; indefinitely.

Ad inquirendum /æd ɪˈkwɪrənˌdəm/. To inquire; a writ of inquiry; a judicial writ, commanding inquiry to be made of anything relating to a cause pending in court.

Ad instantiam /æd ɪnˈstænʃ(ə)m/. At the instance. Ad instantiam partis, at the instance of a party.

Ad interim /æd ɪnˈtɜrm/. In the meantime. An officer ad interim is one appointed to fill a temporary vacancy, or to discharge the duties of the office during the absence or temporary incapacity of its regular incumbent.

Adiratus /ædɪˈrætəs/. Lost; strayed; a price or value set upon things stolen or lost, as a recompense to the owner.

Adjectum. Lying near or close to; sometimes, contiguous; neighboring. Adjectum implies that the two objects are not widely separated, though they may not actually touch, Harrison v. Guilford County, 218 N.C. 718, 12 S.E.2d 269, while adjoining imports that they are so joined or united to each other that no third object intervenes. Wolfe v. Hurley, D.C.La., 46 F.2d 515, 521. See Adjoining.

Adjective law. The aggregate of rules of procedure or practice. As opposed to that body of law which the courts are established to administer (called “substantive law”), it means the rules according to which the substantive law is administered; e.g., Rules of Civil Procedure. That part of the law which provides a method for enforcing or maintaining rights, or obtain-
ing redress for their invasion. Maurizi v. Western Coal & Mining Co., 321 Mo. 378, 11 S.W.2d 268, 272. Pertains to and prescribes practice, method, procedure or legal machinery by which substantive law is enforced or made effective. Ambrose v. State Dept. of Public Health and Welfare, Mo.App., 319 S.W.2d 271, 274.

Adjoining. The word in its etymological sense means touching or contiguous, as distinguished from lying near to or adjacent. To be in contact with; to abut upon. State ex rel. Boynton v. Bunton, 141 Kan. 103, 40 P.2d 328, 328. And the same meaning has been given to it when used in statutes. See Adjacent.

Adjoining owners. Those persons who own land touching the subject land and who, as a result, have right to notice of proceedings concerning the subject real estate as, for example, in zoning and licensing matters. Bayport Civic Ass'n v. Koehler, Sup., 138 N.Y. S.2d 524, 530.

Adjourn /sjorn/. To put off, defer; recess; postpone. To postpone action of a convened court or legislative body until another time specified, or indefinitely; the latter being usually called to adjourn sine die. To suspend or recess during a meeting, legislature or assembly, which continues in session. Suspending business for a time, delaying. See Adjournment.

Adjournament est ad diem dicere seu diem dare /sjarnemontam est a(d) dayam disarey syuw dayam dery/. An adjournment is to appoint a day or give a day. As the formula “eat sine die.”

Adjournatur /sjarnedyar/. L. Lat. It is adjourned. A word with which the old reports very frequently concluded a case.

A continuation of the same meeting, and at such adjourned meeting the governing body can do any act which might have been done if no adjournment had taken place, and limitations imposed on governing body as regards action at original meeting obtain at adjourned meeting. One ordered by board at regular meeting, and which is to convene after termination of such regular meeting and prior to next regular meeting. Byrd v. Byrd, 193 Miss. 249, 8 So.2d 510, 513.

Adjourned summons. A summons taken out in the chambers of a judge, and afterwards taken into court to be argued by counsel.

Adjourned term. In practice, a continuance, by adjournment, of a regular term. Distinguished from an “additional term,” which is a distinct term. A continuation of a previous or regular term. The same term prolonged, wherein power of court over business which has been done, and the entries made at the regular term, continues.

Adjournment. A putting off or postponing of business or of a session until another time or place. The act of a court, legislative body, public meeting, or officer, by which the session or assembly is dissolved, either temporarily or finally, and the business in hand dismissed from consideration, either definitely or for an interval. If the adjournment is final, it is said to be sine die. See also Recess.

Adjournment day. A further day appointed by the judges at the regular sittings at nisi prius to try issue of fact not then ready for trial.

Adjournment day in error. In English practice, a day appointed some days before the end of the term at which matters left undone on the appearance day are finished.

Adjournment in eye /sjarnmont in er/. In English law, the appointment of a day when the justices in eye mean to sit again.

Adjournment sine die /sjarnmont saynii day(i)y/* sayney dier/. An adjournment without setting a time for another meeting or session. See Sine die.

Adjudge /sjoo/. To pass on judicially, to decide, settle, or decree, or to sentence or condemn. People v. Rave, 364 Ill. 72, 3 N.E.2d 972, 975. Judgment of a court of competent jurisdiction; equivalent of convicted and sentenced. Implies a judicial determination of a fact, and the entry of a judgment. See also Judgment.


Adjudicated rights. Rights which have been recognized in a judicial or administrative proceeding.

Adjudicatee /ajoojwdeekyt/. In French and civil law, the purchaser at a judicial sale.

Adjudicatio /ajoojwdeeksh(i)yow/. In the civil law, an adjudication. The judgment of the court that the subject matter is the property of one of the litigants; confirmation of title by judgment.

Adjudication /ajoojwdeekshan/. The formal giving or pronouncing a judgment or decree in a cause; also the judgment given. The entry of a decree by a court in respect to the parties in a case. Samuel Goldwyn, Inc., v. United Artists Corporation, C.C.A.Del., 113 F.2d 703, 706. It implies a hearing by a court, after notice, of legal evidence on the factual issue(s) involved. Genzer v. Fillip, Tex.Civ.App., 134 S.W.2d 730, 732. The equivalent of a “determination.” Campbell v. Wyoming Development Co., 55 Wyo. 347, 100 P.2d 124, 132. And contemplates that the claims of all the parties thereto have been considered and set at rest. Miller v. Scobie, 152 Fla. 328, 11 So.2d 892, 894. See Administrative adjudication; Judgment.

Adjudicative claims arbitration. Concerned primarily with tort and other claims involving small amounts as distinguished from the traditional categories of arbitration in the fields of labor, commerce and international trade. Designed to relieve courts of burden of handling such cases.

Adjudicative facts. Factual matters concerning the parties to an administrative proceeding as contrasted with legislative facts which are general and usually do not touch individual questions of particular parties to a proceeding. Facts which concern a person’s motives and intent, as contrasted with general policy issues. U. S. v. Bishop Processing Co., D.C.Md., 287 F.Supp. 624, 633.

Adjudicatory hearing. A proceeding before an administrative agency in which the rights and duties of par-
ADJUDICATORY HEARING

ticular persons are adjudicated after notice and opportunity to be heard.

Adjudicatory process. Method of adjudicating factual disputes; used generally in reference to administrative proceedings in contrast to judicial proceedings.

Adjudicataire /aʊdwɪdəʊkərə/. In Canadian law, a purchaser at a sheriff’s sale.

Ad judicium /əˈdɪdʒɪdʒɪəm/. To judgment; to court. Ad judicium provocare; to summon to court; to commence an action; a term of the Roman law.

Adjunct /əˈdʒʌŋkt/. Something added to another, but in a subordinate, auxiliary, or dependent position. See also Appurtenance.

One associated with another in a subordinate or an auxiliary manner; an associate.

Adjunction /əˈdʒʌŋkʃən/. Adding, affixing or attaching to another. Act of adjoining. In civil law, the attachment or union permanently of a thing belonging to one person to that belonging to another. The common law implicitly adopts the civil law doctrines. See Accession.

Adjunctum accessorium /əˈdʒʌŋktəm əˈksəsəriəm/. An accessory or appurtenance.

Ad jungendum auxilium /əˈdɪdʒəmdəm əʊˈzɪlɪiəm/.

To join in aid. See Aid prayer.

Ad jura regis /əˈdɪdʒərədʒəs/. To the rights of the king; a writ which was brought by the king’s clerk, presented to a living against those who endeavored to eject him, to the prejudice of the king’s title.

Adjuration /əˈdʒərəʃən/. A swearing or binding upon oath.

Adjust. To settle or arrange; to free from differences or discrepancies. To bring to satisfactory state so that parties are agreed, as to adjust amount of loss by fire or controversy regarding property or estate. To bring to proper relations; to settle. To determine and apportion an amount due. Accounts are adjusted when they are settled and a balance is struck. Term is sometimes used in the sense of pay, when used in reference to a liquidated claim. Combination Oil & Gas Co. v. Brady, Tex.Civ.App., 96 S.W.2d 415, 416. Determination of amount to be paid to insured by insurer to cover loss or damage sustained. See Adjuster; Adjustment; Settlement.

Adjusted basis. The cost or other basis of property reduced by depreciation allowed or allowable and increased by capital improvements. See Basis.

Adjusted cost basis. For income tax purposes, original cost plus additions to capital less depreciation results in the “adjusted cost basis.” Herder v. Helvering, 70 U.S.App.D.C. 287, 106 F.2d 153, 162.

Adjusted gross estate. The gross estate less I.R.C. §§ 2053 and 2054 expenses equals the adjusted gross estate. Generally, I.R.C. §§ 2053 and 2054 expenses include administration expenses, debts of the decedent, and losses incurred by the estate. Fifty percent of the adjusted gross estate measures the maximum amount of the marital deduction allowed for death tax purposes. See Administration expense; Gross estate; Marital deduction.

Adjusted gross income. Term used in individual taxation to describe gross income less certain allowable deductions. I.R.C. § 62.

Adjuster. One appointed to adjust a matter; to ascertain or arrange or settle. One who makes any adjustment or settlement, or who determines the amount of a claim, as a claim against an insurance company. A representative of the insurer who seeks to determine the extent of the firm’s liability for loss when a claim is submitted. A person who acts for the insurance company or the insured in the determination and settlement of claims. “Public adjusters” represent claimants only. See Claim adjuster; Claimant adjuster; Independent adjuster.

Adjustment. An arrangement; a settlement. In the law of insurance, the adjustment of a loss is the ascertainment of its amount and the ratable distribution of it among those liable to pay it. The settling and ascertaining the amount of the indemnity which the assured, after all allowances and deductions made, is entitled to receive under the policy, and fixing the proportion which each underwriter is liable to pay.

Adjustment board. See Board of adjustment.

Adjustment bond. See Bond.

Adjustment securities. Stocks and bonds which are issued during a corporate reorganization.

Adjutant general /əˈdʒʌtənt nəˈsɪntəl/. An officer in charge of the National Guard of one of the States. The administrative head of a military unit having a general staff.

Adjuvare quippe nos, non decipi, beneficlo oportet /əˈdʒuːvərəˈkəoʊˌpərət/. We ought to be favored, not injured by which is intended for our benefit. (The species of baiment called “loan” must be to the advantage of the borrower, not to his detriment.)

Ad largum /əˈdər lərˈgəm/.

At large; as, title at large; assize at large. Also at liberty, free, or unconfined. *Ir. ad largum, to go at large. A special verdict was formerly called a verdict at large.

Adlegiæ /əˈdɛliˌdʒiːəri/.

To purge one's self of a crime by oath.

Ad libitum /əˈdə libɪtəm/.

At pleasure. 3 Bl.Comm. 292.

Ad litem /əˈdə lɪˈtɛm/.

For the suit; for the purposes of the suit; pending the suit. A guardian *ad litem* is a guardian appointed to prosecute or defend a suit on behalf of a party incapacitated by infancy or otherwise.

Ad lucrandum vel perdendum /əˈdʌð lʊkˈrændəm vəl pɜːrdəndəm/.

For gain or loss. Emphatic words in the old warrants of attorney. Sometimes expressed in English, “to lose and gain.”

Ad majorem cautelam /əd məˈdʒɔrm kəˈtələm/.

For greater security.

Admanuensis /ədˈmænjuːənəs/.

A person who swore by laying his hands on the book.
Ad manum /æd mɛɪnəm/. At hand; ready for use. *Et quersens sectam habeat ad manum*; and the plaintiff immediately have his suit ready.

Admeasurement /ædˈmɛʒərəm/. Ascertainment by measure; measuring out; assignment or apportionment by measure, that is, by fixed quantity or value, by certain limits, or in definite and fixed proportions.

Admeasurement of dower. A common law remedy which lay for the heir on reaching his majority to rectify an assignment of dower made during his minority, by which the doweress had received more than she was legally entitled to.

Admeasurement of pasture. In English law, a writ which lay between those that had common of pasture appendant, or by vicinage, in cases where any one or more of them surcharged the common with more cattle than they ought. This remedy has long been abolished in England and in the United States.

Admeasurement, writ of. A common law remedy which lay against persons who usurped more than their share, in the two following cases: Admeasurement of dower, and admeasurement of pasture.

Ad medium filum aquae /æd miˈdiːjʌm fɛɪləm əkwɪˈwiː/. To the middle thread of the stream. See *Ad filum aquae*.

Ad medium filum vie /æd miˈdiːjʌm fɛɪləm ˈveɪiː/. To the middle thread of the way.

Ad melius inquirendum /æd miˈliːjas iŋkəˈriːndəm/. A writ directed to a coroner commanding him to hold a second inquest.

Admensuro /ædˈmɛnzərəʊ/. In old English law, admeasurement.

Adminicule /ædˈmɪnɪkʊl/. Used as an English word in the statute of 1 Edw. IV, c. 1, in the sense of aid, or support. In civil law, imperfect proof. See *Adminiculum*.

Adminiculum /ædˈmɪnɪkʊləm/. Auxiliary or subordinate to. “The murder would be adminicular to the robbery” (i.e., committed to accomplish it).

Adminicular evidence /ædˈmɪnɪkəlær evɪˈdənt(t)ər/. Auxiliary or supplementary evidence; such as is presented for the purpose of explaining and completing other evidence. (Chiefly used in ecclesiastical law.)

Adminiculate /ædˈmɪnɪkələt/. To give adminicular evidence.

Adminiculator /ædˈmɪnɪkələtə/. An officer in the Roman Catholic Church who administered to the wants of widows, orphans, and afflicted persons.

Adminiculum /ædˈmɪnɪkələm/. Lat. An adminicle; a prop or support; an accessory thing. An aid or support to something else, whether a right or the evidence of one. It is principally used to designate evidence adduced in aid or support of other evidence, which without it is imperfect.

Administrator. To manage or conduct. Glocksen v. Holmes, 299 Ky. 626, 186 S.W.2d 634, 637. To discharge the duties of an office; to take charge of business; to manage affairs; to serve in the conduct of affairs, in the application of things to their uses; to settle and distribute the estate of a decedent. Also, to give, as an oath; to direct or cause to be taken.

To “administer” a decree is to execute it, to enforce its provisions, to resolve conflicts as to its meaning, to construe and to interpret its language. U. S. v. Hamilton, D. C. Nev., 300 F. Supp. 256, 263.

To apply, as medicine or a remedy; to give, as a dose of something beneficial or suitable. Barfield v. State, 71 Okl. Cr. 195, 110 P.2d 316, 317. To cause or procure a person to take some drug or other substance into his or her system; to direct and cause a medicine, poison, or drug to be taken into the system.

Administration. Management or conduct of an office or employment; the performance of the executive duties of an institution, business, or the like. In public law, the administration of government means the practical management and direction of the executive department, or of the public machinery or functions, or of the operations of the various organs or agencies. Direction or oversight of any office, service, or employment. Greene v. Wheeler, C.C.A.Wis., 29 F.2d 468, 469. The term “administration” is also conventionally applied to the whole class of public functionaries, or those in charge of the management of the executive department.

Administration expense. Administrative expenses imply disbursements incidental to the management of the estate which are deductible in computing estate taxes. Such deductions are allowed for such expenses or claims only to the extent that they “are allowable by the laws of the jurisdiction” under which the estate is being administered. I.R.C. § 2053.

Administration letters. The instrument by which an administrator or administratrix is authorized by the probate court, surrogate, or other proper officer, to have the charge and administration of the goods and property of an intestate. See *Administrator*.

Administration of estates. The management and settlement of the estate of an intestate, or of a testator who has no executor, performed under the supervision of a court, by a person duly qualified and legally appointed, and usually involving: (1) the collection of the decedent’s assets; (2) payment of debts and claims against the estate; (3) payment of estate taxes; (4) distribution of the remainder of the estate among those entitled thereto. See *Administrator; Letters of administration*.

Administration of estates is principally of the following kinds:

*Ad colligendum bona defuneti.* To collect the goods of the deceased. Special letters of administration granted to one or more persons, authorizing them to collect and preserve the goods of the deceased.

*Ad prosequeendum.* An administrator appointed to prosecute or defend a certain action (e.g., wrongful death) or actions in which the estate is concerned. Ancillary administration is auxiliary and subordinate to the administration at the place of the decedent’s domicile; it may be taken out in any foreign state or country where assets are locally situated, and is merely for the purpose of collecting such assets and paying debts there.
ADMINISTRATION OF ESTATES

Cum testamento annexo (CTA). Administration with the will annexed. Administration granted in cases where a testator makes a will without naming any executors; or where the executors who are named in the will are incompetent to act, are deceased, or refuse to act.

De bonis non (DBN). Administration granted for the purpose of administering such of the goods of a deceased person as were not administered by the former executor or administrator.

De bonis non cum testamento annexo (DBNCTA). That which is granted when an executor dies leaving a part of the estate unadministered.

Durante absentia. That which is granted during the absence of the executor and until he has proved the will.

Durante minori aetate. Exists where an infant is made executor, in which case administration with will annexed is granted to another during the minority of such executor, and until he shall attain his lawful age to act.

Foreign administration. That which is exercised by virtue of authority properly conferred by a foreign power.

General administration. The grant of authority to administer upon the entire estate of a decedent, without restriction or limitation, whether under the intestate laws or with the will annexed.

Pendente lite. Administration granted during the pendency of a suit touching the validity of a will.

Public administration is such as is conducted (in some jurisdictions) by an officer called the public administrator, who is appointed to administer in cases where the intestate has left no person entitled to apply for letters.

Special administration. Authority to administer upon some few particular effects of a decedent, as opposed to authority to administer his whole estate.

Administrative. Connotes of or pertains to administration, especially management, as by managing or conducting, directing, or superintending, the execution, application or conduct of persons or things. Fluet v. McCabe, 299 Mass. 173, 12 N.E.2d 89, 93. Particularly, having the character of executive or ministerial action. Mauritz v. Swind, Tex.Civ.App., 101 S.W.2d 1085, 1090. In this sense, administrative functions or acts are distinguished from such as are judicial. People ex rel. Van Sickle v. Austin, 20 App.Div. 1, 46 N.Y.S. 526.

Administrative acts. Those acts which are necessary to be done to carry our legislative policies and purposes already declared by the legislative body or such as are devolved upon it by the organic law of its existence. Ex parte McDonough, 27 Cal.App.2d 155, 80 P.2d 485, 487.

Administrative adjudication. The process by which an administrative agency issues an order, such order being affirmative, negative, injunctive or declaratory in form. Adm. Procedure Act, § 551.


The term "agency" includes any department, independent establishment, commission, administration, authority, board or bureau of the United States or any corporation in which the United States has a proprietary interest, unless the context shows that such term was intended to be used in a more limited sense.

Administrative authority. The power of an agency or its head to carry out the terms of the law creating the agency as well as to make regulations for the conduct of business before the agency; distinguishable from legislative authority to make laws.

Administrative board. This term is very broad and includes bodies exercising varied functions, some of which involve orders made or other acts done ex parte or without full hearing as to the operative facts, while others are done only after such a notice and hearing, and the functions of the former kind are plainly "administrative" and those of the latter are "quasi judicial." Beaverdale Memorial Park v. Dan- aher, 127 Conn. 175, 15 A.2d 17, 21. Administrative boards differ from "courts" in that boards frequently represent public interests entrusted to boards, whereas courts are concerned with litigating rights of parties with adverse interests. Romnell v. Walsh, 127 Conn. 16, 15 A.2d 6, 9.

Administrative crime. An offense consisting of a violation of an administrative rule or regulation and carrying with it a criminal sanction.

Administrative determination. See Administrative adjudication.

Administrative deviation. Departure from the administrative provisions of a trust by the trustee acting alone or with prior approval of the court. Anderson v. Ryland, 232 Ark. 335, 336 S.W.2d 52.

Administrative discretion. Term means that the doing of acts or things required to be done may rest, in part at least, upon considerations not entirely susceptible of proof or disproof and at times which considering the circumstances and subject-matter cannot be supplied by the Legislature, and a statute confers such discretion when it refers a commission or office to beliefs, expectations, or tendencies instead of facts for the exercise of the powers conferred. Culver v. Smith, Tex.Civ.App., 74 S.W.2d 754, 757.

Administrative hearing. An oral proceeding before an administrative agency consisting of argument or trial of fact. Procedural rules are more relaxed at such hearings as contrasted with civil or criminal trials; e.g. rules governing admissibility of evidence are usually quite liberal. See also Hearing.
Administrative interpretation. Meaning given to a law or regulation by an administrative agency.

Administrative law. Body of law created by administrative agencies in the form of rules, regulations, orders, and decisions.

Administrative law judge. One who presides at an administrative hearing, with power to administer oaths, take testimony, rule on questions of evidence and make agency determinations of fact. Formerly called "hearing officer" or "hearing examiner". Adm. Procedure Act, § 556.

Administrative officer. Politically, and as used in constitutional law, an officer of the executive department of government, and generally one of inferior rank; legally, a ministerial or executive officer, as distinguished from a judicial officer.

Administrative order. The final disposition of a matter before an administrative agency; product of an administrative adjudication. Such order may be declaratory or it may contain an affirmative or negative command. Adm. Procedure Act, § 554.

A regulation issued by an administrative agency interpreting or applying the provisions of a statute. Administrative acts having force of law, designed to clarify or implement a law or policy.

Administrative procedure. Methods and processes before administrative agencies as distinguished from judicial procedure which applies to courts. Procedural rules and regulations of most federal agencies are set forth in the Code of Federal Regulations. See also Administrative Procedure Act.


State. Individual states have enacted variations of the federal Act, e.g. M.G.L.A. (Mass.) c. 30A. Such acts govern proceedings for state administrative agencies.

Administrative process. In general, the procedure used before administrative agencies; in particular, the means of summoning witnesses before such agencies, e.g: subpoena.

Administrative remedy. Non-judicial remedy provided by agency, board, commission, or the like. In most instances, all administrative remedies must have been exhausted before a court will take jurisdiction of a case; e.g. U.S. District Courts will not consider a social security case unless all hearing, appeal, etc. remedies before the Social Security Administration have been exhausted.

Administrative review. Generally refers to judicial review of administrative proceedings; may also embrace appellate review within the administrative agency itself. Adm. Procedure Act, § 557.


Administrative tribunal. A particular administrative agency before which a matter may be heard or tried as distinguished from a judicial forum.

Administrator. A person appointed by the court to administer (i.e., manage or take charge of) the assets and liabilities of a decedent (i.e., the deceased). Such person may be a male (i.e., administrator) or a female (i.e., administratrix). If the person performing these services is named by the decedent’s will, he is designated as the executor, or she the executrix, of the estate.

An instrumentality established by law for performing the acts necessary for transfer of effects left by deceased to those who succeed to their ownership. Behne v. Geib, D.C.Md., 169 F.Supp. 647, 650.

Domestic. One appointed at the place of the domicile of the decedent; distinguished from a foreign or an ancillary administrator.

Foreign. One appointed or qualified under the laws of a foreign state or country, where the decedent was domiciled.

Public. An official provided for by statute in some states to administer upon the property of intestates in certain cases.

Administrator ad litem /ædˌmænaʊstrəˈɛdər æd ləˈdæm/. A special administrator appointed by court to supply a necessary party to an action in which deceased or his estate is interested.

Administrator cum testamento annexo (C.T.A.) /ædˌmænaʊstrəˈɛdər ˌkæm tɛstəˈmɛndəʊ ænɛkˈsəʊ/. See Cum testamento annexo.

Administrator de bonis non (D.B.N.) /ædˌmænaʊstrəˈɛdər ˈdai ˈbɒwən nɒn/. ‘Administrators de bonis non administratis’ are, as the term signifies, persons appointed by the court of probate to administer on the effects of a decedent which have not been included in a former administration.

Administrator pendente lite /ædˌmænaʊstrəˈɛdər pɛndəntət lɛt/. A temporary administrator appointed before an adjudication of intestacy has been made for purpose of preserving assets of the estate.

Administrator with will annexed. One appointed administrator of deceased’s estate after executors named in will have refused or are unable to act.

Administratrix /ædˌmænaʊstrəˈtræks/. A woman who administers, or to whom letters of administration have been granted.

Admiralty /ædˌmərəˈlæti/. L. Lat. Admiralty; the admiralty, or court of admiralty. In European law, an association of private armed vessels for mutual protection and defense against pirates and enemies.

Admiralty. See Maritime.

Admiralty court. A court exercising jurisdiction over all maritime contracts, torts, injuries, or offenses. Federal district courts have jurisdiction over admiralty and maritime actions. 28 U.S.C.A. § 1333. Procedure in such actions is governed by the Fed.R. Civil P. and Supp. Admiralty Rules. See also Saving to suitors clause.

Admiralty, First Lord of the. In England, formerly the normal head of the executive department of state which presided over the naval forces of the kingdom was the lord high admiral, but in practice the func-
Admissions by silence. If a statement is made by another person in the presence of a party to the action, containing assertions of facts which, if untrue, the party would under all the circumstances naturally be expected to deny, his failure to speak has traditionally been receivable against him as an admission. Failure of one not under arrest to respond by denial to accusation of crime, or element of crime, may be construed as admission of guilt if such person understood accusation and could have responded. See also Estoppel; Silence.

Adoptive admission. Action by a party in which he approves statement of one for whom he is responsible thereby accepting truth of statement. Silence, actions, or statements which manifest assent to the statements of another person. Such may be received into evidence as admissions of the defendant if it can be shown that the defendant adopted the statements as his own. See Fed. Evid. R. 801(d)(2)(B).

Criminal admissions. A statement by accused, direct or implied, of facts pertinent to issue, and tending, in connection with proof of other facts, to prove his guilt. State v. Johnson, 277 Minn. 368, 152 N.W.2d 768, 773. The avowal of a fact or of circumstances from which guilt may be inferred, but only tending to prove the offense charged, and not amounting to a confession of guilt. A statement by defendant of fact or facts pertinent to issues tending, in connection with proof of other facts or circumstances, to prove guilt, but which is, of itself, insufficient to authorize conviction. Does not include statements which are part of the res gestae. State v. Clark, 102 Mont. 432, 58 P.2d 276, 278.

Discovery practice. Requests for admissions in civil actions are governed by Fed. R. Civ. P. 36. Any matter admitted under Rule 36 is conclusively established unless the court on motion permits withdrawal or amendment of the admission. See Request (Request for admission); Stipulation.

Distinguished from confession. A confession is a statement admitting or acknowledging all facts necessary for conviction of the crime. An admission, on the other hand, is an acknowledgment of a fact or facts tending to prove guilt which falls short of an acknowledgment of all essential elements of the crime. Gladden v. Unsworth, 9th Cir., 396 F.2d 373, 375 n. 2; People v. Fitzgerald, 56 Cal.2d 855, 861, 17 Cal.Rptr. 129, 132, 366 P.2d 481, 484. The term "admission" is usually applied to civil transactions and to those matters of fact in criminal cases which do not involve criminal intent, while the term "confession" is generally restricted to acknowledgments of guilt. People v. Sourisseau, 62 Cal.App.2d 917, 145 P.2d 916, 923.

Implicated admissions are those which result from some act or failure to act of the party; e.g. part payment of a debt is an admission of liability to pay debt.

Incidental admissions are those made in some other connection, or involved in the admission of some other fact.

Judicial admissions are those made in court by a person's attorney for the purpose of being used as a substitute for the regular legal evidence of the facts at the trial. Such as are made voluntarily by a party, which appear of record in the proceedings of the
ADOPTION

Admonitio trina /ædmæniʃiow trəˈnaː/. The threefold warning given to a prisoner who stood mute, before he was subjected to peine forte et dure (q.v.). 4 Bl.Comm. 325.

Ad mordendum assuetus /æd mɔrˈdɛndəm əswiˈdəs/. Accustomed to bite. A material averment in declarations for damage done by a dog to persons or animals.

Admirtziation /ædˈmɔrdaːzɪˈɛʃən/. In feudal customs, the reduction of property of lands or tenements to mortmain.

Adnepos /ædnəˈpɔs/. The son of a great-great-grandson.

Adneptis /ædnəˈpɛtɪs/. The daughter of a great-great-granddaughter.

Adnichiled /ædˈnɪkləd/. Annulled, canceled, made void.

Adnihilare /ædˈnɪələr/ /ædˈnɪələr/ /ædˈnɪələr/. In old English law, to annul; to make void; to reduce to nothing; to treat as nothing; to hold as or for nought.

Ad nocumentum /æd nɔkˈwɛntʊm/. To the nuisance, or annoyance; to the hurt or injury. Ad nocumentum liberi tenementi sui, to the nuisance of his freehold. Formal words in the old assise of nuisance. 3 Bl.Comm. 221.

Adnratio /ædˈnɔrətʃiəʊ(ə)ˈriə/ /ædˈnɔrətʃiəʊ(ə)ˈriə/ /ædˈnɔrətʃiəʊ(ə)ˈriə/. In the civil law, the subscription of a name or signature to an instrument. A rescript (q.v.) of the prince or emperor, signed with his own hand, or sign-manual. In the imperial law, casual homicide was excused by the indulgence of the emperor, signed with his own sign-manual, annotatia principis. 4 Bl.Comm. 187.

Ad officium justiciariorum spectat, unicuique coram eis placitanti justitiam exhibere /æd əfɪʃ(ɪ)əm ʤʌstɪʃɨˈrʌm spɛktə tuːˈnuːk(ˈjuːw)əˈjɪkwɪki kərəm ˈplæsɪtəntɪ ˈʤʌstɪʃɪ(ˈɪ)əm eksˈbɪərɪ/. It is the duty of justices to administer justice to every one pleading before them.

Adolescence. That age which follows puberty and precedes the age of majority.

Ad omissa vel male appretiata /æd əˈmiːsə vel ˈmeɪli əˈpreʃɪtə əˈrɛtətə/ /æd əˈmiːsə vel ˈmeɪli əˈpreʃɪtə əˈrɛtətə/. With relation to omissions or wrong interpretations.

Adopt. To accept, appropriate, choose, or select. To make that one's own (property or act) which was not so originally. To accept, consent to, and put into effective operation, as in the case of a constitution, constitutional amendment, ordinance, court rule, or by-law.

Adoption. Legal process pursuant to state statute in which a child's legal rights and duties toward his natural parents are terminated and similar rights and duties toward his adoptive parents are substituted. To take into one's family the child of another and give him or her the rights, privileges, and duties of a child and heir. The procedure is entirely statutory and has no historical basis in common law. Most adoptions are through agency placements. See Adoption by estoppel; De facto adoption; Equitable adoption; Placement; Private placement (Adoption).
Adoption by estoppel. Equitable adoption of a child by promises and acts which preclude such person and his estate from denying adopted status to child. Heien v. Crabtree, Tex., 369 S.W.2d 28, 30. See also Equitable adoption.

Adoption by reference. Statement in writing by which another statement in a separate writing is incorporated by reference. Statement in pleading may be adopted by reference in a different part of same pleading or in another pleading or motion. Fed.R. Civ. P. 10(c).

Adaptive act. An act of legislation which comes into operation within a limited area upon being adopted, in manner prescribed therein, by the inhabitants of that area.

Ad opus /æd ɒwpəs/. To the work.

Ad ostendendum /æd ɒstændɪdəm/. To show. Formal words in old writs.

Ad ostium ecclesiae /æd ɒstɪjum ək lɪziəˈjɪj/. At the door of the church. One of the five species of dower formerly recognized by the English law. 2 Bl.Comm. 132.

Ad pios usus /æd ˈpjoʊs ˈjuəs/. Lat. For pious (religious or charitable) uses or purposes. Used with reference to gifts and bequests.

Ad prosequendum /æd ˈprəskəwəndəm/. To prosecute.

Ad proximum antecedens fiat relatio nisi impediatur sententia /æd prɒksɪməm əntəsɪldən sɛntəntiə/; Relative words refer to the nearest antecedent, unless it be prevented by the context. Brown v. Brown, Del., 3 Terry 157, 29 A.2d 149, 153.

Ad punctum temporis /æd pækntəm tɛmˈpərəs/. At the point of time.

Ad quærimoniam /æd kwɪrəməˈnɪəm/. On complaint of.

Ad questionem facti non respondent judicis; ad questionem juris non respondent juratores /æd kwes(h)ˈkɪdiəniʒən fæktən nɒn ræsplɒndənt jʊwɛðəsiʒ; æd kwes(h)ˈkɪdiəniʒən jʊrəsn nɒn ræsplɒndənt jʊrətɔriʒ/. Means that juries must answer to questions of fact and judges to questions of law. Ex parte United States, C.C.A.Wis., 101 F.2d 870, 874.

Ad questiones legis judices, et non juratores, respondent /æd kwes(h)ˈkwɒs(h)ɪniʒən lɪˈjɪəs jʊwɛðəsiʒ, et nɒn jʊrətɔriʒ, ræsplɒndənt/. Judges, and not jurors, decide questions of law.

Ad quem /æd kwem/. To which. A term used in the computation of time or distance, as correlative to a quo; denotes the end or terminal point. See A quo.

The terminus a quo is the point of beginning or departure; the terminus ad quem, the end of the period or point of arrival.

Ad questiones facti non respondent judicis; ad questiones legis non respondent juratores /æd kwes(h)ˈkwɒs(h)ɪniʒən fæktən nɒn ræsplɒndənt jʊwɛðəsiʒ; æd kwes(h)ˈkwɒs(h)ɪniʒən lɪjəs nɒn ræsplɒndənt jʊrətɔriʒ/. Judges do not answer questions of fact; juries do not answer questions of law.

Adquieto /ædkwɪˈjetəʊ/. Payment.

Ad quod curia concordavit /æd kwɒd kjuˈriə kɒŋkɔrdəˈvæt/. To which the court agreed.

Ad quod damnum /æd kwɒd dəmˈnʌm/. The name of a writ formerly issuing from the English chancery, commanding the sheriff to make inquiry "to what damage" a specified act, if done, will tend.

It is a writ which ought to be sued before the king grants certain liberties, as a fair, market or such like, which may be prejudicial to others, and thereby it should be inquired whether it will be a prejudice to grant them, and to whom it will be prejudicial, and what prejudice will come thereby.

There is also another writ of ad quod damnum, if any one will turn a common highway and lay out another way as beneficial.

A "writ of ad quod damnum" is of ancient origin, and could be issued as a writ of right when landowner was dissatisfied with assessment of damages by condemnation commission. Lewis v. Du Pont, Del. Super., 2 Terry 347, 22 A.2d 832, 834.

Ad quod non fuit responsum /æd kwɒd nɒn fjuˈwʌst ræpsɔˈnum/. To which there was no answer. A phrase used in old reports, where a point advanced in argument by one party was not denied by the other; or where a point or argument of counsel was not met or noticed by the court; or where an objection was met by the court, and not replied to by the counsel who raised it.

A.D.R. Asset Depreciation Range.

Ad rationem ponere /æd rɪˈʃiʃʌniən pəˈnərəri/. To cite a person to appear. A technical expression in the old records of the Exchequer, signifying, to put to the bar and interrogate as to a charge made; to arraign on a trial.

Ad recognoscendum /æd rɪˈkɔnɡneɪsəndəm/. To recognize. Formal words in old writs.

Adrectare /ædrɛktəri/. To set right, satisfy, or make amends.

Ad recte docendum oportet, primum inquirere nomina, quia rerum cognitio a nominibus rerum dependet /æd rɛkˈtiː dəʊʃəndəm əupaʊrdət, prəˈrɪməm ɪŋkwɪˈriːrə nəˈmɪnəˌbaʊs ɹərəm ˈdɛpendət/. In order rightly to comprehend a thing, inquire first into the names, for a right knowledge of things depends upon their names.

Ad rectum /æd rɛktəm/. To right. To do right. To meet an accusation. To answer the demands of the law. Habeeb ees ad rectum. They shall render themselves to answer the law, or to make satisfaction.

Ad reparationem et sustentationem /æd rɪˈpærəʃiənəm ət səstəntəˈtiʃiənəm/. For repairing and keeping in suitable condition.

Ad respondendum /æd rɪˈsɒndəndəm/. For answering; to make answer. Words used in certain writs employed for bringing a person before the court to make answer in defense in a proceeding, as in habeas corpus ad respondendum and capias ad respondendum, q.v.
Adhamire /ædramáir/. In old European law, to undertake, declare, or promise solemnly; to pledge; to pledge one's self to make oath.

Adrogation /ædrowgeryshan/. In the civil law, the adoption of one who was impubes; that is, if a male, under fourteen years of age; if a female, under twelve.

Ads. An abbreviation for ad sectam (q.v.), meaning "at the suit of."

Ad satisfaciendum /æd sæd'fasfeyshiyéndam/. To satisfy. The emphatic words of the writ of capias ad satisfaciendum, which requires the sheriff to take the person of the defendant to satisfy the plaintiff's claim.

Adscendentes /æd'sendéntiyiz/. Lat. In the civil law, ascendants.

Adscripti /æd'skriptay/. See Adscriptus.

Adscripti glebe /æd'skriptay gleybyi/. Slaves who served the master of the soil, who were annexed to the land, and passed with it when it was conveyed.

Adscriptii /æd'skriptishiyay/. Lat. A species of serfs or slaves. Those persons who were enrolled and liable to be drafted as legionary soldiers.

Adscriptus /æd'skriptus/. In the civil law, added, annexed, or bound by or in writing; enrolled, registered; united, joined, annexed, bound to, generally. Servus colonus adscriptus, a slave annexed to an estate as a cultivator. Fundus adscriptus, an estate bound to, or burdened with a duty.

Ad sectam /æd sék'tam/. At the suit of. Commonly abbreviated to ads. Used in entering and indexing the names of cases, where it is desired that the name of the defendant should come first. Thus, "B. ads. A." indicates that B. is in an action brought by A., and the title so written would be an inversion of the more usual form "A. v. B."

Adssores /æd'ssáríriyz/. Side judges. Assistants or advisers of the regular magistrates, or appointed as their substitutes in certain cases. See Assessor.

Adstipulator /ædstípiýléydar/. In Roman law, an accessory party to a promise, who received the same promise as his principal did, and could equally receive and exact payment; or he only stipulated for a part of that for which the principal stipulated, and then his rights were coextensive with the amount of his own stipulation. One who supplied the place of a procurator at a time when the law refused to allow stipulations to be made by procuration.

Ad terminum annorum /æd tár'manam ánórám/. For a term of years.

Ad terminum qui præterit /æd tár'manam kwá prédarát/. For a term which has passed. Words in the Latin form of the writ of entry employed at common law to recover, on behalf of a landlord, possession of premises from a tenant holding over after the expiration of the term for which they were demised.

Ad testificandum /æd téstísfikándam/. To testify. Type of writ of habeas corpus used to bring prisoner to court to testify. See Habeas corpus.

Ad tristem partem strenua est suspicio /æd trístam párdam strényuwa ēst sásphish(ý)ow/. Suspicion lies heavy on the unfortunate side.

Ad tune et ibidem /æd túnk æd ibáýdam/"ibádam/. In pleading, the Latin name of that clause of an indictment containing the statement of the subject-matter "then and there being found."

Adul. One who has attained the legal age of majority; generally 18 years. At civil law, a male who had attained the age of 14; a female who had attained the age of 12. See Legal age; Majority.

Adulter /ædátár/. One who corrupts; one who seduces another man's wife. Adulter solidorum. A corruptor of metals; a counterfeiter.

Adultera /ædátára/. In the civil law, an adulteress; a woman guilty of adultery.

Adulteration. The act of corrupting or debasing. The act of mixing something impure or spurious with something pure or genuine, or an inferior article with a superior one of the same kind. The term is generally applied to the act of mixing up with food or drink intended to be sold other matters of an inferior quality, and usually of a more or less deleterious quality. The act, process or omission to act by which food becomes impure and unfit for consumption. Such is prohibited and regulated by federal and state statutes and agencies. See Food and Drug Administration; Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act.

Adulterator /ædátáréyda/. A corrupter. In the civil law, a forger; a counterfeiter.

Adulteratores monetae /ædátáratóriyz mánmídyi/. Counterfeiters of money.

Adulterine /ædátárin/. Begotten in an adulterous intercourse. Those are not deemed adulterine who are begotten of a woman openly married through ignorance of a former wife being alive. In the Roman and canon law, adulterine bastards were distinguished from such as were the issue of two unmarried persons, and the former were treated with more severity, not being allowed the status of natural children, and being ineligible to holy orders.

Adulterine gilds. Traders acting as a corporation without a charter, and paying a fine annually for permission to exercise their usurped privileges.

Adulterium /ædátéríyam/. A fine anciently imposed for the commission of adultery.

Adulterous bastards. Those produced by an unlawful connection between two persons, who at the time when the child was conceived, were, either of them or both, connected by marriage with some other person. Civil Code La. art. 182.

Adultery /ædátáryi/. Voluntary sexual intercourse of a married person with a person other than the offender's husband or wife. Franzetti v. Franzetti, Tex.Civ. App., 120 S.W.2d 123, 127. In some states, however, as was also true under the Roman and Jewish law, this crime is committed only when the woman is married to a third person; the unlawful commerce of a married man with an unmarried woman not being of the grade of adultery. In other jurisdictions, both
parties are guilty of adultery, even though only one of them is married. In some jurisdictions, also, a distinction is made between double and single adultery, the former being committed where both parties are married to other persons, the latter where one only is so married. See also illicit cohabitation.

Open and notorious adultery. To constitute living in open and notorious adultery, the parties must reside together publicly in the face of society, as if conjugal relations existed between them, and their so living and the fact that they are not husband and wife must be known in the community.

Ad ultimam vim terminorum /ād āltamān vim tarmanōram/. To the most extended import of the terms; in a sense as universal as the terms will reach.

Ad usum et commodum /ād yūsam et kōmedam/. To the use and benefit.

Ad valentiam /ād valēnsh(y)am/. To the value. See Ad valorem.

Ad valorem /ād valōram/. According to value. A tax imposed on the value of property. The more common ad valorem tax is that imposed by states, counties, and cities on real estate. Ad valorem taxes, can, however, be imposed upon personal property; e.g., a motor vehicle tax may be imposed upon the value of an automobile and is therefore deductible as a tax. A tax levied on property or an article of commerce in proportion to its value, as determined by assessment or appraisal. Callaway v. City of Overland Park, 211 Kan. 646, 508 P.2d 902, 907.

Duties are either ad valorem or specific; the former when the duty is laid in the form of a percentage on the value of the property; the latter where it is imposed as a fixed sum on each article of a class without regard to its value.

Advance. To move something forward in position, time or place. To pay money or render other value before it is due; to furnish something before an equivalent is received; to loan; to furnish capital in aid of a projected enterprise, in expectation of return from it. To supply beforehand; to furnish on credit or before goods are delivered or work done; to furnish as a part of a stock or fund; to pay money before it is due; to furnish money for a specific purpose understood between the parties, the money or sum equivalent to be returned; furnishing money or goods for others in expectation of reimbursement; money or commodities furnished on credit. A loan, or gift or money advanced to be repaid conditionally; may be equivalent to "pay." See also Advances.

Advance bill. Bill of exchange drawn before shipment of goods.

Advancement. Money or property given by a parent to his child or, sometimes, presumptive heir, or expended by the former for the latter's benefit, by way of anticipation of the share which the child will inherit in the parent's estate and intended to be deducted therefrom. It is the latter circumstance which differentiates an advancement from a gift or a loan.

Advance payment. Payments made in anticipation of a contingent or fixed future liability.

Advances. Moneys paid before or in advance of the proper time of payment; money or commodities furnished on credit; a loan or gift, or money advanced to be repaid conditionally. Payments advanced to the owner of property by a factor or broker on the price of goods which the latter has in his hands, or is to receive, for sale. See also Advance.

Advance sheets. Pamphlets (published weekly for National Reporter System) containing the most recently reported opinions of specific courts (e.g. Federal Reporter) or the courts of several jurisdictions (e.g. Pacific Reporter). The volume and page numbers usually are the same as in the subsequently bound volumes of the series, which cover several numbers of the advance sheets.

Advantage. In old pleading, an advantage.

Advena /ādvane/. In Roman law, one of foreign birth, who has left his own country and settled elsewhere, and who has not acquired citizenship in his new locality; often called albanus.

Advent. A period of time recognized by the English common and ecclesiastical law, beginning on the Sunday that falls either upon St. Andrew's day, being the 30th of November, or the next to it, and continuing to Christmas day.

Adventitious /ādvantishas/. That which comes incidentally, fortuitously, or out of the regular course.

Adventitious /ādvantish(iy)as/. Lat. Fortuitous; incidental; coming from an unusual source. Adventitia bona are goods which fall to a man otherwise than by inheritance. Adventitia dos is a dowry or portion given by some friend other than the parent.

Ad ventrem inspiciendum /ād vētram inspishiyēndam/. To inspect the womb. A writ for the summoning of a jury of matrons (q.v.) to determine the question of pregnancy.

Adventura /ādvanchūra/. An adventure. Flotsam, jetsam, and lagon are styled adventure maris (adventures of the sea).

Adventure. A hazardous and striking enterprise. A bold undertaking accompanied by possible hazards, risks and unforeseen events.

A common word in marine insurance policies, used as synonymous, or nearly so, with "perils." A shipment of goods in charge of an agent to be disposed of for the best price obtainable.

Adventure, bill of. In commercial law, a writing signed by a merchant, stating that the property in goods shipped in his name belongs to another, to the adventure or chance of which the person so named is to stand, with a covenant from the merchant to account to him for the produce.

Gross adventure. In maritime law, a loan on bottomry. So named because the lender, in case of a loss, or expense incurred for the common safety, must contribute to the gross or general average.

Joint adventure. A commercial or maritime enterprise undertaken by several persons jointly; a limited partnership,—not limited in the statutory sense as to the liability of the partners, but as to its scope and
duration. An association of two or more persons to carry out a single business enterprise for profit, for which purpose they combine their property, money, effects, skill, and knowledge. A special combination of two or more persons, where, in some specific adventure, a profit is jointly sought, without any actual partnership or corporate designation. See also Joint venture.

Adventurer. One who undertakes uncertain or hazardous actions or enterprises. It is also used to denote one who seeks to advance his own interests by unscrupulous designs on the credulity of others.

Adversary proceeding. One having opposing parties; contested, as distinguished from an ex parte hearing or proceeding. One of which the party seeking relief has given legal notice to the other party, and afforded the latter an opportunity to contest it.

Adversary system. The jurisprudential network of laws, rules and procedures characterized by opposing parties who contend against each other for a result favorable to themselves. In such system, the judge acts as an independent magistrate rather than prosecutor; distinguished from inquisitorial system.

Adverse. Opposed; contrary; in resistance or opposition to a claim, application, or proceeding. Having opposing interests; having interests for the preservation of which opposition is essential.

Use of land is “adverse”, as against owner, if it is not made in subordination to him, is open and notorious and is not wrongful as to him; “adverse” means that one making use shall not recognize in those as against whom it is claimed to be adverse an authority either to prevent or to permit its continuance, and refers to nonrecognition of such authority at time use is made. Benson v. Fekete, Mo., 424 S.W.2d 729, 738.

As to adverse Enjoyment; User; Verdict; Witness, see those titles.

Adverse claim. An alleged right of one person asserted against the interest of another person. U.C.C. § 8–302.

Adverse enjoyment. See Adverse possession.

Adverse interest. The “adverse interest” of a witness, so as to permit cross-examination by the party calling him, must be so involved in the event of the suit that a legal right or liability will be acquired, lost, or materially affected by the judgment, and must be such as would be promoted by the success of the adversary of the party calling him. See also Adverse witness.

Adverse party. A party to an action whose interests are opposed to or opposite the interests of another party to the action.

Appeal. An “adverse party” entitled to notice of appeal is every party whose interest in relation to the judgment or decree appealed from is in conflict with the modification or reversal sought by the appeal. Such term includes the following: Every party interested in sustaining the judgment or decree. All parties appearing against losing party unless reversal of case will not be to party’s detriment. Any party who would be prejudicially affected by a modification or reversal of the judgment appealed from. One who has interest in opposing object sought to be accomplished by appeal. Party to record, whose interest in subject-matter of appeal is adverse to reversal or modification of judgment or order appealed from.

Discovery. When the parties exchange pleadings, one asserting a claim for relief against the other, the parties are “adverse,” within rule allowing written interrogatories to be served upon any adverse party. Carey v. Schultd, D.C.La., 42 F.R.D. 390, 393, 394, 395.

Adverse possession. A method of acquisition of title to real property by possession for a statutory period under certain conditions. Lowery v. Garfield County, 122 Mont. 571, 208 P.2d 478, 486. It has been described as the statutory method of acquiring title to land by limitation. Field v. Sosby, Tex.Civ.App., 226 S.W.2d 484, 486.

Because of the statute of limitations on the bringing of actions for the recovery of land, title can be acquired to real property by adverse possession. In order to establish title in this manner, there must be proof of nonpermissive use which is actual, open, notorious, exclusive and adverse for the statutorily prescribed period. Ryan v. Stavros, 348 Mass. 251, 203 N.E.2d 85. State statutes differ with respect to the required length of possession from an upper limit of 20 years to a lower one of 5 years, with even more extreme time periods covering certain special cases. There may be different periods of time even within a single state, depending on whether or not the adverse possessor has color of title and/or whether or not taxes have been paid. In some cases a longer possession is required against public entities than against individuals.

Adverse possession depends on intent of occupant to claim and hold real property in opposition to all the world, Sertic v. Roberts, 171 Or. 121, 136 P.2d 248; and also embodies the idea that owner of or persons interested in property have knowledge of the assertion of ownership by the occupant, Field v. Sosby, Tex.Civ.App., 226 S.W.2d 484, 486.

Adverse possession consists of actual possession with intent to hold solely for possessor to exclusion of others and is denoted by exercise of acts of dominion over land including making of ordinary use and taking of ordinary profits of which land is susceptible in its present state. U. S. v. Chatham, D.C.N.C., 208 F.Supp. 220, 226.

See also Constructive adverse possession; Prescription; Tacking.

Adverse use. Use without license or permission; an element necessary to acquire title or easement by prescription. Shuggars v. Brake, 248 Md. 38, 234 A.2d 752.

Adverse witness. A witness who gives evidence prejudicial to the party then examining him. Commonly used to describe a witness whose testimony is prejudicial to the party who called him and as a result, such witness may be impeached. Foremost Dairies Inc. of South v. Cutler, Fla.App., 212 So.2d 37, 40, 41. See also Adverse interest; Hostile or adverse witness.

Adversus /adˈvɜːrəs/. In the civil law, against (contra). Adversus bonos mores, against good morals.
Adversus extraneos vitiosa possessio prodesse solet
/ædværssæ ekstræmíyowsv vishliówzæ ðæzsh(ì)yow prawðsíyw sólvət/. Prior possession is a good title of ownership against all who cannot show a better.

Advertise. To advise, announce, apprise, command, give notice of, inform, make known, publish. On call to the public attention by any means whatsoever. Any oral, written, or graphic statement made by the seller in any manner in connection with the solicitation of business and includes, without limitation because of enumeration, statements and representations made in a newspaper or other publication or on radio or television or contained in any notice, handbook, sign, catalog, or letter, or printed on or contained in any tag or label attached to or accompanying any merchandise. See also Printers Ink Statute.

Comparative advertising. Advertising that specifically compares the advertised brand with other brands of the same product.

Competitive advertising. Advertising that contains basically little information and is used only to allow a producer to maintain a share of the market for that product.

Informative advertising. Advertising that gives information about the suitability and quality of products. To be contrasted with competitive advertising.


Advice. View; opinion; information; the counsel given by lawyers to their clients; an opinion expressed as to wisdom of future conduct. Hughes v. Van Bruggen, 44 N.M. 534, 105 P.2d 494, 496.

The instruction usually given by one merchant or banker to another by letter, informing him of shipments made to him, or of bills or drafts drawn on him, with particulars of date, or sight, the sum, and the payee. Bills presented for acceptance or payment are frequently dishonored for want of advice.

Advice of counsel. A defense used in actions for malicious prosecution which requires a finding that defendant presented all facts to his counsel and that he honestly followed counsel's advice. Boylen v. Tracy, 254 Mass. 105, 108, 149 N.E. 674.

Ad vim majorem vel ad casus fortuitus non tenetur quis, nisi sua culpa intervenit /ædv vim májormə vəl ædv kêysas fər(t)əwadas nən tənəydr kwısw, nəsəy ɕ(ə)yəwə käpsər tənəvərinət/. No one is held to answer for the effects of a superior force, or of accidents, unless his own fault has contributed.

Advisare /ædvəzəri/ or advisari /ædvəzərəy/. Lat. To consult, deliberate, consider, advise; to be advised. Occurring in the phrase curia advisari vult (q.v.), (usually abbreviated cur. adv. vult, or C.A.V.), the court wishes to be advised, or to consider the matter.

Advise. To give an opinion or counsel, or recommend a plan or course of action; also to give notice. To encourage, inform, or acquaint. It is different in meaning from “instruct” or “persuade.” Hughes v. Van Bruggen, 44 N.M. 534, 105 P.2d 494, 497. Where a statute authorizes the trial court to advise the jury to acquit, the court has no power to instruct the jury to acquit. The court can only counsel, and the jury are not bound by the advice. “Advise” imports that it is discretionary or optional with the person addressed whether he will act on such advice or not.

Advised. Prepared to give judgment, after examination and deliberation. “The court took time to be advised.”

Advisedly. With deliberation; intentionally.

Advisement. Consideration; deliberation; consultation. The consultation of a court, after the argument of a cause by counsel, and before delivering their opinion. In re Hohorst, 150 U.S. 653, 14 S.Ct. 221, 37 L.Ed. 1211.

Advisory. Counselling, suggesting, or advising, but not imperative or conclusive. A verdict on an issue out of chancery is advisory.

Advisory counsel. Attorney retained to give advice as contrasted with trial counsel.

Advisory jury. In actions in Federal Court in which there is no jury trial as of right, court may try case with an advisory jury and its verdict is not binding on court. Fed.R.Civ.P. 39(c). See also Jury.

Advisory opinion. Such may be rendered by a court at the request of the government or an interested party indicating how the court would rule on a matter should adversary litigation develop. An advisory opinion is thus an interpretation of the law without binding effect. While the International Court of Justice and some state courts will render advisory opinions the federal courts will not; their jurisdiction being restricted to cases or controversies. See, however, Declaratory judgment.

Advisory trial. See Advisory jury.

Advisory verdict. See Advisory jury.

Ad vitam /ædv vəydəm/. For life. In feodo, vel ad vitam; in fee, for or life.

Ad vitam aut culpam /ædv vəydəm ət kəlpəm/. For life or until fault. Words descriptive of a tenure of office “for life or good behavior,” equivalent to quamdiu bene se gesserit.


Advocare /ædvəkəri/. Lat. To defend; to call to one's aid; to vouch; to warrant.

Advocassie /ædvəkəsi/. L. Fr. The office of an advocate; advocacy.

Advocata /ædvəkətə/. In old English law, a patroness; a woman who had the right of presenting to a church.
Advocate \advékáyt\, v. To speak in favor of or defend by argument. To support, vindicate, or recommend publicly.

Advocate \advékát\, n. One who assists, defends, or pleads for another. One who renders legal advice and aid and pleads the cause of another before a court or a tribunal, a counselor. A person learned in the law, and duly admitted to practice, who assists his client with advice, and pleads for him in open court. An assistant; adviser; a pleader of causes.

Advocatía \advékáytía\, Lat. In Roman law, patrons; pleaders; speakers.

Advocatía ecclesiae \advékáytía ečkliázíyía\, In the civil law, the quality, function, privilege, or territorial jurisdiction of an advocate. The functions, duty, or privilege of an advocate.

Advocatía fisci \advékáytía fisí\, In civil law, those chosen by the emperor to argue his cause whenever a question arose affecting his revenues. 3 BL.Comm. 27. Advocates of the fisc, or his revenue; fiscal advocates (qui causam fisci egissent). Answering, in some measure, to the king’s counsel in English law.


Advocatio declarum \advékówkéshyównyi děz’měrám\, A writ which lay for tithes, demanding the fourth part or upwards, that belonged to any church.

Advocator \advékówkéydr\, In old practice, one who called on or vouched another to warrant a title; a voucher. Advocatus; the person called on, or vouched; a vouchee.

Advocatus \advékówkéyas\, A pleader; a narrator. In the civil law, an advocate; one who managed or assisted in managing another’s cause before a judicial tribunal. Called also “patronus.” But distinguished from causidicus.

Advocatus diaboli \advékówkéyas dayz’ebálay\, In ecclesiastical law, the devil’s advocate; the advocate who argues against the canonization of a saint.

Advocatus est, ad quem pertinet jus advocacionis aliqui ecclesiæ, ut ad ecclesiam, nomine proprio, non alieno, possit præsentare \advékówkéyas est, ãd kwém párdatán ã jás \advékówkéshyówn \zílikyúwijás ãkliyziyía, ã ãd ãkliyziyám, nónáný prónwprýnów, non ãkliyínów, pòsít prýnzánténéría, ã patron is he to whom appertains the right of presentation to a church, in such a manner that he may present to such a church in his own name, and not in the name of another.

Ad voluntatem \ãd vólántéydam\, At will. Ad voluntatem domini, at the will of the lord.

Advoutrier \advéávtərər\, In old English law, an adulterer.

Adoutrier \advéávtəri\, In old English law, adultery between parties both of whom were married. Or the offense by an adulteress of continuing to live with the man with whom she committed the adultery. Sometimes spelled “advowtry.” See Advoutier.

Advowee, or avowee \ãd vávwi\, The person or patron who has a right to present to a benefice.

Advocees paramoun. The sovereign, or highest patron.

Advowson \advéáwзən\, In English ecclesiastical law, the right of presentation to a church or ecclesiastical benefice; the right of presenting a fit person to the bishop, to be by him admitted and instituted to a certain benefice within the diocese, which has become vacant. The person enjoying this right is called the “patron” (patronus) of the church, and was formerly termed “advocatus,” the advocate or defender, or in English, “advousee.” When there is no patron, or he neglects to exercise his right within six months, it is called a lapse, and a title is given to the ordinary to collate to a church; when a presentation is made by one who has no right, it is called a usurpation.

Advowsons are of different kinds:

Advowson appendant is an advowson annexed to a manor, and passing with it, as incident or appendant to it, by a grant of the manor only, without adding any other words. 2 BL.Comm. 22.

Advowson collative. Where the bishop happens himself to be the patron, in which case (presentation being impossible, or unnecessary) he does by one act, which is termed “collation,” or conferring the benefice, all that is usually done by the separate acts of presentation and institution. 2 BL.Comm. 22, 23.

Advowson donative exists where the patron has the right to put his clerk in possession by his mere gift, or deed of donation, without any presentation to the bishop, or institution by him. Donative benefices were converted into presentative by the Benefices Act of 1898.

Advowson in gross is an advowson separated from the manor, and annexed to the person. 2 BL.Comm. 22.

Advowson presentative is the usual kind of advowson, where the patron has the right of presentation to the bishop, or ordinary, and moreover to demand of him to institute his clerk, if he finds him canonically qualified. 2 BL.Comm. 22.

Advowtry \advéávtəri\, See Advoutry.

Ad waractum \ãd wáréktəm\, To follow.

Ædes \ãdiwʒ\, Lat. In the civil law, a house, dwelling, temple, place of habitation, whether in the city or country. In the country everything upon the surface of the soil passed under the term “œdes.”

Ædificare \ãdysfəkərə\, Lat. In civil and old English law, to make or build a house; to erect a building.

Ædificare in tuo proprio solo non licet quod alteri necat \õdysfəkərɪn in t(y)æwcow prówprwpr ñowlow nôn
láz sat kód áirtaray nôisiat/. To build upon your own land what may injure another is not lawful. A proprietor of land has no right to erect an edifice on his own ground, interfering with the due enjoyment of adjoining premises, as by over-leaning them, or by throwing water from the roof and eaves upon them, or by obstructing ancient lights and windows.

Ædificatim solo solo cedit /lydaskéydam sólwow sólow síyad/. What is built upon land belongs to or goes with land.

Ædificia solo cedunt /lydahfish(y)s sóloww síydant/. Buildings belong to [go with] the soil.

Ædilltum edictum /iydildádám iydiktam/. In the Roman law, the Ædillitian Edict. An edict providing remedies for frauds in sales, the execution of which belonged to the curule ædiles. That provision by which the buyer of a diseased or imperfect slave, horse, or other animal was relieved at the expense of the vendor who had sold him as sound knowing him to be imperfect.

Æfesn. In old English law, the remuneration to the proprietor of a domain for the privilege of feeding swine under the oaks and beeches of his woods.

Ægroto /iygrówdow/. Lat. Being sick or indisposed. A term used in some of the older reports.

Ægylde. Uncompensated, unpaid for, unavenged. From the participle of exclusion, a, æ, or ex, (Goth.) and gild, payment, requital.

Æl /éyl/. A Norman French term signifying "grandfather." It is also spelled "aïel" and "ayle."

Æquior est dispositio legis quam hominis /lykwíyor ëst dispaZfish(y)ow lýyas kwáwm hómánas/. The disposition of the law is more equitable than that of man.

Æquitas /lykwatáis/. In the civil law, equity, as opposed to strictum or summum jus (q.v.). Otherwise called æquum, æquum bonum, æquum et bonum, æquum et justum. See Æquum et bonum is lex legum.

Æquitas agit in personam /lykwatáis éýjat in parísownam/. Equity acts upon the person.

Æquitas est correctio legis generaliter late, qua parte deficit /lykwatáis ëst kárésh(y)ow lýjas jenárély- ladár léydly, kwáy párdiy défasat/. Equity is the correction of that wherein the law, by reason of its generality, is deficient.

Æquitas est correctio quaedam legi adhibita, quia ab ea abest alliquid propter generalia sine exceptione comprehendens /lykwatáis ëst kárésh(y)ow kwíydam lýjay æd(h)boda kwáy ab las jëst sílkwad prêptar jenárélyam sáyniy ekspésiýowyn kwíydam kómprehénshiyownam/. Equity is a certain correction applied to law, because on account of its general comprehensiveness, without an exception, something is absent from it.

Æquitas est perfecta quaedam ratio que jus scriptum intérpretat et emendat; nulla scriptura comprehensa, sed solum in verâ ratione consistens /lykwatáis ëst parêfêka kwíydam réshiyow kwíy jás scriptam intárprétydar ed améndat; náu skríphùra kómpráhënsa, sed sówlam in vír réshiyowny kómpísténs/. Equity is a certain perfect reason, which interprets and amends the written law, comprehended in no writing, but consisting in right reason alone.

Æquitas est quasi equalitas /lykwatáis ëst kwéysay lykwólatáis/. Equity is as it were equality; equity is a species of equality or equalization.

Æquitas ignorantiae optulatur, osclntion non item /lykwatáis ignóránshiýa owphicaléydar, õstánsiýiy non áydm/. Equity assists ignorance, but not carelessness.

Æquitas non facit jus, sed juri auxiliatur /lykwatáis non féysat jás, sèd jùráy ogzilîyiýdar/. Equity does not make law, but assists law.

Æquitas nunquam contravent legis /lykwatáis nángkwam kóntrávýnnt líjyas/. Equity never counteracts the laws.

Æquitas sequitur legem /lykwatáis sëkwádár líyjam/. Equity follows the law.

Æquitas supervacua odit /lykwatáis süwpwrvákyuwa ówdat/. Equity abhors superfluous things.

Æquitas uxoribus, libellis, creditoribus maxime favet /lykwatáis axóríybas, lîbëras, kredatóríybas máksámíy féyvat/. Equity favors wives and children, creditors most of all.

Æquum et bonum est lex legum /lykwam at bównam ëst léks líyjam/. What is equitable and good is the law of laws.

Æquus /lykwas/. Lat. Equal; even. A provision in a will for the division of the residuary estate ex æquus among the legatees means equally or evenly.

Æra, or era /íra/. A fixed point of chronological time, whence any number of years is counted; thus, the Christian era began at the birth of Christ, and the Mohammedan era at the flight of Mohammed from Mecca to Medina. The derivation of the word has been much contested.

Ærarium /írêriyam/. Lat. In the Roman law, the treasury (fiscus).

Æs /íyž/. Lat. In the Roman law, money (literally, brass); metallic money in general, including gold.

Æs allenum /íyž æliýyynam/. A civil law term signifying a debt. Literally translated, the money of another. The civil law considered borrowed money as the property of another, as distinguished from eo suum, one's own money.

Ænecia /íyniýshiy(j)yâ/. In old English law, Esney; the right or privilege of the eldest born.

Ænecibus /íyniýshiyys/. See Anecius; Aesneca.

Æs suum /íys s(y)úwm/. One's own money. In the Roman law, debt; a debt; that which others owe to us (quod alli nobis debent).

Æsthetic /asôédik/. Related to that which is beautiful or in good taste.

Æsthetic value. The artistic worth of something as contrasted with its practical value.
Aestimatio capitis /ésteméýsh(iy)ow kérpadas/. Lat. The value of a head. In Saxon law, the estimation or valuation of the head; the price or value of a man. The price to be paid for taking the life of a human being. By the laws of Athelstan, the life of every man not excepting that of the king himself was estimated at a certain price, which was called the were, or aestimatio capitis.

Aestimatio præteriti delicti ex postreto facto nunquam crescit /ésteméýsh(iy)ow prätéréday dálkétay éks powstryjum fákktow nájkwam krésat/. The weight of a past offense is never increased by a subsequent fact.

Aetas /îytâs/. Lat. In the civil law, age.

Aetas infantiae (also written infantili) proxima /îytâs infântshiyi prôksama/. The age next to infancy; the first half of the period of childhood (pueritia), extending from seven years to ten and a half. 4 Bl.Comm. 22. See Age.

Aetas legítima /îytâs lâjdâma/. Lawful age. See Legal age; Majority.

Aetas perfecta /îytâs parékta/. Complete age; full age.

Aetas prima /îytâs práyama/. The first age; infancy (Infantia).

Aetas pubertati proxima /îytâs pyûwbrétdáy prôksama/. The age next to puberty; the last half of the period of childhood (pueritia), extending from ten and a half years to fourteen, in which there might or might not be criminal responsibility according to natural capacity or incapacity. 4 Bl.Comm. 22. See Age.

Estate probanda /îytédiy prowbdênda/. A writ (now obsolete) which inquired whether the king's tenant holding in chief by chivalry was of full age to receive his lands. It was directed to the escheater of the county.

Etheling /îysliy/. In Saxon law, a noble; generally a prince of the blood.

A.F.D.C. Aid to Families with Dependent Children.

Affair. (Fr.). A law suit.

Affairs. An inclusive term, bringing within its scope and meaning anything that a person may do. Walker v. United States, C.C.A.Mo., 93 F.2d 383, 391. A person's concerns in trade or property; business; That which is done or to be done. General operations carried on by an employer. Gocs v. Thomas E. Coale Coal Co., 142 Pa.Super. 479, 16 A.2d 720, 723. See also Statement of affairs.

Affect. To act upon; influence; change; enlarge or abridge; often used in the sense of acting injuriously upon persons and things. To lay hold of or attack (as a disease does); to act, or produce an effect upon; to impress or influence (the mind or feelings); to touch.

Affected with a public interest. Affirmatively, phrase means that a business or property must be such or be so employed as to justify the conclusion that it has been devoted to a public use, and its use thereby in effect granted to the public. Negatively, it does not mean that a business is affected with a public interest merely because it is large or because the public are warranted in having a feeling of concern in respect of its maintenance. H. Earl Clack Co. v. Public Service Commission of State of Montana, 94 Mont. 488, 22 P.2d 1056. Business affecting the community at large.

Affecting commerce. Any activity which touches or concerns business or industry, favorably or burdensomely; commonly used within context of Labor Management Relations Act regarding a labor dispute which burdens commerce. U. S. v. Ricciardi, C.A. N.Y., 357 F.2d 91, 95.

The term "affecting commerce" means in commerce, or burdening or obstructing commerce or the free flow of commerce, or having led or tending to lead to a labor dispute burdening or obstructing commerce or the free flow of commerce. National Labor Relations Act, § 2(7).

The term "industry affecting commerce" means any industry or activity in commerce or in which a labor dispute would burden or obstruct commerce or tend to burden or obstruct commerce or the free flow of commerce. Labor Management Relations Act, § 501(1).

Affection. The making over, pawning, or mortgaging of a thing to assure the payment of a sum of money, or the discharge of some other duty or service. In a medical sense, an abnormal bodily condition.

Affictio tua nomen imponit operi tuo /sfëksh(iy)ow tyúwa nówn man impównt ówparay tyúwów/. Your disposition (or motive, intention) gives name (or character) to your work or act.

Afectus /sfêkta/. Disposition; intention, impulse or affection of the mind. One of the causes for a challenge of a juror is propter affectum, on account of a suspicion of bias or favor. 3 Bl.Comm. 363.

Afectus punitur licet non sequatur effectus /sfêkta/ pyûwnâydar lâyast nôn sákwéydar sfêkta/. The intention is punished although the intended result does not follow.

Affeer /sféer/. To assess, liquidate, appraise, fix in amount.

Affeerors /sféeraz/. In common law, persons who, in court-leets, upon oath, settled and moderated the fines and amerceiments imposed on those who had committed offenses arbitrarily punishable, or that had no express penalty appointed by statute. They were also appointed to moderate fines, etc., in courts-baron.

Affermor /sféermô/. L. Fr. To let to farm. Also to make sure, to establish or confirm.

Affiance. To assure by pledge. An agreement by which a man and woman promise that they will marry each other.

Affiant /sfáyant/. The person who makes and subscribes an affidavit. The word is used, in this sense, interchangeably with "deponent." But the latter term should be reserved as the designation of one who makes a deposition.
Affidare /əfɪˈdeɪrə/. At common law, to swear faith to; to pledge one's faith or do fealty by making oath. Used of the mutual relation arising between landlord and tenant. 1 Bl.Comm. 367. Affidavit is of kindred meaning.

Affidari /əfɪˈdeɪrə/. To be mustered and enrolled for soldiers upon an oath of fidelity.

Affidatio /əfɪˈdeɪʃən/ı. At common law, a swearing of the oath of fidelity or of fealty to one's lord, under whose protection the quasi-vassal has voluntarily come.

Affidatio dominorum /əfɪˈdeɪʃən/ı dəˈmənərəm/. An oath taken by the lords in parliament.

Affidatus /əfɪˈdeɪtəs/. At common law one who was not a vassal, but who for the sake of protection had connected himself with one more powerful.

Affidavit /əfɪˈdeɪvət/. A written or printed declaration or statement of facts, made voluntarily, and confirmed by the oath or affirmation of the party making it, taken before a person having authority to administer such oath or affirmation. State v. Knight, 219 Kan. 863, 549 P.2d 1397, 1401. See also Certification; Jurat; Verification.

Affidavit of defense. An affidavit stating that the defendant has a good defense to the plaintiff's action on the merits; e.g. affidavit filed with motion for summary judgment. Fed.R. Civil P. 56(e).

Affidavit of inquiry. By court rule in certain states, substituted service may be had on absent defendants if it appears by affidavit of plaintiff's attorney, or other person having knowledge of the facts, that defendant cannot, after diligent inquiry, be served within the state.

Affidavit of merits. One setting forth that the defendant has a meritorious defense (substantial and not technical) and stating the facts constituting the same. See Affidavit of defense.

Affidavit of notice. A sworn statement that affiant has given proper notice of hearing to other parties to action.

Affidavit of service. An affidavit intended to certify the service of a writ, notice, summons, or other document or process. In federal courts, if service is made by a person other than a United States Marshall or his deputy, he shall make affidavit thereof. Fed.R. Civil P. 4(g).

Affidavit to hold to bail. An affidavit required in many cases before the defendant in a civil action may be arrested. Such an affidavit must contain a statement, clearly and certainly expressed, by someone acquainted with the fact, of an indebtedness from the defendant to the plaintiff, and must show a distinct cause of action.

Affilare /əfɪˈliərə/. L. Lat. To put on record; to file or affile. Affiletur, let it be filed. De recordo affilatum, affiled of record.

Affile /əfɪˈliə/. A term employed in old practice, signifying to put on file. In modern usage it is contracted to file.

Affiliate /əfɪˈliət/. Signifies a condition of being united; being in close connection, allied, associated, or attached as a member or branch.

Affiliate company. Company effectively controlled by another company. Under Investment Company Act (15 U.S.C.A. § 80a–2), company in which there is ownership (direct or indirect) of 5 percent or more of the voting stock.

Corporations which are related as parent and subsidiary, characterized by identity of ownership of capital stock. Northeastern Consol. Co. v. U. S., C.A.II., 406 F.2d 76, 79. See also Holding company.

Affiliation. Act or condition of being affiliated, allied, or associated with another person, body, or organization. Imports less than membership in an organization, but more than sympathy, and a working alliance to bring to fruition the proscribed program of a proscribed organization, as distinguished from mere cooperation with a proscribed organization in lawful activities, is essential. Bridges v. Wixon, Cal., 326 U.S. 135, 65 S.Ct. 1443, 1447, 89 L.Ed. 2103. It includes an element of dependability upon which the organization can rely which, though not equivalent to membership duty, rests upon course of conduct that could not be abruptly ended without giving at least reasonable cause for charge of breach of good faith. U. S. ex rel. Kettunen v. Reimer, C.C.A.N.Y., 79 F.2d 315, 317. See also Association.

The act of imputing or determining the paternity of a bastard child, and the obligation to maintain it.

Affines /əfɪˈnɪnz/. In the civil law, connections by marriage, whether of the persons or their relatives. Neighbors, who own or occupy adjoining lands. From this word is derived affinity, denoting relationship by marriage. The singular, affinis, is used in a variety of related significations—a boundary; a partaker or sharer, affinis culpæ (an aider or one who has knowledge of a crime).

Affinitas /əfɪˈnɪtas/. Lat. In the civil law, affinity; relationship by marriage.

Affinitas affinitatis /əfɪˈnɪtas əfɪˈnɪtətəs/. Remote relationship by marriage. That connection between parties arising from marriage which is neither consanguinity nor affinity. This term signifies the connection between the kinsmen of the two persons married, as, for example, the husband's brother and the wife's sister.

Affinity /əfɪˈnɪtɪ/. A close agreement; relation; spiritual relation or attraction held to exist between certain persons. State ex inf. Norman v. Ellis, 325 Mo. 154, 28 S.W.2d 363, 367. Relation which one spouse because of marriage has to blood relatives of the other. State v. Hooper, 140 Kan. 481, 37 P.2d 52.

The connection existing, in consequence of marriage, between each of the married persons and the kindred of the other. Kest v. Lewis, 169 Ohio St. 317, 159 N.E.2d 449, 450.

Degrees of relationship by affinity are computed as are degrees of relationship by consanguinity. The doctrine of affinity grew out of the canonical maxim that marriage makes husband and wife one. The husband has the same relation, by affinity, to his wife's blood relatives as she has to them by consanguinity and vice versa. State v. Hooper, 140 Kan. 481, 37 P.2d 52.
Affirmation is distinguished into three kinds: (1) Direct, or that subsisting between the husband and his wife’s relations by blood, or between the wife and the husband’s relations by blood; (2) secondary, or that which subsists between the husband and his wife’s relations by marriage; (3) collateral, or that which subsists between the husband and the relations of his wife’s relations.

In a larger sense, consanguinity or kindred.

Quasi affinity. In the civil law, the affinity which exists between two persons, one of whom has been betrothed to a kinsman of the other, but who have never been married.

Affirm. To ratify, make firm, confirm, establish, reassert. To make affirmation: to make a solemn and formal declaration or asseveration that an affidavit is true, that the witness will tell the truth, etc., this being substituted for an oath in certain cases. Also, to give testimony on affirmation. See Affidavit; Jurat; Verification.

Judgment. In the practice of appellate courts, to affirm a judgment, decree, or order, is to declare that it is valid and right and must stand as rendered below; to ratify and reassert it; to concur in its correctness and confirm its efficacy. If the appellate court remanded the case, it would be sending it back to the lower court with instructions to correct the irregularities specified in the appellate opinion. If the appellate court reversed the court below, it would have changed the result reached below.

Pleading. To allege or aver a matter of fact; to state it affirmatively. The opposite of deny or traverse.

Affirmance. The confirming, or ratifying of a former law, or judgment. The confirmation and ratification by an appellate court of a judgment, order, or decree of a lower court brought before it for review. See Affirm.

The ratification or confirmation of a voidable contract or act by the party who is to be bound thereby. The term is in accuracy to be distinguished from ratification, which is a recognition of the validity or binding force as against the party ratifying, of some act performed by another person; and from confirmation, which would seem to apply more properly to cases where a doubtful authority has been exercised by another in behalf of the person ratifying; but these distinctions are not generally observed.

Affirmance day general. In the English court of exchequer, a day appointed by the judges of the common pleas, and barons of the exchequer, to be held a few days after the beginning of every term for the general affirmance or reversal of judgments.

Affirmant /əfərˈmænt/. A person who testifies on affirmation, or who affirms instead of taking an oath. Used in affidavits and depositions which are affirmed, instead of sworn to in place of the word “deponent.” See also Affirmation; Jurat; Verification.

Affirmant, non neganti incumbit probatio /əfərˈmæntə, nɒn ˈneɡənti ɪnˈkəmbɪt prəˈbɒtʃi/. The burden of proof lies upon him who affirms, not upon one who denies.

Affirmantis est probare /əfərˈmæntɪs ɛst prəˈbɔːrə/.

He who affirms must prove.

Affirmation. A solemn and formal declaration or asseveration that an affidavit is true, that the witness will tell the truth, etc.; this being substituted for an oath in certain cases. A solemn religious asseveration in the nature of an oath. See also Confirmation; Jurat; Oath; Verification.

Affirmation of fact. A statement concerning a subject-matter of a transaction which might otherwise be only an expression of opinion but which is affirmed as an existing fact material to the transaction, and reasonably induces the other party to consider and rely upon it, as a fact.

Affirmatio unius exclusio est alterius /əfərməˈʃiən oyˈjuːs eksˈkluːzɪo ɛst əlˈtəriəs/. The affirmance of one thing is the exclusion of the other.

Affirmative. That which declares positively; that which avers a fact to be true; that which establishes; the opposite of negative.

As to affirmative Plea; Proof; Warranty, see those titles.

Affirmative action programs. Employment programs required by federal statutes and regulations designed to remedy discriminatory practices in hiring minority group members; i.e. designed to eliminate existing and continuing discrimination, to remedy lingering effects of past discrimination, and to create systems and procedures to prevent future discrimination; commonly based on population percentages of minority groups in a particular area. Factors considered are race, color, sex, creed and age. National Labor Relations Board v. Fansteel Metallurgical Corporation, 306 U.S. 240, 59 S.Ct. 490, 497, 83 L.Ed. 627; National Labor Relations Board v. Leviton Mfg. Co., C.C.A.2, 111 F.2d 619, 621. The “affirmative action” which the National Labor Relations Board is authorized to take to effectuate the policies of the National Labor Relations Act is action to make effective the redress of rights conferred upon employees by the act. National Labor Relations Board v. National Casket Co., C.C.A.2, 107 F.2d 992, 998.

Affirmative charge. The general “affirmative charge” is an instruction to the jury that, whatever the evidence may be, defendant cannot be convicted under the count in the indictment to which the charge is directed.

Affirmative defense. In pleading, matter constituting a defense; new matter which, assuming the complaint to be true, constitutes a defense to it. Under the Fed. Rules of Civil Procedure, and also under most state Rules, all affirmative defenses must be raised in the responsive pleading (answer); such defenses include accord and satisfaction, assumption of risk, contributory negligence, duress, estoppel, etc. See Fed.R. Civil P. 8(c).

Affirmative defenses in criminal cases include insanity, intoxication, self-defense, automatism, coercion, alibi, and duress.

Affirmative easement. An easement which gives to the owner of the dominant tenement the right to use the servient tenement, or to do some act thereon which would otherwise be unlawful. Clements v. Taylor, Tex.Civ.App., 184 S.W.2d 485, 487.
AFFIRMATIVE PREGNANT

Affirmative pregnant. In common law pleading, an affirmative allegation implying some negative in favor of the adverse party.

Affirmative proof. Such evidence of the truth of matters asserted as tends to establish them, regardless of character of evidence offered.

Affirmative relief. Relief, benefit, or compensation which may be due and granted to defendant. Relief for which defendant might maintain an action independently of plaintiff’s claim and on which he might proceed to recovery, although plaintiff abandoned his cause of action or failed to establish it. Specific performance (q.v.) is a type of affirmative relief that may be granted to plaintiff.

Affirmative statute. A statute couched in affirmative or mandatory terms. One which directs the doing of an act, or declares what shall be done; as a negative statute is one which prohibits a thing from being done, or declares what shall not be done.

Affirmative warranty. Affirms existence of a fact at time insurance policy is entered into, while promissory warranty requires that something be done or not done after policy has taken effect. Sentinel Life Ins. Co. v. Blackmer, C.C.A.Colo., 77 F.2d 347, 350. See also Warranty.

Affix. Fix or fasten in any way; to attach physically. To attach to, inscribe, or impress upon, as a signature, a seal, a trade-mark. To attach, add to, or fasten upon, permanently, as in the case of fixtures annexed to real estate. A thing is deemed to be affixed to land when it is attached to it by the roots, as in the case of trees, vines, or shrubs; or imbedded in it, as in the case of walls; or permanently resting upon it, as in the case of buildings; or permanently attached to what is thus permanent, as by means of cement, plaster, nails, bolts, or screws. See Fixture.

Affixing. Securely attached.

Affixus /əˈfɪksəs/. In the civil law, affixed, fixed, or fastened to.

Affliction. A distress of mind or body; that which causes continuing anguish or suffering.

Afforare /əˈfɔrərɛ/-. To set a price or value on a thing.

Afforatus /əˈfɔrətəs/-. Appraised or valued, as things vendible in a market.

Afforce /əˈfɔrs/-. To add to; to increase; to strengthen; to add force to.

Afforce the assize /əˈfɔrs əˈsɛiz/-. In old English practice, a method of securing a verdict, where the jury disagreed, either by confining them without meat and drink, or, more anciently, by adding other jurors to the panel, to a limited extent, until twelve could be found who were unanimous.

Afforciamentum /əˈfɔrʃəməntəm/-. In old English law, a fortress or stronghold, or other fortification. The calling of a court upon a solemn or extraordinary occasion.

Afforest /əˈfɔrəst/-. To convert land into a forest in the legal sense of the word.

Afforestation /əˈfɔrəstəˈʃən/-. The turning of a part of a country into forest or woodland or subjecting it to forest law, q.v.

Affouage /əˈfɔwəʒ/-. In French law, the right of the inhabitants of a commune or section of a commune to take from the forest the fire-wood which is necessary for their use.

Affranchir /əˈfrɔnfər/-. L. Fr. To set free.

Affranchise /əˈfɾæŋʃeɪ/-. To liberate; to make free.

Affray. The fighting of two or more persons in some public place to the disturbance of the people, e.g. where two or more persons voluntarily or by agreement engage in any fight, or use any blows or violence towards each other in an angry or quarrelsome manner, in any public place to the disturbance of others. See also Disorderly conduct; Riot.

Affectamentum /əˈfɛktəməntəm/-. Affreightment; a contract for the hire of a vessel.

Affreightment /əˈfɛrɪmt/-. A contract of affreightment is a contract with a ship-owner to hire his ship, or part of it, for the carriage of goods. The Fred Smartley, Jr., C.C.A.Va., 100 F.2d 971, 973. Such a contract generally takes the form either of a charter-party or of a bill of lading.

Affretement /əˈfʁɛtəmənt/-. Fr. In French law, the hiring of a vessel; affreightment (q.v.). Called also nolissement.

Affri /əˈfrɛr/-. In old English law, plow cattle, bullocks or plow horses. Affri, or ari caruce; beasts of the plow.

Afron /əˈfrɒn/-. An insult or indignity; assault, insinence.

A fine force. Of pure necessity.


A force /əˈfɔr/-. Of necessity.

A force et armis /əˈfɔr ə tərˈmɪs/-. With force and arms.

Aforesaid. Before, or already said, mentioned, or recited; premised. Preceding; opposite of following.

Aforethought. In criminal law, deliberate; planned; premeditated; prepense. As used in the definition of murder in the first degree, means thought of beforehand and for any length of time, however short, before the doing of the act, and is synonymous with premeditation. See Malice aforethought; Premeditation.

A forfait et sans garantie /ə forˈfɛt ə sɔ̃ ɡærənti/-. In French law, a formula used in indorsing commercial paper, and equivalent to “without recourse.”

A fortiori /əˈfɔrtɪɔrɪ/-. With stronger reason; much more. A term used in logic to denote an argument to the effect that because one ascertained fact exists, therefore another, which is included in it, or analogous to it, and which is less improbable, unusual, or surprising, must also exist.

After-acquired. Acquired after a particular date or event. Thus, a judgment is a lien on after-acquired realty, i.e., land acquired by the debtor after entry of the judgment.

After acquired property. Property of debtor which is acquired after security transaction is perfected. U.C.C. § 9–204. May also refer to property acquired by testator after execution of will.

After acquired property clause. A clause in a mortgage providing that any property acquired by the borrower after the date of the loan and mortgage will automatically become additional security for the loan.

After acquired title. Doctrine under which title acquired by grantor who previously attempted to convey title to land which he did not in fact own, inures automatically to benefit of prior grantees. Perkins v. White, 208 Miss. 157, 43 So.2d 897, 899; Morris v. Futsicha, 194 Okl. 224, 148 P.2d 986, 987. See Estoppel (Estoppel by deed).

After born child. Refers to child born after execution of will or to child born after time in which class gift closes. Generally, birth of child after father has executed his will does not revoke will. See En ventre sa mere; Heirs; Posthumous child.

After born heirs. A person entitled to property born after the death of the ancestor intestate. See Descent; Heirs.

After-discovered. Discovered or made known after a particular date or event.

After-discovered evidence. See Evidence.

After-market. The term describing the market for a security after it has been initially sold by the issuer through underwriters.

Afternoon. May mean the whole time from noon to midnight (e.g. U.C.C. § 4–104(1)(b)), or it may mean the earlier part of that time as distinguished from evening, or may mean that part of day between noon and evening.

After sight. This term as used in a bill payable so many days after sight, means after legal sight; that is, after legal presentment for acceptance. The mere fact of having seen the bill or known of its existence does not constitute legal "sight."

After the fact. Subsequent to an event from which time is reckoned, e.g. accessory after fact is one who harbors, conceals or aids in concealment of the principal felon after the felony has been committed.

Afterthought. A thought composed after the event and with deliberation.

Afterward, afterwards. Subsequent in point of time; synonymous with "thereafter."

Against. Adverse to; contrary. Cram v. Meagher, 113 Vt. 463, 35 A.2d 855; In re Dean's Estate, 350 Mo. 494, 166 S.W.2d 529, 533. Signifies discord or conflict; opposed to; without the consent of; in conflict with. Sometimes meaning "upon," which is almost, if not altogether, synonymous with word "on." Northern Pac. Ry. Co. v. Gas Development Co., 103 Mont. 214, 62 P.2d 204, 205.

Against interest. Commonly used to describe a declaration or admission by one, the content of which is adverse to his position, interest or title; e.g., an exception to hearsay rule is a declaration by one against his pecuniary or proprietary interest at the time when it was made. Fed.Evid.Rule 804. See also Admission; Declaration (Declaration against interest).

Against public interest. An agreement or act which is or has been declared to be adverse to the general good or public welfare; such that a judge may on his own declare void.


Against the form of the statute. Technical words which must be used in framing an indictment for a breach of the statute prohibiting the act complained of. The Latin phrase is contra formam statuti, q.v.

Against the peace. A technical phrase used in alleging a breach of the peace.


Against the will. Technical words used in framing an indictment for robbery from the person, rape and some other offenses. See also Coercion; Duress; Force.

Agalma /agáalma/. An impression or image of anything on a seal.


Agarder /agárder/. L. Fr. To award, adjudge, or determine; to sentence, or condemn.

Age. The length of time during which a person has lived. The time at which one attains full personal rights and capacities. In law the term signifies those periods in the lives of persons of both sexes which enable them to do certain acts which, before they had arrived at those periods, they were prohibited from doing. See e.g. Age of consent; Age of majority; Legal age; Majority.

As used in particular statutes, the term implies disability and, by definition, has been applied to all minors under a certain age and to others disabled by old age. Hampton v. Ewert, C.C.A.Okl., 22 F.2d 81, 87.

Aged person. One advanced in years; refers to his or her chronological, not mental age.

Agency. Relation in which one person acts for or represents another by latter's authority, either in the relationship of principal and agent, master and serv-
ant, or employer or proprietor and independent contractor. Gorton v. Doty, 57 Idaho 792, 69 P.2d 136, 139. It also designates a place at which business of company or individual is transacted by an agent. Johnson Freight Lines v. Davis, 170 Tenn. 177, 93 S.W.2d 637, 639. The relation created by express or implied contract or by law, whereby one party delegates the transaction of some lawful business with more or less discretionary power to another, who undertakes to manage the affair and render to him an account thereof. State ex rel. Cities Service Gas Co. v. Public Service Commission, 337 Mo. 809, 85 S.W.2d 890, 894. Or relationship where one person confides the management of some affair, to be transacted on his account, to other party. Or where one party is authorized to do certain acts for, or in relation to the rights or property of the other. But means more than tacit permission, and involves request, instruction, or command. Klee v. U. S., C.C.A.Wash., 53 F.2d 58, 61. The consensual relation existing between two persons, by virtue of which one is subject to other's control. Tarver, Steele & Co. v. Pendleton Gin Co., Tex.Civ.App., 25 S.W.2d 156, 159.

Agency is the fiduciary relation which results from the manifestation of consent by one person to another that the other shall act on his behalf and subject to his control, and consent by the other so to act. See also Agent; Authority.

Agency by estoppel. One created by operation of law and established by proof of such acts of the principal as reasonably lead to the conclusion of its existence. Arises where principal, by negligence in failing to supervise agent's affairs, allows agent to exercise powers not granted to him, thus justifying others in believing agent possesses requisite authority.

Deed of agency. A revocable and voluntary trust for payment of debts.

Del credere. Type of agency in which agent is entrusted with goods, documents or securities and in which he is given broad authority to collect from the buyer and in some cases has been held responsible for the buyer's solvency.

Exclusive agency. An agreement by owner that during life of contract he will not sell property to a purchaser procured by another agent, which agreement does not preclude owner himself from selling to a purchaser of his own procuring, while a contract giving a broker "exclusive sale" is more than such exclusive agency, and is an agreement by the owner that he will not sell the property during the life of the contract to any purchaser not procured by the broker in question. See also Exclusive agency.

Executive agency. See that title.

General agency. That which exists when there is a delegation to do all acts connected with a particular trade, business or employment. It implies authority on the part of the agent to act without restriction or qualification in all matters relating to the business of his principal.

Implied agency. One created by act of parties and deduced from proof of other facts. It is an actual agency, proved by deductions or inferences from other facts, and third party need have no knowledge of the principal's acts, nor have relied on them.

Intervening agency. See that title.

Ostensible agency. One which exists where the principal intentionally or by want of ordinary care causes a third person to believe another to be his agent who is not really employed by him. See also Agency by estoppel, supra.

Special agency. One in which the agent is authorized to conduct a single transaction or a series of transactions not involving a continuity of service.

Universal agency. One in which agent is empowered to conduct every transaction lawfully delegable by principal to agent.

Agency by operation of law. See Agency by estoppel under Agency, supra.

Agency coupled with an interest. A relationship known to the law of agency wherein the agent has an interest in the property or subject matter in which he is dealing. This special type of agency relationship will not terminate automatically upon the death of the principal.

Interest in continued existence of power or authority to act with reference to business, where secured by contract and based on consideration moving from agent to principal looking to exercise of power as means of reimbursement, creates agency coupled with an interest. Agent must have an interest or estate in the thing to be disposed of or managed under the power.

Agency in fact. An agency relationship established by agreement of principal and agent as distinguished from one imposed by law; e.g. agency by estoppel.

Agency of the United States. A department, division, or administration within the federal government.

Agency relationship. An employment for purpose of representation in establishing legal relations between principal and third persons. See Agency; Agent.

Agency shop. A union-security device whereby, in order to continue employment, any nonunion member employee is required to pay to the Union sums equivalent to those paid by union members, either in an amount equal to both union dues and initiation fees, or in an amount equal to dues alone. Ficke v. International Broth. of Boilermakers, Iron Ship Builders, Blacksmiths, Forgers and Helpers, Local # 647, N.D., 219 N.W.2d 860, 862. See also Open shop.

Agenda. Memoranda of things to be done, as items of business or discussion to be brought up at a meeting; a program consisting of such items.

Agenesisia /e̞yjaniljzya̞/. Impotencia generandi; sexual impotence; incapacity for reproduction, existing in either sex, whether arising from structural or other causes.

Agenfrida. In Saxon law, the true master or owner of a thing.
Agenchina. In Saxon law, a guest at an inn, who, having stayed there for three nights, was then accounted one of the family.

Agens /éýˑjanz/. Lat. An agent, a conductor, or manager of affairs. Distinguished from factor, a workman. A plaintiff.

Agent. A person authorized by another to act for him, one intrusted with another's business. Humphries v. Going, D.C.N.C., 59 F.R.D. 583, 587. One who represents and acts for another under the contract or relation of agency (q.v.). A business representative, whose function is to bring about, modify, affect, accept performance of, or terminate contractual obligations between principal and third persons. One who undertakes to transact some business, or to manage some affair, for another, by the authority and on account of the latter, and to render an account of it. One who acts for or in place of another by authority from him; a substitute, a deputy, appointed by principal with power to do the things which principal may do. One who deals not only with things, as does a servant, but with persons, using his own discretion as to means, and frequently establishing contractual relations between his principal and third persons.

One authorized to transact all business of principal, or all of principal's business of some particular kind, or all business at some particular place. Farm Bureau Mut. Ins. Co. v. Coffin, 136 Ind.App. 12, 186 N.E.2d 180, 182.

See also Agency; Bargaining agent; Corporate agent; Foreign agent; Forwarding agent; Innocent agent; Servant; Subagent; Transfer agent.

Apparent agent or ostensible agent. One whom the principal, either intentionally or by want of ordinary care, induces third persons to believe to be his agent, though he has not, either expressly or by implication, conferred authority on him. A person who, whether or not authorized, reasonably appears to third person, because of manifestations of another, to be authorized to act as agent for such other. Restatement, Second, Agency § 8.

Bargaining agent. See Bargaining agent.

Co-agent. One who shares authority to act for the principal with another agent and who is so authorized by the principal.

Diplomatic agent. One representing government in dealings with foreign government.

Dual agent. See Co-agent, above.

Exclusive agent. The only agent permitted to act for principal in a particular territory or matter, though the principal may act for himself; i.e. exclusive sales territory given to agent does not bar principal from selling in this territory. Stahlman v. Nat'l Lead Co., C.A.Miss., 318 F.2d 388, 393.

Foreign agent. See Foreign agent.

General agency business. One not engaged as agent for single firm or person, but holding himself out to public as being engaged in business of being agent. Comer v. State Tax Commission of New Mexico, 41 N.M. 403, 69 P.2d 936.

General agent. One who is authorized to act for his principal in all matters concerning particular business or employment of particular nature. Morpur Research Corp. v. Westover Hardware, Inc., 263 N.C. 718, 140 S.E.2d 416, 418.

High managerial agent. An officer of a corporation or any other agent in a position of comparable authority with respect to formulation of corporate policy or the supervision in a managerial capacity of subordinate employees.

Independent agent. One who is an independent contractor exercising his own judgment and subject to the one who hired him only for the result of the work performed. Donroy, Limited v. U. S., C.A.Cal., 301 F.2d 200, 206.

Insurance agent. See Insurance.

Local agent. One appointed to act as the representative of a corporation and transact its business generally (or business of a particular character) at a given place or within a defined district.

Managing agent. A person who is invested with general power, involving the exercise of judgment and discretion, as distinguished from an ordinary agent or employee, who acts in an inferior capacity, and under the direction and control of superior authority, both in regard to the extent of the work and the manner of executing the same. One who has exclusive supervision and control of some department of a corporation's business, the management of which requires of such person the exercise of independent judgment and discretion, and the exercise of such authority that it may be fairly said that service of summons upon him will result in notice to the corporation.

Mercantile agents. Agents employed for the sale of goods or merchandise are called "mercantile agents," and are of two principal classes,—brokers and factors (q.v.); a factor is sometimes called a "commission agent," or "commission merchant."

Private agent. An agent acting for an individual in his private affairs; as distinguished from a public agent, who represents the government in some administrative capacity.

Public agent. An agent of the public, the state, or the government; a person appointed to act for the public in some matter pertaining to the administration of government or the public business. Whiteside v. United States, 93 U.S. 247, 23 L.Ed. 882.

Real-estate agent. Person whose business it is to sell, or offer for sale, real estate for others, or to rent houses, stores, or other buildings, or real estate, or to collect rent for others.

Special agent. One employed to conduct a particular transaction or piece of business for his principal or authorized to perform a specified act. An agent authorized to conduct a single transaction or a series of transactions not involving continuity of service. Rowen & Blair Electric Co. v. Flushing Operating Corp., 66 Mich.App. 480, 239 N.W.2d 633, 638.

Subagent. One authorized by agent to help perform functions for principal. Generally, absent express or implied authority, an agent has no authority to appoint a subagent. The subagent is subject to control by both agent and principal. Restatement, Second, Agency § 5.
AGENT

Superior agent. See High managerial agent, supra.

Transfer agent. Any person who engages on behalf of an issuer of securities or on behalf of itself as an issuer of securities in (A) countersigning such securities upon issuance; (B) monitoring the issuance of such securities with a view to preventing unauthorized issuance, a function commonly performed by a person called a registrar; (C) registering the transfer of such securities; (D) exchanging or converting such securities; or (E) transferring record ownership of securities by bookkeeping entry without physical issuance of securities certificates. Securities Exchange Act of 1934, § 3.

Undercover agent. See that title.

Universal agent. See Universal agency under topic Agency.

Agentes et consentientes pari pena plectentur /ajentiyz at kanshishiyentiyz peryay piuma plektêntar/. Acting and consenting parties are liable to the same punishment.

Agent provocateur /êjyant pravôkât(y)ûr/. A spy; a secret agent hired to penetrate an organization to gather evidence against its members or to incite trouble.

Age of consent. Age at which persons may marry without parental approval. Age at which a female is legally capable of agreeing to sexual intercourse and below which age the male commits statutory rape if he has sexual intercourse with her. See also Legal age; Majority.

Age of majority. Age at which a person may contract sui juris; now 18 in most jurisdictions. Sometimes referred to as full age; legal age; majority; adulthood. Age at which one may execute a valid will or vote; age at which payments for support by parents may generally be terminated. See also Legal age; Majority.

Age of reason. Age at which a child is deemed to be capable of acting responsibly; commonly the age of 7. In general, one between the ages of 7 and 14 is rebuttably presumed to be incapable of committing a crime. Below the age of 7 a child is conclusively presumed to be incapable of committing crime. See Infancy.

Ager /êjyár/. Lat. A field; land generally. A portion of land enclosed by definite boundaries.

Aggravated assault. A person is guilty of aggravated assault if he: attempts to cause serious bodily injury to another, or causes such injury purposely, knowingly or recklessly under circumstances manifesting extreme indifference to the value of human life; or, attempts to cause or purposely or knowingly causes bodily injury to another with a deadly weapon. Model Penal Code, § 211.1(2). In all jurisdictions statutes punish such aggravated assaults as assault with intent to murder (or rob or kill or rape) and assault with a dangerous (or deadly) weapon more severely than “simple” assaults. See also Assault.

Aggravated battery. Unlawful application of force to another characterized by unusual or serious consequences or attending circumstances such as a danger-ous weapon. This offense was unknown at common law. See Aggravated assault.

Aggravation. Any circumstance attending the commission of a crime or tort which increases its guilt or enormity or adds to its injurious consequences, but which is above and beyond the essential constituents of the crime or tort itself. See e.g. Aggravated assault.

Aggravation of the disability. Refers to the course or progress of the workman’s condition resulting from the specific injury for which an award or arrangement of compensation has been made. Keefer v. State Industrial Accident Commission, 171 Or. 405, 135 P.2d 806, 809.

Aggregate. Entire number, sum, mass, or quantity of something; total amount; complete whole. One provision under will may be the aggregate if there are no more units to fall into that class. Composed of several; consisting of many persons united together; a combined whole.

Aggregate corporation. See Corporation.

Aggregate income. Total income of husband and wife who file a joint tax return.

Aggregate theory of partnership. A partnership is the totality of persons engaged in a business and not an entity in itself as in the case of a corporation.

Aggregatio mentium /êgragéýsh(ly)ow ménsh(î)yam/. The meeting of minds. The moment when a contract is complete. A supposed derivation of the word “agreement,” (q.v.).

Aggregation /êgragéýshan/. The combination of two or more elements in patent claims, each of which is unrelated, and each of which performs separately and without cooperation, where combination does not define a composite integrated mechanism. Bowser, Inc. v. U. S., 388 F.2d 346, 351, 181 Ct.Cl. 834. Term means that the elements of a claimed combination are incapable of co-operation to produce a unitary result, and in its true sense does not need prior art patents to support it.


Aggressor. One who first employs hostile force. Penn v. Henderson, 174 Or. 1, 146 P.2d 760, 766. The party who first offers violence or offense. He who begins a quarrel or dispute, either by threatening or striking another.

Aggrieved. Having suffered loss or injury; damned; injured.

Aggrieved party. One whose legal right is invaded by an act complained of, or whose pecuniary interest is directly affected by a decree or judgment. One whose right of property may be established or divested. The word “aggrieved” refers to a substantial grievance, a denial of some personal or property right, or the imposition upon a party of a burden or obligation. See Party; Standing.
Aggrieved person. See Aggrieved party.

Agiller /ajjylər/. In Saxon law, an observer or informer.

Agillarius /ajjaləriəs/. L. Lat. In old English law, a hayward, herdward, or keeper of the herd of cattle in a common field.

Aging of accounts. Arranging the accounts (such as receivables or payables) in chronological order and grouping the accounts by intervals, such as accounts less than 30 days old, 30 to 60 days old, and so on. The process of classifying accounts receivable by the time elapsed since the claim came into existence for the purpose of estimating the amount of uncollectible accounts receivable as of a given date.

Agio /ajjəw/. In commercial law, a term used to express the difference in point of value between metallic and paper money, or between one sort of metallic money and another.

Agiotage /aʒj(ə)jətəζj/. A speculation on the rise and fall of the public debt, or the public funds. The speculator is called "agioteur."

Agist /ajist/. An ancient law term meant to take in and give feed to the cattle of strangers in the king's forest, and to collect the money due for the same to the king's use.


There is also agistment of sea-banks, where lands are charged with a tribute to keep out the sea; and terre agistate are lands whose owners must keep up the sea-banks.

In canon law, a composition or mean rate at which some right or due might be reckoned.

Tithe of agistment was a small tithe paid to the rector or vicar on cattle or other produce of grass lands. It was paid by the occupier of the land and not by the person who put in his cattle to graze.

Agistor /ajistər/. See Agister; Agistment.

Agitator /ajjəteydar/. One who stirs up; excites; ruffles; perturbs. One who incessantly advocates a social change.

Agnates /əg'netəz/əg'nediəz/. In the law of descents, relations by the father, or on the father's side. This word is used in the Scotch law, and by some writers as an English word, corresponding with the Latin agnati (q.v.).

Agnati /əg'nedi介/. In Roman law, the term included all the cognates who trace their connection exclusively through males. A table of cognates is formed by taking each lineal ancestor in turn and including all his descendants of both sexes in the tabular view. If, then, in tracing the various branches of such a genealogical table or tree, we stop whenever we come to the name of a female, and pursue that particular branch or ramifications no further, all who remain after the descendants of women have been excluded are agnates, and their connection together is agnatic relationship. All persons are agnatically connected together who are under the same patri potestas, or who have been under it, or who might have been under it if their lineal ancestor had lived long enough to exercise his empire.

The agnate family consisted of all persons living at the same time, who would have been subject to the patris potestas of a common ancestor, if his life had been continued to their time.

Cognates were all persons who could trace their blood to a single ancestor or ancestress, and agnates were those cognates who traced their connection exclusively through males. Between agnati and cognati there is this difference: that, under the name of agnati, cognati are included, but not è converso; for instance, a father's brother, that is, a paternal uncle, is both agnatus and cognatus, but a mother's brother, that is, a maternal uncle, is a cognatus but not agnatus.

Agnatia /əg'neıədək/. [From agnati, q.v.] Derived from or through males. 2 Bl.Comm. 236.

Agnatio /əg'nejəsh(ə)uw/. In the civil law, relationship on the fathers' side; the relationship of agnati; agnation. Agnation a patre est.

Agnation /əg'nejəshən/. Kinship by the father's side. See Agnates; Agnati.

Agnomen /əg'nojəmən/. Lat. An additional name or title; a nickname. A name or title which a man gets by some action or peculiarity; the last of the four names sometimes given a Roman. Thus, Scipio Afric anus (the African) from his African victories. See Nomen.

Agnomination /əg'nojəmeıəshən/. A surname; an additional name or title; agnomen.

Agony. Extreme physical pain or mental distress.

Agraphia. See Aphasia.

Agrarian /ə'grəriən/. Relating to land, or to a division or distribution of land; as an agrarian law.

Agrarian laws. In Roman law, laws for the distribution among the people, by public authority, of the lands constituting the public domain, usually territory conquered from an enemy. In common parlance the term is frequently applied to laws which have for their object the more equal division or distribution of landed property; laws for subdividing large properties and increasing the number of landholders.

Agrarium. A tax upon or tribute payable out of land.

A gratia /ə' Gryəsh(ə)uə/. By grace; not of right.

Agrreement /ə'grəymənt/. In old English law, agreement; an agreement.
Agree. To concur; come into harmony; give mutual assent; unite in mental action; exchange promises; make an agreement; arrange; to settle. Concur or acquiesce in; approve or adopt. Agreed or agreed to, are frequently used (like accord), to show the concurrence or harmony of cases; e.g. Agreed per curiam. Usually implies some contractual undertaking. To grant or covenant, as when a grantor agrees that no building shall be erected on an adjoining lot; or a mortgagor agrees to cause all taxes to be paid. See Agreement; Contract.

Agreed. Settled or established by agreement. Commonly synonymous with “contracted.”

Agreed amount clause. Provision in insurance policy that the insured will carry a stated amount of insurance coverage.

Agreed case. See Case agreed on under Case.

Agreed judgment. See Judgment.

Agreed price. The consideration for sale of goods arrived at by mutual agreement as contrasted with “open price”. U.C.C. § 2–305.

Agreed statement of facts. A statement of facts, agreed on by the parties as true and correct, to be submitted to a court for a ruling on the law of the case. United States Trust Co. v. New Mexico, 183 U.S. 535, 22 S.Ct. 172, 46 L.Ed. 315. See Case agreed on under Case. See also Stipulation.

Agreed statement on appeal. Narrative statement of facts in case which may be filed on appeal in lieu of report of proceedings below. It is required that all parties agree to content of narrative.

Agreed value. The worth or value of property upon which persons agree beforehand as in a partnership contract in which the parties agree on the value of a partner’s interest in a specified amount. Walraven v. Ramaay, 335 Mich. 331, 55 N.W.2d 858, 859.

Agreement. A coming together of minds; a coming together in opinion or determination; the coming together in accord of two minds on a given proposition. In law, a concord of understanding and intention between two or more parties with respect to the effect upon their relative rights and duties, of certain past or future facts or performances. The consent of two or more persons concurring respecting the transmission of some property, right, or benefits, with the view of contracting an obligation, a mutual obligation.

The act of two or more persons, who unite in expressing a mutual and common purpose, with the view of altering their rights and obligations. The union of two or more minds in a thing done or to be done; a mutual assent to do a thing. A compact between parties who are thereby subjected to the obligation or to whom the contemplated right is thereby secured.

Although often used as synonymous with “contract”, agreement is a broader term; e.g. an agreement might lack an essential element of a contract. The bargain of the parties in fact as found in their language or by implication from other circumstances including course of dealing or usage of trade or course of performance. U.C.C. § 1–201(c); Uniform Consumer Credit Code; § 1.301(3).

The writing or instrument which is evidence of an agreement.

See also Binding agreement; Compact; Consent; Contract; Covenant; International agreements; Meeting of minds.

Classification

Conditional agreements. The operation and effect of such depend upon the existence of a supposed state of facts, or the performance of a condition, or the happening of a contingency.

Executed agreements. Such have reference to past events, or which are at once closed and where nothing further remains to be done by the parties.

Executory agreements. Such agreements as are to be performed in the future. They are commonly preliminary to other more formal or important contracts or deeds, and are usually evidenced by memoranda, parole promises, etc.

Express agreements. Those in which the terms and stipulations are specifically declared and avowed by the parties at the time of making the agreement.

Implied agreement. (1) Implied in fact. One inferred from the acts or conduct of the parties, instead of being expressed by them in written or spoken words. Baltimore Mail S. S. Co. v. U. S., C.C.A.Md., 76 F.2d 582, 585. (2) Implied in law; more aptly termed a constructive or quasi contract. One where, by fiction of law, a promise is imputed to perform a legal duty, as to repay money obtained by fraud or duress. Baltimore Mail S. S. Co. v. U. S., C.C.A., 76 F.2d 582, 585. One inferred by the law where the conduct of the parties with reference to the subject-matter is such as to induce the belief that they intended to do that which their acts indicate they have done. Baltimore & O. R. Co. v. U. S., 261 U.S. 592, 43 S.Ct. 425, 67 L.Ed. 816.

Parol agreements. At common law, such as are either by word of mouth or are committed to writing, but are not under seal. The common law draws only one great line, between things under seal and not under seal.

Agreement for insurance. An agreement often made in short terms preliminary to the filling out and delivery of a policy with specific stipulations. See also Binder.

Agreement not to be performed within a year. An agreement that necessarily must require more than year for performance. Incapable of performance within one year. Street v. Maddux, Marshall, Moss & Mallory, 58 App.D.C. 42, 24 F.2d 617, 619.

Agreement of sale; agreement to sell. An agreement of sale may imply not merely an obligation to sell, but an obligation on the part of the other party to purchase, while an agreement to sell is simply an obligation on the part of the vendor or promisor to complete his promise of sale. Treat v. White, 181 U.S. 264, 21 S.Ct. 611, 45 L.Ed. 853. It is a contract to be performed in future, and, if fulfilled, results in a sale; it is preliminary to sale and is not the sale.
Agreement to sell land. A contract to be performed in future which if fulfilled results in sale. In re Frayser's Estate, 401 Ill. 364, 82 N.E.2d 633, 638.

Agreer /ágré-rye/. Fr. In French marine law, to rig or equip a vessel.

Agrez /ágré/. Fr. In French marine law, the rigging or tackle of a vessel.

Agri /áÁgray/. Arable lands in common fields.

Agricultural. Pertaining to, or dealing with, agriculture; also, characterized by or engaged in farming as the leading pursuit. Oak Woods Cemetery Ass'n v. Murphy, 383 Ill. 301, 50 N.E.2d 582, 587. See Farming operation; Farming products; Farming purposes; Husbandry.


Agricultural employment. Synonymous with farm labor, including all farm work and work incidental thereto.

Agricultural labor. Services performed on farm, for owner or tenant. California Employment Commission v. Butte Candy Rice Growers Ass'n, 25 Cal.2d 624, 154 P.2d 892, 894. Broader in meaning than farming or farm labor and includes one engaged in horticulture, St. Louis Rose Co. v. Unemployment Compensation Commission, 348 Mo. 1153, 159 S.W.2d 249, 250, crop dusting, Florek v. Sparks Flying Service, Inc., 83 Idaho 160, 359 P.2d 511, 514, and similar services. Latimer v. United States, D.C.Cal., 52 F.Supp. 228, 234, 235, 236, 237. "Agricultural labor" which is excepted from the Unemployment Compensation Law, is a broad term and includes farming in all of its incidents, such as gardening, horticulture, viticulture, dairying, poultry, bee raising, and ranching, and refers to the field or farm with all its wants, appointments and products. Pioneer Potato Co. v. Division of Employment Sec. Dept. of Labor and Industry, 31 N.J.Super. 553, 107 A.2d 519, 520, 521.

Agricultural lien. A statutory lien to secure money or supplies advanced to an agriculturist to be expended or employed in the making of a crop and attaching to that crop only.

Agricultural Marketing Agreement Act. Federal law passed in 1937 to establish and maintain orderly marketing conditions for farm commodities; to protect purchasing power of farmers. 7 U.S.C.A. § 601 et seq. See Parity.

Agricultural product. Things which have a situs of their production upon the farm and which are brought into condition for uses of society by labor of those engaged in agricultural pursuits as contradistinguished from manufacturing or other industrial pursuits. That which is the direct result of husbandry and the cultivation of the soil. The product in its natural unmanufactured condition.

Agri limitati /ágré-á-limit-á-day/. In civil law, lands whose boundaries are strictly limited by the lines of government surveys.

In Roman law, lands belonging to the state by right of conquest, and granted or sold in plots.

AICPA. American Institute of Certified Public Accountants.

Aid. To support, help, assist or strengthen. Act in cooperation with; supplement the efforts of others. State v. Upton, Iowa, 167 N.W.2d 625, 628. Distinguished from abet. "Aid" within aider and abettor statute means to help, to assist, or to strengthen while "abet" means to counsel, to encourage, to incite or to assist in commission of criminal act. State v. Trocodaro, 36 Ohio App.2d 1, 301 N.E.2d 898, 902.

Aid and abet. Help, assist, or facilitate the commission of a crime, promote the accomplishment thereof, help in advancing or bringing it about, or encourage, counsel, or incite as to its commission. State v. Fetter, Iowa, 202 N.W.2d 84, 90. It comprehends all assistance rendered by words, acts, encouragement, support, or presence, actual or constructive, to render assistance if necessary. See Abet; Abettor; Accessory; Accomplice; Aider and abettor.

Aid and comfort. Help; support; assistance; counsel; encouragement. As an element in the crime of treason (Constitution of the United States, Art. III, § 3), the giving of "aid and comfort" to the enemy may consist in a mere attempt. It is not essential to constitute the giving of aid and comfort that the enterprise commenced should be successful and actually render assistance. An act which intentionally strengthens or tends to strengthen enemies of the United States, or which weakens or tends to weaken power of the United States to resist and attack such enemies. United States v. Haupt, D.C.Ill., 47 F.Supp. 836, 839. Any intentional act furthering hostile designs of enemies of the United States. United States v. Haupt, D.C.Ill., 47 F.Supp. 836, 839.

Aid bond. See Bond.

Aider and abettor. One who assists another in the accomplishment of a common design or purpose; he must be aware of, and consent, to such design or purpose. Peats v. State, 213 Ind. 560, 12 N.E.2d 270, 277. One who advises, counsels, procures, or encourages another to commit a crime, himself being guilty of some overt act or advocacy or encouragement of his principal, actually or constructively present when crime is committed, and participating in commission thereof by some act, deed, word, or gesture, Turner v. Commonwealth, 268 Ky. 311, 104 S.W.2d 1085, and sharing the criminal intent of the principal. One who assists another to commit a crime; may be a principal, if present, or an accessory before or after fact of crime. The crime must usually be a felony because all parties to misdemeanor are generally principals.

Aider by verdict. The healing or remission, by a verdict rendered, of a defect or error in pleading which might have been objected to before verdict. The presumption of the proof of all facts necessary to the verdict as it stands, coming to the aid of a record in which such facts are not distinctly alleged. Amendment of pleadings to conform to the evidence is provided for by Fed.R.Civ.P. 15.
AIDING AN ESCAPE

Aiding an escape. Any overt act, intended and useful to assist attempted or completed departure of prisoner from lawful custody before his discharge by due process of law. See Accessory (Accessory after the fact); Obstructing justice.

Aid of the king. In old English law, the king's tenant prayed this, when rent was demanded of him by others.

Aid prayer. In English practice, a proceeding formerly made use of, by way of petition in court, praying in aid of the tenant for life, etc., from the reversioner or remainderman, when the title to the inheritance was in question. It was a plea in suspension of the action. 3 Bl.Comm. 300.

Aids. In feudal law, originally mere benevolences granted by a tenant to his lord, in time of distress; but at length the lords claimed them as of right. They were principally three: (1) To ransom the lord's person, if taken prisoner; (2) to make the lord's eldest son and heir apparent a knight; (3) to give a suitable portion to the lord's eldest daughter on her marriage. A reasonable aid was a duty claimed by the lord of the fee of his tenants, holding by knight service, to marry his daughter, etc. Abolished by Tenures Abolition Act of 1660.

Also, extraordinary grants to the Crown by the house of commons, which were the origin of the modern system of taxation. 2 Bl.Comm. 63, 64.

Aid societies. See Benefit societies.

Aiel (spelled also Ayel, Aile, Ayle, and Aieul) /iyl/. L. Fr. A grandfather.

A writ which lay where the grandfather was seized in his demesne as of fee of any lands or tenements in fine simple the day that he died, and a stranger abated or entered the same day and dispossessed the heir. 3 Bl.Comm. 186.

Aiellesse /iyl(ə)s/. A Norman French term signifying "grandmother".

Aile /iyl/. A corruption of the French work aieul, grandfather. See Aiel.

Ailment. Commonly means indisposition of body or mind; a slight illness. Mutual Life Ins. Co. of New York v. Burton, 167 Tenn. 606, 72 S.W. 778, 781. In life insurance application does not include mere temporary indisposition, which though requiring medical treatment is readily remediable, Zogg v. Bankers' Life Co. of Des Moines, Iowa, C.C.A.W.Va., 62 F.2d 575, 578; nor passing disorders which could not properly be called diseases.

Aim a weapon. To point it intentionally. "Aim" denotes direction toward some minute point in an object, while "point" implies direction toward the whole object.

Ainess /éynés/. In French feudal law, the right or privilege of the eldest born; primogeniture; esnecy.

Airbill. A document serving for air transportation as a bill of lading does for marine or rail transportation, and includes an air consignment note or air waybill. U.C.C. § 1–201(6).

Air piracy. Any seizure or exercise of control, by force or violence or threat of force or violence and with wrongful intent, of any aircraft in flight in air commerce. 49 U.S.C.A. § 1472(i).

Air rights. The right to use all or a portion of the air space above real estate. Such right is vested by grant; e.g. fee simple, lease, or other conveyance. While commercial airlines have a right to fly over one's land, if such "flight paths" interfere with the owners use of such land, the owner is entitled to recover the extent of actual damage suffered by him. United States v. Causby, 328 U.S. 256, 66 S.Ct. 1062, 90 L.Ed. 1206. On the other hand, the owner of the land is precluded by state and federal laws from polluting the air.

Aisliamentum (spelled also Esamentum, Asimentum) /éyshiyamément/. In old English law, an easement.

Aisne or eigne /éyn/. In old English law, the eldest or first born.

A issue. At issue.

Ajournement /ázhùrmón/. In French law, the document pursuant to which an action or suit is commenced, equivalent to the writ of summonses in England. Actions, however, are in some cases commenced by requête or petition.

A jure suo cadunt /é y júri s(y)úwów káédant/. They (for example, persons abandoning chattels) lose their right.

A justitia (quasi a quodam fonte) omnia jura emanant /é y jastish(ə)kwá yé kwóndom fôntiy) ômniyo júra émanánt/. From justice, as a fountain, all rights flow.

Akin /akin/. In old English law. Of kin. "Next-a-kin."

Al. L. Fr. At the; to the. Al barre; at the bar. Al huis d'esgllise; at the church door.

A la grande grevaunce /á la grônd gravón(t)s/. To the great grievance.

A large /á lárz/. Free; at large.

Alarm list. The list of persons liable to military watches, who were at the same time exempt from trainings and musters. Const.Mass. c. 11, § 1, art. 10; Pub.St.Mass.1882, p. 1287.

A latera /é y ládùri/. Lat. Collateral. Used in this sense in speaking of the succession to property. From, on, or at the side; collaterally. A latera ascendit (jus). The right ascends collaterally. Justices of the Curia Regis are described as a latera regis residentes, sitting at the side of the King.

In the Civil Law, a synonym for e transverso, across.

Applied also to a process or proceeding, meaning out of the regular or lawful course; incidentally or casually.

From the side of; denoting closeness of intimacy or connection, as a court held before auditors specialiter a latera regis destinatis.

Apostolic; having full powers to represent the Pope as if he were present.
Albacea /ålbaséyə/. In Spanish law, an executor or administrator; one who is charged with fulfilling and executing that which is directed by the testator in his testament or other last disposition.

Alba firma /élbafärma/. In old English law, white rent; rent payable in silver or white money, as distinguished from that which was anciently paid in coin or provisions, called black mail, or black rent; reditus nigri.

Albanagium /ålbanějyjım/. In old French law, the state of alienage; of being a foreigner or alien.

Albanus /ålbyénas/. In old French law, a stranger, alien, or foreigner.

Albinatus /ålbaněyas/. In old French law, the state or condition of an alien or foreigner.

Albinatus jus /ålbaněydas jás/. In old French law, the droit d’aubaine in France, whereby the king, at an alien’s death, was entitled to all his property, unless he had peculiar exemption. Repealed in 1791.

Albom breve /ålbam brývij/. A blank writ; a writ with a blank or omission in it.


Alcalde /ålkeiěydey/. Jailer, warden, governor of a fortress.

Alcoholic liquors. “Alcoholic, spirituous and malt liquors” mean intoxicating liquors which can be used as a beverage, and which, when drunk to excess, will produce intoxication. F. W. Woolworth Co. v. State, 72 Okl.Cr. 125, 113 P.2d 399, 403.

Alcoholism. The pathological effect (as distinguished from physiological effect) of excessive indulgence in intoxicating liquors. See also Chronic alcoholism; Intoxication.

Alderman. Municipal officer; member of the legislative body of a municipality. Often called a councilman.


Aldermannus civitatis vel burgi /åldarménas sívstéydas vél bárjý/. In old English law, alderman of a city or borough, from which the modern office of alderman has been derived.

Aldermannus hundredi seu wapentachii /åldarménas hándroðá syúw wópántéykiyáy/. Alderman of a hundred or wapentake.

Aldermannus regis /åldarménas ríyjas/. Alderman of the king. So called, either because he received his appointment from the king or because he gave the judgment of the king in the premises allotted to him.

Aldermannus totius angliæ /åldarménas tóshíyáj sýg lýjy/. Alderman of all England. An officer among the Anglo-Saxons; similar to the chief judiciary of England in later times.

Alea /éliyi/. Lat. In the civil law, a game of chance or hazard. The chance of gain or loss in a contract.

Aleator /éliyiéyda/. Lat. (From alea, q.v., meaning dice). In the civil law, a gamester; one who plays at games of hazard.

Aleatory contract /éliyiytórý kóntrákt/. A mutual agreement, of which the effects, with respect both to the advantages and losses, whether to all the parties or to some of them, depend on an uncertain event. Restatement of Contracts, § 291.

Contracts in which promise by one party is conditioned on fortuitous event. Southern Surety Co. v. MacMillan Co., C.C.A.Okl., 58 F.2d 541, 549. A contract, the obligation and performance of which depend upon an uncertain event, such as insurance, engagements to pay annuities, and the like. A contract is aleatory or hazardous when the performance of that which is one of its objects depends on an uncertain event. It is certain when the thing to be done is supposed to depend on the will of the party, or when in the usual course of events it must happen in the manner stipulated.

Aleatory promise. A promise, the performance of which is by its own terms subject to happening of uncertain and fortuitous event or upon some fact existence or past occurrence of which is also uncertain and undetermined. Tyree v. Stone, 62 Wash.2d 694, 384 P.2d 626, 629.

Aleatory transaction. An event dependent on a fortuitous or uncertain happening. See Aleatory contract.

Aler a dieu /åleý ñdyú/. L. Fr. In old practice, to be dismissed from court; to go quit. Literally, “to go to God.”

Aler sans jour /åleý sán jür/. In old practice, a phrase used to indicate the final dismissal of a case from court without continuance. “To go without day.”

Ale silver. A rent or tribute paid annually to the lord mayor of London, by those who sell ale within the liberty of the city.

Aleu /åleýu/. Fr. In French feudal law, an allodial estate, as distinguished from a feudal estate or benefice.

Alef /ålef/. A cauldron into which boiling water was poured, in which a criminal plunged his arm up to the elbow, and there held it for some time, as an ordeal.

Alfred’s code /ålfredz kówd/. See Dombec, Domboc.

Algarum maris /ålgéram míás/. Probably a corruption of Laganum maris, lagan being a right, in the middle ages, like jetsam and flotsam, by which goods thrown from a vessel in distress became the property of the king, or the lord on whose shores they were stranded.


Alla /åliyi/å/éliy(i)ya/. Lat. Other things.

Alla enormia /åliy a nórmíyá/. Other wrongs. The name given to a general allegation of injuries caused by the defendant with which the plaintiff in an action of trespass under the common-law practice concluded his declaration.
Aliamenta /ˌæɪləˈmɛntə/. In old English law, a liberty of passage, open way, water-course, etc., for the tenant’s accommodation.

Alias /ˈæliəs/. Term used to indicate another name by which a person is known. Short for “alias dictus”; otherwise known as (a. k. a.). When used in connection with a description of a person, it indicates that he has used or been known by another name. John v. Tribune Co., 24 Ill.2d 437, 181 N.E.2d 105, 107. See also Fictitious name; Name.

Alias dictus /ˈæliəs ˈdɪktaʊs/. “Otherwise called.” Antone v. State, 49 Ariz. 168, 65 P.2d 646, 649, (shorter and more usual form, alias). Known by both those names, and is called one or the other. People v. Mellon, 171 Misc. 171, 11 N.Y.S.2d 786, 790. A fictitious name assumed by a person is colloquially termed an “alias”. State v. Neal, 231 La. 1048, 93 So.2d 554, 556. See also Alias.

Alias execution. One issued after first has been returned without having accomplished its purpose. Richards-Conover Hardware Co. v. Sharpe, 150 Kan. 506, 95 P.2d 360, 364. See also Alias process.

Alias process. A second or further writ, summons, execution or subpoena, used when the first or earlier process has for any reason failed to accomplish its purpose.

Alias subpoena /ˈæliəs ˈsəʊpiənə/. One issued after the first has been returned without having accomplished its purpose. Richards-Conover Hardware Co. v. Sharpe, 150 Kan. 506, 95 P.2d 360, 364.

Alias summons. A summons issued when original has not produced its effect because defective in form or manner of service, and when issued, supersedes the first writ.

Alias tax warrant. One issued after the first has been returned without having accomplished its purpose. Richards-Conover Hardware Co. v. Sharpe, 150 Kan. 506, 95 P.2d 360, 364.


Alias writ of execution. One issued after the first has been returned without having accomplished its purpose. Richards-Conover Hardware Co. v. Sharpe, 150 Kan. 506, 95 P.2d 360, 364.

A libellis /ˈlɪblɪs/. L. Lat. An officer who had charge of the libellis or petitions addressed to the sovereign. A name sometimes given to a chancellor (cancellarius) in the early history of that office.

A libél /ˈlɪbiː/bér/ S. A defense that places the defendant at the relevant time in a different place than the scene involved and so removed therefrom as to render it impossible for him to be the guilty party. Com. v. Warrington, 230 Pa.Super. 332, 326 A.2d 427, 429. Notice of intention to offer a defense of alibi is governed in federal courts by Fed.R.Crim.P. 12.1.

Alien, n. /ˈælɪən/. A foreign born person who has not qualified as a citizen of the country; but an alien is a person within the meaning of the due process clause of the U.S. Constitution to same extent as a citizen. Galvan v. Press, 347 U.S. 522, 74 S.Ct. 737, 742, 98 L.Ed. 911.

Alien or aliené, v. To transfer or make over to another; to convey or transfer the property of a thing from one person to another; to alienate. Usually applied to the transfer of lands and tenements. See Alienation.

Alienability. The quality or attribute of being transferable; e.g., interest in property.

Alienability of future interests. The right of an owner of an interest which vests in possession or enjoyment in the future to transfer such interest beforehand.

Alienable /ˈæliənəbəl/. Proper to be the subject of alienation or transfer.

Alienage /ˈæliən/ˌæn/ /ˌæliən/ˌæn/. The condition or state of an alien.

Alien amy. In international law, alien friend. An alien who is the subject or citizen of a foreign government at peace with our own.

Alien and sedition laws. Acts of Congress of July 6 and July 14, 1798, which made it a criminal offense to utter or publish any false, scandalous and malicious writings against the federal government with intent to defame it, or bring it into contempt or disrepute or to excite hatred of people or stir up sedition against it. These short-lived acts tightened residency requirements for citizenships, granted presidential powers to deport and jail aliens, and provided penalties for seditious writings or speech critical of the government. See also Sedition.

Aliena negotia exacto officio geruntur /ˌæliənə ˈnɛɡətʃə ˌɛkˈsɛktəʊ ˌɒfɪˈʃiʊˌəʊ ˈɡɜːrəntʊə/. The business of another is to be conducted with particular attention.

Alienate /ˈæliənt/ˌeɪt/. To convey; to transfer the title to property. Alien is very commonly used in the same sense. See Alienation.

Alienation /ˈæliənəˈneɪʃən/. In real property law, the transfer of the property and possession of lands, tenements, or other things, from one person to another. The term is particularly applied to absolute conveyances of real property. The voluntary and complete transfer from one person to another. Disposition by will. Every mode of passing realty by the act of the party, as distinguished from passing it by the operation of law. See also Restraint on alienation.

Alienation clause. A provision in a document giving a person the right to transfer or forbidding him from transferring the property which is the subject of the document. Provision in fire insurance policy voiding such policy upon transfer of ownership by insured.

Alienation in mortmain. See Amortization; Mortmain.

Alienation of affections. Action of “alienation of affections” is a tort based upon willful and malicious interference with marriage relation by third party, without justification or excuse. Donnell v. Donnell, 220 Tenn. 169, 141 S.W.2d 127, 132. The elements constituting the cause of action are wrongful conduct of defendant, plaintiff’s loss of affection or consortium of spouse and causal connection between such conduct and such loss. Kundert v. Johnson, 268 Wis. 484, 68 N.W.2d 42. Certain states have abolished the right to bring an alienation of affections action. See Consortium; Heart-balm statutes.
Allenation office. In English practice, an office for the recovery of fines levied upon writs of covenant and entries.

Alienatio rei praëturtur juri accrescendī /élyiyanéyshi-yow riay priyfardar júrāy skraséänday/. Alienation is favored by the law rather than accumulation.

Allen corporation. A corporation organized under the laws of a foreign power.

Alleene /ély(i)yáni/. One to whom an alienation, conveyance, or transfer of property is made. See Allenor.

Allen enemy. In international law, an alien who is the subject or citizen of some hostile nation or power. A person who, by reason of owing a permanent or temporary allegiance to a hostile power, becomes, in time of war, impressed with the character of an enemy. Subjects of a foreign nation at war with United States. Caparell v. Goodbody, 132 N.J.Eq. 559, 29 A.2d 563, 569.


Allenigena /élyiyanéyjána/. One of foreign birth; an alien.

Alleni generis /élyiyanay jénaras/. Lat. Of another kind.

Alleni juris /élyiyanay júrás/. Lat. Under control, or subject to the authority, of another person; e.g., an infant who is under the authority of his father or guardian. The term is contrasted with Sui Juris (q.v.).

Allen immigrant. One who has come into the country from a foreign country and has not yet been naturalized.

Allenism /éyl(i)yáni zam/. The state, condition, or character of an alien.

Allenist /éyl(i)yániist/. A seldom used term meaning one who has specialized in the study of mental diseases. Persons qualified by experience, knowledge, and previous opportunities to express opinion as to defendant’s mental condition at a particular time. People v. Norton, 138 Cal.App. 70, 31 P.2d 809, 810.

Allen nee. An alien born, i.e., a person who has been born an alien.

Allenor /éyl(i)yánar/. He who makes a grant, transfer of title, conveyance, or alienation. Correlative of alienee.

Allen Registration Act. Act of Congress (1940) which requires annual registration of all aliens over the age of 13, and the fingerprinting of all such registrants.

Allenus /élyiynes/. Lat. Another's; belonging to another; the property of another. Allenus homo, another's man, or slave. Aliena res, another's property.

Alignment. The act of laying out or adjusting a line. The state of being so laid out or adjusted. The ground plan of a railway or other road or work as distinguished from its profile or gradients. An adjustment to a line.

Alike. Similar to another. The term is not synonymous with “identical,” which means “exactly the same.”

Alimenta /álménta/. Lat. In the civil law, aliments; things necessary to sustain life; means of support, including food (cibaria), clothing (vestitus) and habitation (habitatio).

Alimony /álamiyny/. Comes from Latin “alimonia” meaning sustenance, and means, therefore, the sustenance or support of the wife by her divorced husband and stems from the common-law right of the wife to support by her husband. Allowances which husband or wife by court order pays other spouse for maintenance while they are separated, or after they are divorced (permanent alimony), or temporarily, pending a suit for divorce (pendente lite). Generally, it is restricted to money unless otherwise authorized by statute. But it may be an allowance out of the spouse’s estate. LaChance v. LaChance, Md.App., 346 A.2d 676, 679, 680. State statutes which provide for payment of alimony only to the wife have been held to be unconstitutional. Orr v. Orr, 99 S.Ct. 1102. See also Gross alimony; Lump-sum alimony; Palimony; Periodic alimony; Permanent alimony; Trust (Alimony trust).

Alimony in gross, or in a lump sum, is in the nature of a final property settlement, and hence in some jurisdictions is not included in the term “alimony” which in its strict or technical sense contemplates money payments at regular intervals. Refers to those alimony arrangements where entire award is a vested and determined amount and not subject to change. Imbie v. Imbie, 94 Ill.App.2d 60, 236 N.E.2d 381, 383.

Alimony pendente lite (temporary alimony). An allowance made pending a suit for divorce or separate maintenance including a reasonable allowance for preparation of the suit as well as for support. Davis v. Davis, 15 Wash.2d 297, 130 P.2d 355, 359. See also Allowance pendente lite.

Permanent alimony. A provision for the support and maintenance of a wife during her lifetime.

Tax treatment. Alimony and separate maintenance payments are includible in the gross income of the recipient and are deductible by the payor. The payments must be periodic and made in discharge of a legal obligation arising from a marital or family relationship. Child support and voluntary payments are not treated as alimony. I.R.C. § 71.

Alimony trust. See Trust.

A l'impossible nul n'est tenu /a lemposoybla nul небь tensyúw/. No one is bound to do the impossible.

Allo intuitu /élíyow int(y)owadaw/. Lat. In a different view; under a different aspect. With another view or object; with respect to another case or condition.

Alliquid conceditur ne injuria remaneat impunita, quod alias non concederetur /éalkwad kansiýdadar niy injúriya ramǎniyat impyównda, kwód ñiýiyos nón kansiýdarydar/. Something is (will be) conceded, to prevent a wrong remaining unredressed, which otherwise would not be conceded.

Alliquid possessionis et nihil juris /éalkwad po-zëshiyównə ét náyál júrás/. Somewhat of possession, and nothing of right (but no right).
Aliquis non debet esse judex in propria causa, quia non potest esse judex et pars: /ālikwās nōn dēbād ēsiy jūwdeks in prōwpiri kōza, kwāyā nōn pōwdaś ēsiy jūwdeks ēt pārz/. A person ought not to be judge in his own cause, because he cannot act as judge and party.

Aliquot /ālikwōt/. Strictly speaking, means contained in something else an exact number of times. But as applied to resulting trusts, "aliquot" is treated as meaning fractional, and means any definite interest.

Aliquot part rule. A rule which requires that a person intend to acquire a fractional part of the ownership of property before the court can declare a resulting trust in his favor.

Alter /ālēdor/. Otherwise; as otherwise held or decided.

Aliud est celare, aliud tacere /ālēyōd ēst salēriy, ēlīyōd tasēriy/. To conceal is one thing; to be silent is another.

Aliud est possidere, aliud esse in possessione /ālēyōd ēst pōsōdēriy, ēlīyōd ēsiy in pāzēshyōwniy/. It is one thing to possess; it is another to be in possession.

Aliud est vendere, aliud vendenti consentire /ālēyōd ēst vēndēriy, ēlīyōd vēndéntay kōnsāntāriy/. To sell is one thing; to consent to a sale (seller) is another thing.

Aliud examen /ālīyōd āgžēymān/. A different or foreign mode of trial.

Aliunde /ēlīyōndiy/. Lat. From another source; from elsewhere; from outside.

Evidence aliunde. Evidence from outside, from another source. In certain cases a written instrument may be explained by evidence aliunde, that is, by evidence drawn from sources exterior to the instrument itself, e.g., the testimony of a witness to conversations, admissions, or preliminary negotiations. Evidence aliunde (i.e., from outside the will) may be received to explain an ambiguity in a will. See Parol evidence.

Aliunde rule /ēlīyōndiy rūw/. A verdict may not be impeached by evidence of juror unless foundation for introduction thereof is first made by competent evidence aliunde, or from some other source. State v. Adams, 141 Ohio St. 423, 48 N.E.2d 861, 863.

Allus /ēlīyas/. Lat. Other. The neuter form is aliud, something else; another thing.

Alive. As respects birth, it means that child shall have an independent life of its own for some period, even momentarily, after birth; evidenced by respiration or other indications of life, such as beating of heart and pulsation of arteries (Hydrostatic test); or heart tones in response to artificial respiration, or pulsation of umbilical cord after being severed. See also Born alive; Child; Life; Live; Viable child.

In respect of estate matters, a child en ventre sa mere is "born" and "alive" for all purposes for his benefit. In re Holthausen's Will, 175 Misc. 1022, 26 N.Y.S.2d 140, 143.

All. Means the whole of—used with a singular noun or pronoun, and referring to amount, quantity, extent, duration, quality, or degree. The whole number or sum of—used collectively, with a plural noun or pronoun expressing an aggregate. Every member of individual component of; each one of—used with a plural noun. In this sense, all is used generically and distributively. "All" refers rather to the aggregate under which the individuals are subsumed than to the individuals themselves. State v. Hallenberg-Wagner Motor Co., 341 Mo. 771, 108 S.W.2d 398, 401. See Both.

All and singular. All without exception. A comprehensive term often employed in conveyances, wills, and the like, which includes the aggregate or whole and also each of the separate items or components.

All cases at law. Within constitutional guaranty of jury trial, refers to common law actions as distinguished from causes in equity and certain other proceedings. Breimhorst v. Beckman, 239 Minn. 409, 35 N.W.2d 719, 734.

Allegrans contraria non est audieundus /ēlāgēnz kāntrēriya nōn ēst ēdīyēndās/. On alleging contrary or contradictory things (whose statements contradict each other) is not to be heard. Applied to the statements of a witness.

Allegrans suam turpitudinem non est audieundus /ēlāgēnz s(y)uwa msēptēydēndān nōn ēst ēdīyēndās/. One who alleges his own infamy is not to be heard.

Allegrari non debuit quod probatum non relevat /ēlēgrāyē nōn dēb(y)wēt kwōd prābēydām nōn rēlvēt/. That ought not to be alleged which, if proved, is not relevant.

Allegraga /ēlēgēdā/. In Roman law, a word which the emperors formerly signed at the bottom of their receipts and constitutions; under other instruments they usually wrote signata or testata.

Allegraga et probata /ēlēgēdā ēt prōwbēydā/. Lat. Things alleged and proved. The allegations made by a party to a suit, and the proof adduced in their support.

Allegratio contra factum non est admittenda /ēlēgrāyēsh(y)ow kōntrō fēktām nōn ēst ēdmēntēndā/. An allegation contrary to the deed (or fact) is not admissible.

Allegation. The assertion, claim, declaration, or statement of a party to an action, made in a pleading, setting out what he expects to prove. See e.g. Fed.R.Civ.P. 8. See also Charge; Claim; Complaint.

A material allegation in a pleading is one essential to the claim or defense. In ecclesiastical law, the statement of the facts intended to be relied on in support of the contested suit.

Allegation of fact. Generally, narration of transaction by stating details according to their legal effect, and statement of right or liability flowing from certain facts is conclusion of law.

Allegation of faculties. A statement made by the wife of the property of her husband, in order to obtain alimony. See Faculties.
Allige /aléj/. To state, recite, assert, or charge; to make an allegation.

Alleged. Stated; recited; claimed; asserted; charged.


Acquired allegiance, is that binding a naturalized citizen.

Local or actual allegiance, is that measure of obedience due from a subject of one government to another government, within whose territory he is temporarily resident. From this are excepted foreign sovereigns and their representatives, naval and armed forces when permitted to remain in or pass through the country or its waters.

Natural allegiance. In English law, that kind of allegiance which is due from all men born within the king's dominions, immediately upon their birth, which is intrinsic and perpetual, and cannot be divested by any act of their own. In American law, the allegiance due from citizens of the United States to their native country, and also from naturalized citizens, and which cannot be renounced without the permission of government, to be declared by law.

Allegare /aliyjýérý/. To defend and clear one's self; to wage one's own law. An archaic word which simply means to defend or justify by due course of law.

Alleging diminution /aléjín diman(y)úwshan/. The allegation in an appellate court, of some error in a subordinate part of the nisi prius record. See Diminution.

Allen charge. An instruction advising jurors to have deference for each other's views, that they should listen, with a disposition to be convinced, to each other's argument; deriving its name from the case of Allen v. United States, 164 U.S. 492, 17 S.Ct. 154, 41 L.Ed. 526, wherein the instruction was approved. Cooper v. United States, 72 App.D.C. 86, 113 F.2d 145, 149; Green v. U. S., C.A.Fla., 309 F.2d 852. Variously called dynamite charge, shotgun instruction, third degree instruction. The Allen charge is prohibited in certain states; e.g. California, People v. Gainer, 19 Cal.3d 835, 566 P.2d 997, 139 Cal.Rptr. 861.


All events test. For accrual method taxpayers, income is earned when: (1) all the events have occurred which fix the right to receive the income and (2) the amount can be determined with reasonable accuracy. Accrual of income cannot be postponed simply because a portion of the income may have to be returned in a subsequent period.

Alleviare /aliyvilýér/. L. Lat. In old records, to levy or pay an accustomed fine or composition; to redeem by such payment.

All faults. A sale of goods with "all faults" covers, in the absence of fraud on the part of the vendor, all such faults and defects as are not inconsistent with the identity of the goods as the goods described. U.C.C. § 2-316. See As is.

All fours. Two cases or decisions which are alike in all material respects, and precisely similar in all the circumstances affecting their determination, are said to be or to run on "all fours."

Alliance. The relation or union between persons or families contracted by intermarriage; affinity. State of being allied.

In international law, a union, association or confederation of two or more states or nations, formed by league or treaty, for the joint prosecution of a war (offensive alliance), or for their mutual assistance and protection in repelling hostile attacks (defensive alliance). The league or treaty by which the association is formed. The act of confederating, by league or treaty, for the purposes mentioned.

The term is also used in a wider sense, embracing unions for objects of common interest to the contracting parties, as the "Holy Alliance" entered into in 1815 by Prussia, Austria and Russia for the purpose of counteracting the revolutionary movement in the interest of political liberalism.

Allision. The running of one vessel into or against another, as distinguished from a collision, i. e., the running of two vessels against each other. But this distinction is not very carefully observed.

Allocable /álékabl/. Synonymous with "distributable". In analyzing accounts, the breaking down of a lump sum charged or credited to one account into several parts to be charged or credited to other accounts.


Allocations in facienda /álékéshiyówni fyéshiyénda/. In old English practice, a writ for allowing to an accountant such sums of money as he hath lawfully expended in his office; directed to the lord treasurer and barons of the exchequer upon application made.

Allocation of dividends. In trust accounting, cash dividends are credited or allocated to income; whereas, generally, stock dividends are credited to principal and the basis of the stock on which the dividend has been paid is changed in the portfolio. If the cash dividend is a liquidating dividend, it is commonly allocated to principal.

Allocation of income. When two or more businesses are controlled by the same interests, the Commissioner of Internal Revenue may allocate or distribute income to prevent tax evasion. I.R.C. § 482. In trust accounting, the process by which income is distributed as between principal and income.

Allocation of principal and income. See Allocation of dividends; Allocation of income.

Allocatur /álékéýdar/. Lat. It is allowed. A word formerly used to denote that a writ or order was allowed. A word denoting the allowance by a master or prothonotary of a bill referred for his consideration, whether touching costs, damages, or matter of account. A special allocatur is the special allowance of a writ (particularly a writ of error) which is required in some particular cases.
Allocatur exigent /aël tkyd r égzjant/. A species of writ issued in outlawry proceedings, on the return of the original writ of exigent. See Exigent.

Allocution /aëls kýwshan/. Formality of court's inquiry of prisoner as to whether he has any legal cause to show why judgment should not be pronounced against him on verdict of conviction. State v. Pruitt, Mo., 169 S.W.2d 399, 400.

Allocutus /aëls kýwdas/. See Allocution.

Alloodarí /aëldér iy/. Owners of alodial lands. Owners of estates as large as a subject may have.

Alodial /aëldw di/. Free; not holden of any lord or superior; owned without obligation of vassalage or fealty; the opposite of feudal.

Alloodium /aëldw dys/. Land held absolutely in one's own right, and not of any lord or superior; land not subject to feudal duties or burdens. An estate held by absolute ownership, without recognizing any superior to whom any duty is due on account thereof.

Allograph /aëlgráf/. A writing or signature made for a person by another; opposed to autograph.

Alonj /aëlonj/. A piece of paper annexed to a bill of exchange or promissory note, on which to write endorsements for which there is no room on the instrument itself. Such must be so firmly affixed thereto as to become a part thereof. U.C.C. § 3–202(2).

Allot /aël t/. To apportion, distribute; to divide property previously held in common among those entitled, assigning to each his ratable portion, to be held in severalty. To set apart specific property, a share of a fund, etc., to a distinct party. In the law of corporations, to allot shares, debentures, etc., to appropriate them to the applicants or persons who have applied for them.

Allotment. A share or portion; that which is allotted; apportionment, division; the distribution of shares in a public undertaking or corporation. Partition; the distribution of land under an inclosure act. The term ordinarily and commonly used to describe land held by Indians after allotment, and before the issuance of the patent in fee that deprives the land of its character as Indian country. See Allottee.

Allotment certificate. A document issued to an applicant for shares in a company, or public loan announcing the number of shares allotted or assigned and the amounts and due dates of the calls or different payments to be made on the same.

Allotment note. In English law, a writing by a seaman, made on an approved form, whereby he makes an assignment of part of his wages in favor of his wife, father or mother, grandfather or grandmother, brother or sister.

Allotment system. Designates the practice in England of dividing land in small portions for cultivation by agricultural laborers, gardeners and others.

Allotment warden. By the English general inclosure act, 1845, § 108, when an allotment for the laboring poor of a district had been made on an inclosure under the act, the land so allotted was to be under the management of the incumbent and church warden of the parish, and two other persons elected by the parish, and they were to be styled "the allotment wardens" of the parish.

Allottee. One to whom an allotment is made; who receives a ratable share under an allotment. A person to whom land under an inclosure act or shares in a corporation or public undertaking are allotted.

Allow. The word has no rigid or precise meaning, its import varying according to circumstances or context in connection with which it is used. It may mean to bestow or assign to any one as his right or due. To approve of, accept as true, admit, concede, adopt, or fix. To grant something as a deduction or an addition; to abate or deduct; as, to allow a sum for leakage. Pittsburgh Brewing Co. v. Commissioner of Internal Revenue, C.C.A.3, 107 F.2d 155, 156. To sanction, either directly or indirectly, as opposed to merely suffering a thing to be done; to acquiesce in; to suffer; to tolerate. See also Acquiescence; Consent.

Allowance. A deduction, an average payment, a portion assigned or allowed; the act of allowing. For "Family," see that title.

Allowance pendente lite /aëlawns pendënti láydi/. The court ordered provision for a spouse and children during the pendency of a divorce or separate support proceeding. See also Alimony.

Allowed claim. Against an estate it is a debt or charge which is valid in law and entitled to enforcement. Commissioner of Internal Revenue v. Lyne, C.C.A.1, 90 F.2d 745, 747.

Alloynour /aëloynar/. L. Fr. One who conceals, steals, or carries off a thing privately. See Eloigne.

All the estate. The name given in England to the short clause in a conveyance or other assurance which purports to convey "all the estate, right, title, interest, claim, and demand" of the grantor, lessor, etc., in the property dealt with.

Alluvio maris /a(l)yúvvıyow márəs/. Lat. In the civil and old English law, the washing up of the sea; the soil thus formed; formation of soil or land from the sea; maritime increase.

Alluvion /a(l)yúvviyon/. That increase of the earth on a shore or bank of a stream or the sea, by the force of the water, as by a current or by waves, which is so gradual that no one can judge how much is added at each moment of time. Garrett v. State, 118 N.J. Super. 594, 289 A.2d 542, 545. "Accretion" denotes the act. However, the terms are frequently used synonymously. Avulsion is sudden and perceptible. See Accretion; Avulsion.

All Writs Act. See Writ.

Ally. A nation which has entered into an alliance with another nation. A citizen or subject of one of two or more allied nations.

Almaría /almúriyə/. The archives, or, as they are sometimes styled, muniments of a church or library.

Almesfeoh /áð(l)mzfiy/. In Saxon law, alms-fee; alms-money. Otherwise called "Peter-pence."
Almoin /ælmɔɪn/. Alms; a tenure of lands by divine service. See Frank-almoigne.

Almoner /ælmanər/. One charged with the distribution of alms. The office was first instituted in religious houses and although formerly one of importance is now in England almost a sinecure.

Alms. Charitable donations. Any species of relief bestowed upon the poor. That which is given by public authority for the relief of the poor.

Alms fee. Peter-pence (or Peter's pence), which see.

Almshouse. A house for the publicly or privately supported paupers of a city or county; may also be termed a "mission". In England an almshouse is not synonymous with a workhouse or poorhouse, being supported by private endowment.

Alnager /ælnər/ or ulnager /ʌlnər/. A sworn officer of the king whose duty it was to look to the assise of woolen cloth made throughout the land, and to the putting on the seals for that purpose ordained, for which he collected a duty called "alnage."

Aod, alode, alodes, alodis /ælod/. L. Lat. In feudal law, old form of alodium or allodium (q.v.). A term used in opposition to feodum or fief, which means property, the use of which was bestowed upon another by the proprietor, on condition that the grantee should perform certain services for the grantor, and upon the failure of which the property should revert to the original possessor.

Alodiarii. See Alldodarii.

Alone. Apart from others; singly; sole.

Along. Lengthwise of, implying motion or at or near, distinguished from across. By, on, up to, or over, according to the subject-matter and context. The term does not necessarily mean touching at all points; nor does it necessarily imply contact.

A lour foy /ə lɔːr fɔw/. In their allegiance.

Also. Besides; as well; in addition; likewise; in like manner; similarly; too; withal. Some other thing; including; further; furthermore; in the same manner; moreover; nearly the same as the word "and" or "likewise."

A.L.T.A. American Land Title Association.

Alta prodictio /æltə prow'dishəuw/. L. Lat. In old English law, high treason. 4 Bl.Comm. 75. See Treason.

Altarage /ɔltər(ə)raj/. In ecclesiastical law, offerings made on the altar; all profits which accrue to the priest by means of the altar.

Alta via /æltə váyə/. L. Lat. In old English law, a highway; the highway. Alta via regia; the king's highway; "the king's high street."

Alter. To make a change in; to modify; to vary in some degree; to change some of the elements or ingredients or details without substituting an entirely new thing or destroying the identity of the thing affected. To change partially. To change in one or more respects, but without destruction of existence or identity of the thing changed; to increase or diminish. See Alteration; Amend; Change.

Alteration. Variation; changing; making different. A change of a thing from one form or state to another; making a thing different from what it was without destroying its identity. See Alter.

An act done upon an instrument by which its meaning or language is changed. Language different in legal effect, or change in rights, interests, or obligations of parties. It introduces some change into instrument's terms, meaning, language, or details. The term is not properly applied to any change which involves the substitution of a practically new document. An alteration is said to be material when it affects, or may possibly affect, the rights of the persons interested in the document. U.C.C. § 3-407. See Material alteration; Mutilation; Spoliation.

Alteration of contract. A change in the provisions of a contract. If alteration is material, it extinguishes the right of the party who alters it and discharges the other party. The test of whether it is material is whether the rights of the obligee would be varied as to the party making the alteration or to a third party. Restatement of Contracts, § 434.

Alteration of trust. An act by settlor of trust changing the terms of the trust, generally pursuant to a power to alter and amend within the original trust instrument.

Altercation. Warm contentions in words. Dispute or controversy carried on with heat or anger. Ivory v. State, 128 Tex.Cr.R. 408, 81 S.W.2d 696, 698.

Alter ego /o̞ltər ʃəwgoʊ/. Second self. Under doctrine of "alter ego", court merely disregards corporate entity and holds individual responsible for acts knowingly and intentionally done in the name of corporation. Ivy v. Plyler, 246 Cal.App.2d 678, 54 Cal.Rptr. 894, 897. To establish the "alter ego" doctrine, it must be shown that the stockholders disregarded the entity of the corporation, made corporation mere conduit for the transaction of their own private business, and that the separate individualities of the corporation and its stockholders in fact ceased to exist. Sefton v. San Diego Trust & Savings Bank, Cal.App., 106 P.2d 974, 984. The doctrine of "alter ego" does not create assets for or in corporation, but it simply fastens liability on the individual who uses the corporation merely as an instrumentality in conducting his own personal business, and that liability springs from fraud perpetrated not on the corporation, but on third persons dealing with corporation. Garvin v. Matthews, 193 Wash. 152, 74 P.2d 990, 992. See also Instrumentality rule.

Alterius circumventio alli non praebet actionem /æltəriəs kərmvəntio əli nən prəˈbeɪt æksəˈvɛntiəʊnəm/. The deceiving of one person does not afford an action to another.

Alternat /ɔltərnat/. A usage among diplomats by which the rank and places of different powers, who have the same right and pretensions to precedence, are changed from time to time, either in a certain regular order or one determined by lot. In drawing up treaties and conventions, for example, it is the usage of certain powers to alternate, both in the
preamble and the signatures, so that each power occupies, in the copy intended to be delivered to it, the first place.

Alternate legacy. See Legacy.

Alternate valuation date. Property passing from a person by death may be valued for death tax purposes as of the date of death or the alternate valuation date. The alternate valuation date is six months from the date of death or the date the property is disposed of by the estate, whichever comes first. The use of the alternate valuation date requires an affirmative election on the part of the executor or administrator of the estate.

Alternatim /òltarnéydam/. Lat. Interchangeably.

Alternativa pettio non est audienda /òltarnatáyva potsh(l)yow nón est òdiyénda/. An alternative petition or demand is not to be heard.

Alternative. One or the other of two things: giving an option or choice; allowing a choice between two or more things or acts to be done.

Alternative contract. A contract whose terms allow of performance by the doing of either one of several acts at the election of the party from whom performance is due.

Alternative judgment. See Judgment.

Alternative obligation. An obligation allowing the obligor to choose which of two things he will do, the performance of either of which will satisfy the instrument. A promise to deliver a certain thing or to pay a specified sum of money is an example of this kind of obligation.

Alternative pleading. A form of pleading which was formerly prohibited but now recognized under Federal and state Rules of Civ.Proc. by which the pleader sets forth two or more statements by way of claim or defense which are not necessarily consistent with each other. When two or more statements are made in the alternative and one of them if made independently would be sufficient, the pleading is not made insufficient by the insufficiency of one or more of the alternative statements. See Fed.R.Civ.P. 8(e)(2).

Alternative relief. Under Fed.Rules Civ.Proc. 8(a) the party seeking a judgment may demand it in the alternative, or in various forms, e.g. demand for a money judgment and for equitable relief.

Alternative remainders. Remainders in which disposition of property is made in alternative, one to take effect only in case the other does not, and in substitution of it.

Alternative remedies. See Alternative relief.

Alternative tax. An option allowed taxpayers in computing the tax on net long-term capital gains.

Alternative writ. A common law writ commanding the person against whom it is issued to do a specified thing, or show cause to the court why he should not be compelled to do it. Under the common-law practice, the first mandamus is an alternative writ; but in modern practice this writ is often dispensed with and its place is taken by an order to show cause. See Mandamus.

Alterum non iedere /òltaram nón liydari/. Not to injure another. This maxim, and two others, honeste vivere, and suum cuique tribuere, (q.v.) are considered by Justinian as fundamental principles upon which all the rules of law are based.

Alterutcr /òltaryúwdr/. Lat. One of two; either.

Altius non tollendi /òtésh(l)yoy nón taléndày/. In the civil law, a servitude due by the owner of a house, by which he is restrained from building beyond a certain height.

Altius tollendi /òtésh(l)yoy taléndày/. In the civil law, a servitude which consists in the right, to him who is entitled to it, to build his house as high as he may think proper. In general, however, every one enjoys this privilege, unless he is restrained by some contrary title.

Alto et basso /òltow at bésow/. High and low. This phrase is applied to an agreement made between two contending parties to submit all matters in dispute, alto et basso, to arbitration.

Altium mare /òltim méríy/. L. Lat. In old English law, the high sea, or seas. The deep sea. Super altum mare, on the high seas.

A lui et a ses heritiers pour toujours. To him and to his heirs forever.

Alveus /òlivyoy/. The bed or channel through which the stream flows when it runs within its ordinary channel. Alveus derelictus, a deserted channel.

A.M. Ante meridiem, before noon. Only the abbreviation is ordinarily used. Also artium magister, master of arts. Also annus mirabilis, the wonderful year—1666, the year of the defeat of the Dutch fleet and of the great London fire. Also anno mundi, in the year of the world; that is, when the creation of the world is said to have taken place, 4004 B. C.

A.M.A. American Medical Association.

A ma intent. On my action.

Amalgamation /àmalgaméyshon/. Union of different races, or diverse elements, societies, unions, associations, or corporations, so as to form a homogeneous whole or new body; interfusion; intermarriage; consolidation; merger; coalescence; as, the amalgamation of stock.

Amalphitan code or table /àmalfishon kowd/’téybal/. A collection of sea-laws, compiled about the end of the eleventh century, by the people of Amalphi. It consists of the laws on maritime subjects, which were or had been in force in countries bordering on the Mediterranean; and was for a long time received as authority in those countries. It became a part of the law of the sea. See Code.

A manibus /èy mènibas/. Lat. Royal scribe. See Amanuensis.

Amanuensis /àmènyuwénsas/. One who writes on behalf of another that which he dictates.
A manu servus /ēy mānuw sārvus/. Lat. A hand-servant; a scribe; a secretary.

Ambactus /ēm'békta/. A messenger; a servant sent about; one whose services his master hired out.

Ambasciatar /ēm'bēshiyēd/. A person sent about in the service of another; a person sent on a service. A word of frequent occurrence in the writers of the middle ages.

Ambassador. A public officer clothed with high diplomatic powers, commissioned by a government to transact the international business of his government with a foreign government.

An Ambassador of the United States is the personal representative of the President and reports to the President through the Secretary of State. Ambassadors have full responsibility for implementing the U.S. foreign policy by any and all U.S. Government personnel within their country of assignment, except those under military commands. Their responsibilities include negotiating agreements between the United States and the host country, explaining and disseminating official U.S. policy, and maintaining cordial relations with that country’s government and people.

A distinction was formerly made between Ambassadors Extraordinary, who were sent to conduct special business or to remain for an indeterminate period, and Ambassadors Ordinary, who were sent on permanent missions; but this distinction is no longer observed.

See also Diplomatic agent.

Ambidexter /ēm'bdēktar/. Skillful with both hands; one who plays on both sides. Applied anciently to an attorney who took pay from both sides, and subsequently to a juror guilty of the same offense.

Ambigua responsio contra proferentem est accliplenda /ēm'bigyewa raspōnsh(y)ow kōntra prófræntam ēst sksipyēnda/. An ambiguous answer is to be taken against (is not to be construed in favor of) him who offers it.

Ambiguis casibus semper presumitur pro rege /ēm'bigyewuks kéyzaβas sēmpar priyz(y)ūwmēdr prōw rlyij/. In doubtful cases, the presumption always is in behalf of the crown.


Ambigutas latens, a latent ambiguity; ambigutas patens, a patent ambiguity. See Ambiguity.

Ambigutas contra stipulatorem est /ēm'bigyewatēs kōntra stipyaleytōrām ēst/. Doubtful words will be construed most strongly against the party using them.

Ambiguitas verborum latens verificatione supplicetur; nam quod ex facto ortur ambiguum verificatione factil tollitur /ēm'biguyewatēs varbōrām léydanz vēhrfakēshiyōwniy sapilyrowning, nēm kwōd ēks fēkt(y)uw őhrōdar ămbiguyewam vēhrfakēshiyōwniy fēktay tōlda/. A latent ambiguity in the language may be removed by evidence; for whatever ambiguity arises from an extrinsic fact may be explained by extrinsic evidence. Said to be “an unprofitable subtility; inadequate and un instructive.”

Ambiguitas verborum patens nulla verificatione excluditur /ēm'biguyewatēs varbōrām pēytēn zōla vēhrfakēshiyōwniy ekslūwddar/. A patent ambiguity cannot be cleared up by extrinsic evidence (or is never holpen by averment).

Ambiguit /ēm'bigyewad/. Doubtfulness; doubling of meaning. Duplicity, indistinctness, or uncertainty of meaning of an expression used in a written instrument. Want of clearness or definiteness; difficult to comprehend or distinguish; of doubtful import. For “Extrinsic Ambiguity,” see that title.

Language in contract is “ambiguous” when it is reasonably capable of being understood in more than one sense. City of Sioux Falls v. Henry Carlson Co., Inc., S.D., 258 N.W.2d 676, 679. Test for determining whether a contract is “ambiguous” is whether reasonable persons would find the contract subject to more than one interpretation. Taste-Freez Leasing Corp. v. Milwid, Ind.App., 365 N.E.2d 1388, 1390.

Ambiguity of language is to be distinguished from unintelligibility and inaccuracy, for words cannot be said to be ambiguous unless their signification seems doubtful and uncertain to persons of competent skill and knowledge to understand them. It does not include uncertainty arising from the use of peculiar words, or of common words in a peculiar sense. It is latent where the language employed is clear and intelligible and suggests but a single meaning, but some extrinsic fact or extraneous evidence creates a necessity for interpretation or a choice among two or more possible meanings, as where a description apparently plain and unambiguous is shown to fit different pieces of property. Logue v. Von Almen, 379 Ill. 208, 40 N.E.2d 73, 82. A patent ambiguity is that which appears on the face of the instrument, and arises from the defective, obscure, or insensible language used.

Ambiguitas upon the factum. An ambiguity in relation to the very foundation of the instrument itself, as distinguished from an ambiguity in regard to the construction of its terms. The term is applied, for instance, to a doubt as to whether a testator meant a particular clause to be a part of the will, or whether it was introduced with his knowledge, or whether a codicil was meant to reproduce a former will, or whether the residuary clause was accidentally omitted.

Ambiguum pactum contra venditorem interpretandum est /ēm'bigyewam pēktam kōntra vēndotōrām ēntārpātēndōm ēst/. An ambiguous contract is to be interpreted against the seller.

Ambiguum plactum interpretari debet contra proferentem /ēm'bigyewam plēsēdam ēntārpātēray débat kōntra prófræntam/. An ambiguous plea ought to be interpreted against the party pleading it.

Ambit. A boundary line, as going around a place; an exterior or inclosing line or limit. The limits or circumference of a power or jurisdiction; the line circumscribing any subject-matter.

Ambitus /ēm'bodos/. The procuring of a public office by money or gifts; the unlawful buying and selling of a public office.
Amblocic /əmˈblɒtɪk/. Having the power to cause abortion; anything used to produce abortion.

Ambulance chaser. A popular name for one who solicits negligence cases for an attorney. One seeking out persons and directing them to an attorney in consideration of a percentage of the recovery. A term descriptive of the practice of some attorneys, on hearing of a personal injury which may have been caused by the negligence or wrongful act of another, of at once seeking out the injured person with a view to securing authority to bring action on account of the injury. Laymen's acquainting themselves with occurrence of accidents and approaching injured persons or their representatives with a view toward soliciting employment for an attorney in the litigation arising from the accident. See also Runner.

Ambulatoria est voluntas defuncti usque ad vitæ supremum exitum. /Ambulatoriā est voluntās dīfīnktī āskiviā ād vādītyā sū/jāpriyam ēgīzdam/. The will of a deceased person is ambulatory until the latest moment of life.

Ambulatory. Lat. ambulare, to walk about. Movable; revocable; subject to change; capable of alteration.

Ambulatoria voluntas (a changeable will) denotes the power which a testator possesses of altering his will during his life-time.

Courts. The court of king's bench in England was formerly called an ambulatory court, because it followed the king's person, and was held sometimes in one place and sometimes in another. So, in France, the supreme court or parliament was originally ambulatory. 3 Bl.Comm. 38, 39, 41.

Ambulatory disposition. A judgment, decree, or sentence which is subject to change, amendment or revocation.

Ambush. To lie in wait, to surprise, to place in ambush.

A me /ˈɛmy//. Lat. ego, I. A term in feudal grants denoting direct tenure of the superior lord. Unjustly detaining from me. He is said to withhold a me (from me) who has obtained possession of my property unjustly. To pay a me, is to pay from my money.

Ameliorating waste /əmɪlɪˈriŋ/ /əˈmiːlɪrəˈɪŋ/ /əˈmiːlɪˈræʃən/. Betterments; improvements.

Ameliorations /əmɪlɪˈræʃənz/. Subject to answer to the law; accountable; responsible; liable to punishment. Also means tractable, that may be easily led or governed; formerly applied to a wife who is governable by her husband.

Amend. To improve. To change for the better by removing defects or faults. To change, correct, revise. Texas Co. v. Fort, 168 Tenn. 679, 80 S.W.2d 658, 660. See Amendment.

Amende honorable /əˈmɒnd ɔːnərəˈbɔːl/. An apology. In old English law, it was a penalty imposed upon a person by way of disgrace or infamy, as a punishment for any offense, or for the purpose of making reparation for any injury done to another, as the walking into church in a white sheet, with a rope about the neck and a torch in the hand, and begging the pardon of God, or the king, or any private individual, for some delinquency. A punishment somewhat similar to this, which bore the same name, was common in France for offenses against public decency or morality. It was abolished by the law of the 25th of September, 1791. In 1826 it was re-introduced in cases of sacrilege and was finally abolished in 1830.

Amendment. To change or modify for the better. To alter by modification, deletion, or addition.

Practice and pleading. The correction of an error committed in any process, pleading, or proceeding at law, or in equity, and which is done either as of course, or by the consent of parties, or upon motion to the court in which the proceeding is pending. Under Fed.R.Civ.P., any change in pleadings, though not necessarily a correction, which a party may accomplish once as a matter of course at any time before a responsive pleading has been served. Such amendment may be necessary to cause pleadings to conform to evidence. Rule 15(a), (b). The amendment relates back to the original pleading if the subject of it arose out of the transaction set forth or attempted to be set forth in the original pleading. Fed.R.Civ.P. 15(c). Compare Supplemental pleadings.

Amendment of judgment. Under Fed.R.Civ.P., Rule 59(e), a judgment may be altered or amended by motion served not later than 10 days after entry of judgment.

Amendment of trust. An addition which alters the original terms of a trust, the power to accomplish which may be reserved by the settlor in the original trust instrument.

Amendment on court's own motion. A change or addition to a pleading or other document accomplished by the judge without a prior motion of a party.

Amends. A satisfaction given by a wrongdoer to the party injured, for a wrong committed.

Amenity /əˈmɛnəti/. In real property law, such circumstances, in regard to situation, view, location, access to a water course, or the like, as enhance the pleasantness or desirability of the property for purposes of residence, or contribute to the pleasure and enjoyment of the occupants, rather than to their indispensable needs. Extras or intangible items often associated with property. They may be tangible. Often amenities in a condominium include swimming pools, landscaping, and tennis courts.

In the law of easements, an "amenity" consists in restraining the owner from doing that on his property which, but for the grant or covenant, he might otherwise lawfully have done. Sometimes called a "negative easement" as distinguished from that class of easements which compel the owner to suffer something to be done on his property by another. Equitable Life Assur. Soc. v. Brennan, 30 Abb.N.C. 260, 24

Amens /éymenz/. See Demens.

A mensa et thoro /éy mensa et ògorow/. Lat. From table and bed, but more commonly translated, from bed and board. A kind of divorce, which is rather a separation of the parties by law, than a dissolution of the marriage.

Amentia. Insanity; idiocy. See Insanity.

Amerce /amárś/. To impose an amercement or fine; to publish by a fine or penalty.

Amercement /amárśmant/. A money penalty in the nature of a fine imposed upon an officer for some misconduct or neglect of duty. Sherman v. Upton, Inc., S.D., 242 N.W.2d 666, 667. At common law, it was assessed by the peers of the delinquent, or the affereors, or imposed arbitrarily at the discretion of the court or the lord.

American. Of or pertaining to the United States.

American Arbitration Association. National organization of arbitrators from whose panel arbitrators are selected for labor and civil disputes. The Association has produced a Code of Ethics and Procedural Standards for use and guidance of arbitrators.

American Bar Association. A National association of lawyers, a primary purpose of which is the improvement of lawyers and the administration of justice. Membership in the ABA is open to any lawyer who is in good standing in his or her state.

American Bar Foundation. An outgrowth of the American Bar Association given to sponsoring and funding projects in legal research, education and social studies.

American clause. In marine insurance, a proviso in a policy to the effect that, in case of any subsequent insurance, the insurer shall nevertheless be answerable for the full extent of the sum subscribed by him, without the right to claim contribution from subsequent underwriters.

American experience table of mortality. A series of tables dealing with life insurance, costs and values, varying according to the age of the insured, the period during which the policy has been in force, and the term of the particular policy.

American Federation of Labor. An affiliation of labor unions.

American Law Institute. Group of American legal scholars who are responsible for the Restatements in the various disciplines of the law and who, jointly with the National Conference of Commissioners on Uniform State Laws, prepare some of the Uniform State Laws, e.g. Uniform Commercial Code. See Restatement of Law.

American rule. The traditional "American Rule" is that attorney fees are not awardable to the winning party unless statutorily or contractually authorized; however exceptions exist in that an award may be made to successful party if the opponent has acted in bad faith, vexatiously, wantonly or for oppressive reasons or if the litigation confers a substantial benefit on the members of an ascertainable class and the court's subject matter jurisdiction makes possible an award that will operate to spread the costs proportionately among them. Huecker v. Milburn, C.A.Ky., 538 F.2d 1241, 1245. In addition a court may in its discretion award attorney fees in civil rights actions to the prevailing defendant if the action was frivolous, unreasonable or without foundation. Christiansburg Garment Co. v. EEOC, 434 U.S. 412, 98 S.Ct. 694.

Aneublissemment /amýwúblasmón/. In French law, a species of agreement which by a fiction gives to immovable goods the quality of movable.

Amit; any. A friend; as alien ami, an alien belonging to a nation at peace with us; prochein ami, a next friend suing or defending for an infant, married woman, etc.

Amiables composites. See Amicable compounders.

Amicable. Friendly; mutually forbearing. Agreed or assented to by parties having conflicting interests or a dispute; as opposed to hostile or adversary.

Amicable action. An action brought and carried on by the mutual consent and arrangement of the parties, to obtain judgment of court on a doubtful question of law, the facts being usually settled by agreement. See Case (Case agreed on).

Amicable compounders. In Louisiana law and practice, amicable compounders are arbitrators authorized to abate something of the strictness of the law in favor of natural equity.

Amicable scire facias to revive a judgment /ezamkéybliy sáriy féyshiyas/. A written agreement, signed by the person to be bound by the revival, in the nature of a writ of scire facias with a confession of judgment thereon, which must be duly docketed, but which requires no judicial action on the part of the court, and which has the force and effect of a judgment rendered upon an adverse or contested writ of scire facias.

Amicus curie /amýkas kúriyiy/amýkas kyúriyiy/. Means, literally, friend of the court. A person with strong interest in or views on the subject matter of an action may petition the court for permission to file a brief, ostensibly on behalf of a party but actually to suggest a rationale consistent with its own views. Such amicus curiae briefs are commonly filed in appeals concerning matters of a broad public interest; e.g. civil rights cases. Such may be filed by private persons or the government. In appeals to the U.S. courts of appeals, such brief may be filed only if accompanied by written consent of all parties, or by leave of court granted on motion or at the request of the court, except that consent or leave shall not be required when the brief is presented by the United States or an officer or agency thereof. Fed.R.App.P. 29.

Amítiñus /əˈmatɪɲəs/. The child of a brother or sister; a cousin; one who has the same grandfather, but different father and mother.

Amittere /əmɪˈdɪərɪ/. Lat. In the civil and old English law, to lose. Hence the old Scotch “amitt.”

Amittere curiam /əmɪˈdɪərɪ kʊˈriəm/. To lose the court; to be deprived of the privilege of attending the court.

Amittere legem terre /əmɪˈdɪərɪ lɪˈjɑm tɜːrɪ/. To lose the protection afforded by the law of the land.

Amittere liberam legem /əmɪˈdɪərɪ lɪˈbɹɜrm ˈlɪɡəm/. In old English law, to lose one's frank-law. A term having the same meaning as amittere legem terre, (q.v.). He who lost his law lost the protection extended by the law to a free man, and became subject to the same law as thralls or serfs attached to the land. To lose the privilege of giving evidence under oath in any court; to become infamous, and incapable of giving evidence. If either party in a wager of battle cried “craven” he was condemned amittere liberam legem; 3 Bl.Comm. 340.

Amnesia. Loss of memory as a result of organic trauma, delirium lesions of the diencephalon area of the brain, hysteria or epilepsy. Functionally, identity loss can represent a means of coping with neurotic conflict. Three types of amnesia are: anterograde (inability to retain new impressions; may be a feature of senility); retrograde (failure to recall prior experiences); lacunar (loss of memory for certain periods of life). Such condition is not generally sufficient for lack of competency to stand trial. U. S. ex rel. Parsons v. Anderson, 354 F.Supp. 1060, 1071-1072, aff’d 481 F.2d 94.

Amnesty /əˈmɛnstɹi/. A sovereign act of oblivion for past acts, granted by a government to all persons (or to certain persons) who have been guilty of crime or delict, generally political offenses,—treason, sedition, rebellion,—and often conditioned upon their return to obedience and duty within a prescribed time.

A general pardon or proclamation of such pardon from subjects' offenses against the government; while usually exerted in behalf of certain classes of persons, subject to trial, but not convicted, it is not confined to such cases.

A declaration of the person or persons who have newly acquired or recovered the sovereign power in a nation, by which they pardon all persons who composed, supported, or obeyed the government which has been overthrown.

Amnesty is the abolition and forgetfulness of the offense; pardon is forgiveness. Knote v. U. S., 95 U.S. 149, 152, 24 L.Ed. 442. The first is usually addressed to crimes against the sovereignty of the nation, to political offenses; the second condones infractions of the peace of the nation. Burdick v. United States, 236 U.S. 79, 35 S.Ct. 267, 271, 59 L.Ed. 476.

Compare Pardon; Parole.

Express amnesty is one granted in direct terms. Implied amnesty is one which results when a treaty of peace is made between contending parties.

Amobarbital /əˈmɔrəbɪrˈbɪtəl/. Nonproprietary name for isoamyl-ethylbarbituric acid.

Among. Mingled with or in the same group or class. Intermingled with. In company or association with. In shares to each of, e.g. divided "among" the heirs. In or through the midst of.

Amortization /əˈmɔrətəˈzɛʃən/. The allocation (and charge to expense) of the cost or other basis of an intangible asset over its estimated useful life. Intangible assets which have an indefinite life (e.g., goodwill) are not amortizable. Examples of amortizable intangibles include patents, copyrights and leasehold interests. A reduction in a debt or fund by periodic payments covering interest and part of principal, distinguished from: (1) depreciation, which is an allocation of the original cost of an asset computed from physical wear and tear as well as the passage of time, and (2) depletion, which is a reduction in the book value of a resource (such as minerals) resulting from conversion into a salable product. The operation of paying off bonds, stock, a mortgage, or other indebtedness, commonly of a state or corporation, by installments, or by a sinking fund. An "amortization plan" for the payment of an indebtedness is one where there are partial payments of the principal, and accrued interest, at stated periods for a definite time, at the expiration of which the entire indebtedness will be extinguished.

Amortization reserve. An account created for bookkeeping purposes to extinguish an obligation gradually over a period of time.

Amortized mortgage. Repayment of a mortgage over regular specified time intervals, with equal payments. This would reduce the principal, after any monies owing for interest are applied.

Amotio /əˈmɔtɪʃən/. In the civil law, a moving or taking away. "The slightest amotio is sufficient to constitute theft, if the animus furandi be clearly established." See Amotion.

Amotion /əˈmɔtʃən/. A putting or turning out, as the eviction of a tenant or a removal from office. Dispossession of lands. Ouster is an amotion of possession. A moving or carrying away; the wrongful taking of personal chattels.

In corporation law, the act of removing an officer, or official representative, of a corporation from his office or official station, before the end of the term for which he was elected or appointed, but without depriving him of membership in the body corporate. In this last respect the term differs from "disfranchisement," or expulsion.

Amount. The whole effect, substance, import, result, or significance. The sum of principal and interest. See also Sum certain.

Amount covered. In insurance, the amount that is insured, and for which underwriters are liable for loss under a policy of insurance.

Amount of loss. In insurance, the diminution, destruction, or defeat of the value of, or of the charge upon, the insured subject to the assured, by the direct consequence of the operation of the risk insured against, according to its value in the policy, or in contribution for loss, so far as its value is covered by the insurance.

Amount realized. The amount received by a taxpayer upon the sale or exchange of property. The measure of the amount received is the sum of the cash and the fair market value of any property or services received. Determining the amount realized is the starting point for arriving at realized gain or loss. I.R.C. § 1001(b). See Realized gain or loss; Recognized gain or loss.

Amount to. To reach in the aggregate, to rise to or reach by accumulation of particular sums or quantities.

Amoveas manus /ɛymɔwɪıyɔs mænɔs/. Lat. That you remove your hands. In old English law, after offense found, the king was entitled to the things forfeited, either lands or personal property; the remedy for a person aggrieved was by “petition,” or “monstrans de drito,” or “traverses,” to establish his superior right. Thereupon a writ issued, quod manus domini regis amoveantur.

Amparo /ɛmpərəʊ/. In Spanish-American law, a document issued to a claimant of land as a protection to him, until a survey can be ordered, and the title of possession issued by an authorized commissioner.


Amputation /ɛmplɪˈeɪʃən/. In civil law, a deferring of judgment until a cause be further examined. An order for the rehearing of a cause on a day appointed, for the sake of more ample information.

In French law, a duplicate of an acquittance or other instrument. A notary’s copy of acts passed before him, delivered to the parties.

Amphius /ɛmplɪˈiəs/. In the Roman law, more; further; more time. A word which the prætor pronounced in cases where there was any obscurity in a cause, and the judices were uncertain whether to condemn or acquit; by which the case was deferred to a day named.

Amusement. Pastime; diversion; enjoyment. A pleasurable occupation of the senses, or that which furnishes it. Young v. Board of Trustees of Broadwater County High School, 90 Mont. 576, 4 P.2d 725, 726.

Amusement tax. A government levy imposed on tickets sold to places of amusement, sporting events, etc.; expressed as a percentage of the price of the ticket. See also Luxury tax.

Amy. See Ami; Prochein aml.

An. The English indefinite article, equivalent to “one” or “any”; seldom used to denote plurality.

Anacrisis /ɛnəkrɪˈzɪs/. In the civil law, an investigation of truth, interrogation of witnesses, and inquiry made into any fact, especially by torture.

Analogous /ænəˈlɔdʒəs/. Derived from the Greek ana, up, and logos, ratio. Means bearing some resemblance or likeness that permits one to draw an analogy.

Analogy. Identity or similarity of proportion, where there is no precedent in point. In cases on the same subject, lawyers have recourse to cases on a different subject-matter, but governed by the same general principle. This is reasoning by analogy. The similitude of relations which exist between things compared.

Analytical jurisprudence. A theory and system of jurisprudence brought out neither by inquiring for ethical principles or the dictates of the sentiments of justice nor by the rules which may be actually in force, but by analyzing, classifying and comparing various legal conceptions. See Jurisprudence.

Anaphrodisia /ænəˈfrodɪz(h)iə/ /ænəˈfroʊdɪz(h)iə/. Impotentialis coeundi; frigidity; incapacity for sexual intercourse existing in either man or woman, and in the latter case sometimes called “dyspareunia.”

Anarchist. One who professes and advocates the doctrines of anarchy, q.v. In the immigration statutes, it includes, not only persons who advocate the overthrow of organized government by force, but also those who believe in the absence of government as a political ideal, and seek the same end through propaganda.

Anarchy. Absence of government; state of society where there is no law or supreme power; lawlessness or political disorder; destructive of and confusion in government. At its best it pertains to a society made orderly by good manners rather than law, in which each person produces according to his powers and receives according to his needs, and at its worst, the word pertains to a terroristic resistance of all present government and social order. For “criminal anarchy,” see Criminal.

Anathema /ænəˈθɛmə/. An ecclesiastical punishment by which a person is separated from the body of the church, and forbidden all intercourse with the members of the same. It differs from excommunication, which simply forbids the person excommunicated from going into the church and taking the communion with the faithful.

Anathematize /ænəθɛˈmatɪz/ /ænəθɛˈmatɪz/. To pronounce anathema upon; to pronounce accused by ecclesiastical authority; to excommunicate. See Anathema.
ANATOCISM

Anatocism /ənəˈdəsɪzəm/. In the civil law, repeated or doubled interest; compound interest; usury.

Anatomical gift. Testamentary donation of a vital organ, generally for purpose of medical research. Most states have adopted the Uniform Anatomical Gift Act which authorizes the gift of all or part of a human body after death for specified purposes.

Ancestor. One from whom a person lineally descended or may be descended; a progenitor. A former possessor; the person last seised. A deceased person from whom another has inherited land. Embraces both collaterals and lineals. Correlative of “heir.”

Ancestral /ənˈsɛstrəl/. Relating to ancestors, or to what has been done by them; as homage ancestral (q.v.). Derived from ancestors.

Ancestral estates are such as are transmitted by descent, and not by purchase; or such as are acquired either by descent or by operation of law. Realty which came to the intestate by descent or devise from a dead ancestor or by deed of actual gift from a living one, there being no other consideration than that of blood. Real estate coming to distributee by descent, gift, or devise from any kinsman. Allotments to members of Indian tribes or their heirs have been treated as an ancestral estate. McDougal v. McKay, 237 U.S. 372, 35 S.Ct. 605, 607, 59 L.Ed. 1001.

Ancestry. Line of descent; persons comprising such. Term which embraces the study of the antecedents of humans and animals; pedigree. May be proved by general reputation.

Anchorage. In English law, a duty paid by the owners of ships for the use of the port or harbor where they cast anchor.

Ancient. Old; that which has existed from an indefinitely early period, or which by age alone has acquired certain rights or privileges accorded in view of long continuance.

Ancient deed. A deed 30 [or 20] years old and shown to come from a proper custody and having nothing suspicious about it. See Ancient writings.

Ancient demesne. Manors which in the time of William the Conqueror were in the hands of the crown, and are so recorded in the Domestay Day Book. Also, in old English law, a species of copyhold, which differs, however, from common copyholds in certain privileges, but yet must be conveyed by surrender, according to the custom of the manor. There are three sorts: (1) Where the lands are held freely by the king's grant; (2) customary freeholds, which are held of a manor in ancient demesne, but not at the lord's will, although they are conveyed by surrender, or deed and admittance; (3) lands held by copy of court-roll at the lord's will, denominating copyholds of base tenure.

Ancient documents. See Ancient writings.

Ancient lights. See Lights, ancient.

Ancient readings. Readings or lectures upon the ancient English statutes, formerly regarded as of great authority in law.

Ancient records. See Ancient writings.

Ancient rent. The rent reserved at the time the lease was made, if the building was not then under lease.

Ancients /əˈnɛnʃənts/. In English law, gentlemen of the inns of court and chancery. In Gray's Inn the society consists of benchers, ancients, barristers, and students under the bar; and here the ancients are of the oldest barristers. In the Middle Temple, those who had passed their readings used to be termed “ancients.” The Inns of Chancery consist of ancients and students or clerks; from the ancients a principal or treasurer is chosen yearly.

Ancient serjeant. In English law, the eldest of the queen's serjeants.

Ancient street. The doctrine is not based upon fact that streets have existed for a long time, but is invoked when it appears that common grantor owning land comprising street in question as well as property in question and other lots has given deeds to lots bounding them by street, thereby not only dedicating the street to public use but at same time creating private easements in the street, which cannot be taken without compensation. Dwornick v. State, 251 A.D. 675, 297 N.Y.S. 409, 411.

Ancient wall. A wall built to be used, and in fact used, as a party-wall, for more than twenty years, by the express permission and continuous acquiescence of the owners of the land on which it stands. Schneider v. 44-84 Realty Corporation, 169 Misc. 249, 7 N.Y. S.2d 305, 309.

Ancient water course. A water course is "ancient" if the channel through which it naturally runs has existed from time immemorial independent of the quantity of water which it discharges. Earl v. De Hart, 12 N.J.Eq. 280.

Ancient writings. Documents bearing on their face every evidence of age and authenticity, of age of 30 [or 20] years, and coming from a natural and reasonable official custody. Hartzell v. U. S., C.C.A.Iowa, 72 F.2d 569, 579. These are presumed to be genuine without express proof, when coming from the proper custody.

Under Federal Rules of Evidence, a document is admissible if it is in such condition as to create no suspicion as to its authenticity, was in a place where it, if authentic, would likely be, and has been in existence 20 years or more at the time it is offered. Fed.Evid.R. 901(b)(8).

Anciety /əˈnɛnʃti/. Eldership; seniority. Used in the statute of Ireland, 14 Hen. VIII.

Ancilla /ənˈsɪlə/. Lat. A handmaid, an auxiliary, a subordinate.

Ancillary /ənˈsələri/. Aiding; attendant upon; describing a proceeding attendant upon which aids another proceeding considered as principal. Auxiliar-y or subordinate.

Ancillary administration. Administration in state where decedent has property and which is other than where decedent was domiciled. First Nat. Bank v. Blessing, 231 Mo.App. 288, 98 S.W.2d 149, 151. Administration or probate taken out in a second or subsequent jurisdiction to collect assets or to commence litigation on behalf of the estate in that jurisdiction.
Ancillary attachment. One sued out in aid of an action already brought; its only office being to hold the property attached under it for the satisfaction of the plaintiff’s demand.

Ancillary bill or suit. One growing out of and auxiliary to another action or suit, either at law or in equity, such as a bill for discovery, or a proceeding for the enforcement of a judgment, or to set aside fraudulent transfers of property. One growing out of a prior suit in the same court, dependent upon and instituted for the purpose either of impeaching or enforcing the judgment or decree in a prior suit. Caspers v. Watson, C.C.A.III., 132 F.2d 614, 615.

Ancillary claim. Term “ancillary” denotes any claim that reasonably may be said to be collateral to, dependent upon, or otherwise auxiliary to a claim asserted within federal jurisdiction in action. Hartley Pen Co. v. Lindy Pen Co., D.C.Cal., 16 F.R.D. 141, 154. Claim is “ancillary” when it bears a logical relationship to the aggregate core of operative facts which constitutes main claim over which court had independent basis of federal jurisdiction. Nishimatsu Const. Co., Ltd. v. Houston Nat. Bank, C.A.Tex., 515 F.2d 1200, 1205.

Ancillary jurisdiction. Power of court to adjudicate and determine matters incidental to the exercise of its primary jurisdiction of an action.

Under “ancillary jurisdiction doctrine” federal district court acquires jurisdiction of case or controversy as an entirety and may, as incident to disposition of matter properly before it, possess jurisdiction to decide other matters raised by case, though district court could not have taken cognizance of them if they had been independently presented. Ortman v. Starnes Corp., C.A.III., 371 F.2d 154, 157. “Ancillary jurisdiction” of federal court generally involves either proceedings which are concerned with pleadings, processes, records or judgments of court in principal case or proceedings which affect property already in court’s custody. Cooperative Transit Co. v. West Penn Electric Co., C.C.A.W.Va., 132 F.2d 720, 723.

Ancillary legislation. Legislative enactment which is auxiliary to or in aid of other and principal legislation.

Ancillary proceeding. One growing out of or auxiliary to another action or suit, or which is subordinate to or in aid of a primary action, either at law or in equity. Register v. Stone’s Independent Oil Distributors, 122 Ga.App. 335, 177 S.E.2d 92, 94. In state courts, a procedural undertaking in aid of the principal action; for example, a bill for discovery in aid of a lawsuit or a garnishment proceeding.

Ancillary process. Any process which is in aid of or incidental to the principal suit or action; e.g. attachment. See Ancillary proceeding.

Ancillary receiver. One appointed in aid of, and in subordination to, a foreign receiver for purpose of collecting and taking charge of assets, as of insolvent corporation, in the jurisdiction where he is appointed.

Ancipitis usus /aensipadas ywuzas/. Lat. In international law, of doubtful use; the use of which is doubtful; that may be used for a civil or peaceful, as well as military or warlike, purpose.

And. A conjunction connecting words or phrases expressing the idea that the latter is to be added to or taken along with the first. Added to; together with; joined with; as well as; including. Sometimes construed as “or.” Land & Lake Ass’n v. Conklin, 182 A.D. 546, 170 N.Y.S. 427, 428.

It expresses a general relation or connection, a participation or accomplishment in sequence, having no inherent meaning standing alone but deriving force from what comes before and after. In its conjunctive sense the word is used to conjoin words, clauses, or sentences, expressing the relation of addition or connection, and signifying that something is to follow in addition to that which proceeds and its use implies that the connected elements must be grammatically co-ordinate, as where the elements preceding and succeeding the use of the words refer to the same subject matter. While it is said that there is no exact synonym of the word in English, it has been defined to mean “along with”, “also”, “and also”, “as well as”, “besides”, “together with”. Oliver v. Oliver, 286 Ky. 6, 149 S.W.2d 540, 542.

When expression “and/or” is used, that word may be taken as will best effect the purpose of the parties as gathered from the contract taken as a whole, or, in other words, as will best accord with the equity of the situation. Bobrow v. U. S. Casualty Co., 231 A.D. 91, 246 N.Y.S. 363, 367.

Androgynus /ændrójanas/. A hermaphrodite.

Androlepsy /ændrowlēpsiy/. The taking by one nation of the citizens or subjects of another, in order to compel the latter to do justice to the former.

Andromania /ændromēnyya/. Nymphomania.

Androphonomania /ændrowfōnämēnyya/. Homicidal insanity.

Anecius /āniysh(i)yas/. Lat. Spelled also āœnecius, enitius, āœneas, eneyus, Fr. aîne. The eldest-born; the first-born; senior, as contrasted with the puis-né (younger).

An et jour /ōn ey zhûr/. Fr. Year and day; a year and a day.

A neurism, or aneurysm. A sac formed by the dilatation of the weakened walls of an artery, usually resulting in a soft pulsating tumor.

Anew. To try a case or issue “anew” or “de novo” implies that the case or issue has been heard before. See De novo.

Angaria /āŋgēriya/. A term used in the Roman law to denote a forced or compulsory service exacted by the government for public purposes; as a forced rendition of labor or goods for the public service; in particular, the right of a public officer to require the service of vehicles or ships.

In feud al law, any troublesome or vexatious personal service paid by the tenant or villein to his lord.

In maritime law, a forced service (onus) imposed on a vessel for public purposes; an impressment of a vessel. See Angary, right of.

Angary, right of. In international law, formerly the right (jus angarice) claimed by a belligerent to seize
merchant vessels in the harbors of the belligerent and to compel them, on payment of freight, to transport troops and supplies to a designated port.

The right of a belligerent to appropriate, either for use, or for destruction in case of necessity, neutral property temporarily located in his own territory or in that of the other belligerent. The property may be of any description whatever, provided the appropriation of it be for military or naval purposes.

Angel. An ancient English coin, of the value of ten shillings sterling.

Angild /æŋgild/. In Saxon law, the single value of a man or other thing; a single weregild (q.v.); the compensation of a thing according to its single value or estimation. The double gild or compensation was called "twigild," the triple, "trigild," etc. See Angyde.

When a crime was committed, before the Conquest, the angild was the money compensation that the person who had been wronged was entitled to receive.

Anglescheria /æŋgliʃəriə/. In old English law, Englishry; the fact of being an Englishman.

Anglie jura in omni casu libertatis dant favorem /æŋgliˈi dʒə rən ˈɒmni kɛˈziːwu ˈlɪbərtəˈdəs dænt fəˈvɔːrəm/. The laws of England in every case of liberty are favorable (favor liberty in all cases).

Anglice /æŋˈglɪsɪ/. In English, a term formerly used in pleading when a thing is described both in Latin and English, inserted immediately after the Latin and as an introduction of the English translation.

Anglo-Indian. An Englishman domiciled in the Indian territory of the British crown.

Anglo-Saxon law. English law derived from those people who conquered Britain in the 5th and 6th centuries and who dominated England until the Norman Conquest.

Anguish. Extreme pain of body or mind; excruciating distress. Carson v. Thompson, Mo.App., 161 S.W.2d 995, 1000. Agony, but, as used in law, particularly mental suffering or distress of great intensity. It is not synonymous with inconvenience, annoyance, or harassment.

Angylde. In Saxon law, the rate fixed by law at which certain injuries to person or property were to be paid for; in injuries to the person, it seems to be equivalent to the "were," i.e., the price at which every man was valued. It seems also to have been the fixed price at which cattle and other goods were received as currency, and to have been much higher than the market price, or cepagild. See Angild.

Anhlobe. In old English law, a single tribute or tax, paid according to the custom of the country as scot and lot.

Aniens, or aient. Null, void, of no force or effect. See Anniented.


Domestic animals are tame as distinguished from wild; living in or near the habitations of man or by habit or special training in association with man. Domite are those which have been tamed by man; domestic.

Fera natura are those which still retain their wild nature.

Mansuetae naturae are those gentle or tame by nature, such as sheep and cows.

Wild animals are those whose habitat is generally the woods; undomesticated; untamed.

Animals of a base nature. Animals in which a right of property may be acquired by reclaiming them from wildness, but which, at common law, by reason of their base nature, are not regarded as possible subjects of a larceny. Some animals which are now usually tamed come within this class, as dogs and cats; and others which, though wild by nature and often reclaimed by art and industry, clearly fall within the same rule, as bears, foxes, apes, monkeys, ferrets, and the like.

Animo /ænəˈməʊ/. Lat. With intention, disposition, design, will. Quo animo, with what intention. Animo cancellandi, with intention to cancel. Furandi, with intention to steal. 4 Bl.Comm. 230. Lucrandi, with intention to gain or profit. Manendi, with intention to remain. Morandi, with intention to stay, or delay. Republicandi, with intention to republish. Reverendi, with intention to return. 2 Bl.Comm. 392. Revocandi, with intention to revoke. Testandi, with intention to make a will. See Animus and the titles which follow it.

Animo et corpore /ænəˈmoʊ et kɔrˈpɔri/. By the mind, and by the body; by the intention and by the physical act.

Animo felonico /ænəˈməʊ faləˈnəʊkəʊ/. With felonious intent.

Animus /æˈnəməs/. Lat. Mind; soul; intention; disposition; design; will; that which informs the body. Animo (q.v.), with the intention or design. These terms are derived from the civil law.

Animus ad se omne jus ductit /æˈnəməs æd sɨˈmiː oʊˈmiː jəs d(e)ˈjuːwst/ . It is to the intention that all law applies. Law always regards the intention.

Animus cancellandi /æˈnəməs kænˈsələndəd/. The intention of destroying or canceling (applied to wills).

Animus capiendi /æˈnəməs kəˈpiːəndə/. The intention to take or capture.

Animus dedicandi /æˈnəməs dəˈdekəndə/. The intention of donating or dedicating.

Animus defamandi /æˈnəməs dɛfəˈmændə/. The intention of defaming.

Animus derelinquendi /æˈnəməs dɪˈrɛləŋkwəndə/. The intention of abandoning.

Animus differendi /æˈnəməs dɪˈfɛrəndə/. The intention of obtaining delay.
Animus donandi /áénamas downániday/. The intention of giving. Expressive of the intent to give which is necessary to constitute a gift.

Animus et factum /áénamas et fákktam/. To constitute a change of domicile, there must be an “animus et factum”; the “factum” being a transfer of the bodily presence, and the “animus” the intention of residing permanently or for indefinite period. See Animus manendi.

Animus et factus /áénamas et fákktas/. Intention and act; will and deed. Used to denote those acts which become effective only when accompanied by a particular intention.

Animus furandi /áénamas fyáránday/. Intent to steal, or feloniously to deprive the owner permanently of his property. State v. Hudson, W.Va., 206 S.E.2d 415, 419.

Animus hominis est anima scripti /áénamas hómanas ét áénamo skríiptay/. The intention of the party is the soul of the instrument. In order to give life or effect to an instrument, it is essential to look to the intention of the individual who executed it.

Animus lucrandi /áénamas lýuwkránday/. The intention to make a gain or profit.

Animus manendi /áénamas máñánday/. The intention of remaining; intention to establish a permanent residence. This is the point to be settled in determining the domicile or residence of a party. See Animus et factum.

Animus morandi /áénamas máránday/. The intention to remain, or to delay.

Animus possidendi /áénamas pówzásénday/. The intention of possessing.

Animus quo /áénamas kwów/. The intent with which.

Animus recipiendi /áénamas rásipiýénday/. The intention of receiving.

Animus recuperandi /áénamas rák(y)uwparánday/. The intention of recovering.

Animus republicandi /áénamas róóblaókánday/. The intention to republish.

Animus restituenti /áénamas rástityuwánday/. The intention of restoring.

Animus revertendi /áénamas riyvarténday/. The intention of returning.

Animus revocandi /áénamas révowkánday/. The intention to revoke.


Animus testandi /áénamas téstánday/. Intention or purpose to make will. Also expressed as animo testandi.

An, jour, et waste. In feudal law, year, day, and waste. A forfeiture of the lands to the crown incurred by the felony of the tenant, after which time the land escheats to the lord. See Year (Year, day, and waste).

Annates /áéneyts/áénts/. In ecclesiastical law, first-fruits paid out of spiritual benefices to the Pope, so called because the value of one year's profit was taken as their rate.

Annex /ánéks/. Derived from the Latin “annectere,” meaning to tie or bind to. To attach, and often, specifically, to subjoin. To add to; to unite. The word expresses the idea of joining a smaller or subordinate thing with another, larger, or of higher importance. To consolidate, as school districts. To make an integral part of something larger.

It implies physical connection or physically joined to, yet physical connection may be dispensed with, and things may be annexed without being in actual contact, when reasonably practicable. Elliott Common School Dist. No. 48 v. County Board of School Trustees, Tex.Civ.App., 76 S.W.2d 786, 789. Something appended to, as a supplementary structure or wing. See also Appendant.

Annexation. The act of attaching, adding, joining, or uniting one thing to another; generally spoken of the connection of a smaller or subordinate thing with a larger or principal thing. Term is usually applied with respect to land or fixtures, as: the acquisition of territory or land by a nation, state or municipality; the legal incorporation of a town or city into another town or city.

The attaching an illustrative or auxiliary document to a deposition, pleading, deed, etc., may be called “annexing” it.

In the law relating to fixtures, actual annexation includes every movement by which a chattel is joined or united to the property; constructive annexation is the union of such things as have been helden parcel of the reality, but which are not actually annexed, fixed, or fastened to the property.

See also Fixture.

Annulled /áeniyéntd/. Made null, abrogated, frustrated, or brought to nothing.

Anniversary. An annual day, recurring each year on the same date; commonly to commemorate an important event. In old-ecclesiastical law, a day set apart in memory of a deceased person. Also called “year day” or “mind day.”

Anniversary date. As applied to insurance policy, means yearly recurring date of the initial issuance date.

Anno domini /áénow dómánya/. In the year of the Lord. Commonly abbreviated A.D. The computation of time, according to the Christian era, dates from the birth of Christ.

Annonae civiles /ánówny sívályz/. A species of yearly rents issuing out of certain lands, and payable to certain monasteries.

Annotatio /áénowtéýsh(í)yów/. In the civil law, the sign-manual of the emperor; a rescript of the emperor, signed with his own hand. It is distinguished both from a rescript and pragmatic sanction.

Annotatio /áéntéýsh/. A remark, note, case summary, or commentary on some passage of a book, statutory provision, or the like, intended to illustrate or explain its meaning. See also Digest; Headnote.
Civil law. An imperial rescript (see Rescript) signed by the emperor. The answers of the prince to questions put to him by private persons respecting some doubtful point of law. Also summoning an absentee, and, as well the designation of a place of deportation.

Statutory. Brief summaries of the law and facts of cases interpreting or applying statutes passed by Congress or state legislatures which are included (normally following text of statute) in annotated statutes or codes.

Announced. A decision is “announced,” preventing nonsuit, when court’s conclusion on issue tried is made known from bench or by any publication, oral or written, even if judgment has not been rendered.

Annoyance. Discomfort; vexation. Not generally synonymous with anguish, inconvenience, or harassment. Such may result from either physical or mental conditions. It includes feeling of imposition and oppression. See also Harassment; Nuisance.

Annual /әnyуwә/. Of or pertaining to year; returning every year; coming or happening yearly. Occurring or recurring once in each year; continuing for the period of a year; accruing within the space of a year; relating to or covering the events or affairs of a year. Once a year, without signifying what time in year. See Annually.

Annual accounting period. In determining a taxpayer’s income tax liability, only those transactions taking place during a particular tax year are taken into consideration. For reporting and payment purposes, therefore, the tax life of taxpayers is divided into equal annual accounting periods. See Accounting period.

Annual assay. An annual trial of the gold and silver coins of the United States, to ascertain whether the standard fineness and weight of the coinage is maintained. 31 U.S.C.A. § 363.

Annual average earnings. Term used in worker’s compensation law to describe a claimant’s income both from seasonal and nonseasonal employment, but for inclusion the nonseasonal income is limited to employment of the same class as the seasonal.

Annual depreciation. The annual loss, not restored by current maintenance, which is due to all the factors causing the ultimate retirement of the property. These factors embrace wear and tear, decay, inadequacy, and obsolescence. The annual loss in service value not restored by current maintenance and incurred in connection with the consumption or prospective retirement of property in the course of service from causes known to be in current operation, and whose effect can be forecast with a reasonable approach to accuracy. State v. Hampton Water Works Co., 91 N.H. 278, 18 A.2d 765, 770. See Depreciation.

Annual exclusion. The amount each year which can be excluded in computing the gift tax on the donor without using the lifetime exemption.

Annually. In annual order or succession; yearly, every year, year by year. At end of each and every year during a period of time. Imposed once a year, computed by the year. Yearly or once a year but does not in itself signify what time in year. Phillips Petroleum Co. v. Harnly, Tex.Civ.App., 348 S.W.2d 856, 860.

Annual percentage rate. The actual cost of borrowing money, expressed in form of annual rate to make it easy for one to compare cost of borrowing money among several lenders or sellers on credit. Full disclosure of such is required by the Truth-in-Lending Act (q.v.). Commonly abbreviated APR.

Annual permit. Yearly requirement in certain states for domestic corporations to do business in state. The fee is set according to the capitalization of the corporation.

Annual report. A report for stockholders and other interested parties prepared once a year; includes a balance sheet, an income statement, a statement of changes in financial position, a reconciliation of changes in owners’ equity accounts, a summary of significant accounting principles, other explanatory notes, the auditor’s report, and often comments from management about the year’s business and prospects for the next year. By law, any public corporation that holds an annual stockholders meeting is required to issue an annual report.

Annual statement. See Annual report.

Annual value. The net yearly income derivable from a given piece of property. Its fair rental value for one year, deducting costs and expenses; the value of its use for a year.

Annuanec debitum judex non separat ipsum /әnyuwa něk děbadam jůwdek nôn sêpôrad îpsm/. A judge (or court) does not divide annuities nor debt. Debt and annuity cannot be divided or apportioned by a court.

Annuanepensione /әnyuwa pěnsišyówniy/. An ancient writ to provide the king’s chaplain, if he had no preferment, with a pension.

Annuity /әn(y)uwardiy/. A right to receive fixed, periodic payments, either for life or for a term of years. Moore v. O’Cheskey, App., 87 N.M. 66, 529 P.2d 292, 293. A fixed sum payable to a person at specified intervals for a specific period of time or for life. Payments represent a partial return of capital and a return (interest) on the capital investment. Therefore, an exclusion ratio must generally be used to compute the amount of taxable income. Special rules apply to employee retirement plan annuities.

Annuity bond. A bond without a maturity date, that is, perpetually paying interest.

Annuity certain. Payable for specified period; no matter the time of death of the annuitant.

Annuity trust. See that title.

Cash refund annuity. Policy which provides for the lump sum payment at the death of the annuitant of the difference between the total received and the price paid.

Contingent annuity. Funded annuity with payments to commence on the happening of an uncertain event; e.g. death of named person other than annuitant.
annuity whose number of payments depends upon the outcome of an event whose timing is uncertain at the time the annuity is set up.

Deferred annuity. Payments begin at some specified future date provided the beneficiary is alive at such date.

Group annuity contract. A contract to make periodic payments to a member of a group covered by such contract. The usual type is a pension plan providing annuities upon retirement for individual employees under a master contract.

Joint and survivorship annuity. An annuity which is payable to the named annuitants during the period of their joint lives, with the annuity to continue to the survivor when the first annuitant dies.

Joint annuity. An annuity which is paid to the two named persons until the first one dies, at which time the annuity ceases.

Life annuity. Provides for payment of income to annuitant only during his lifetime; even though death is premature.

Private annuity. A contract for periodic payments to the annuitant from private as distinguished from public or life insurance company.

Refund annuity. Annuitant is assured a specified annual sum during his life, with the further assurance that in the event of his premature death there will be paid to his estate an additional amount which represents the difference between the purchase price and the amount paid out during annuitant’s life. See also Refund annuity contract.

Retirement annuity. Policy in which payments to annuitant commence at some future date; e.g. after retirement. If annuitant dies in interval or surrender is desired, an agreed upon amount is refunded to annuitant’s estate.

Straight annuity. A contract usually by an insurance company to make periodic payments at monthly or yearly intervals; distinguishable from life insurance contract which looks to longevity, while annuity looks to transiency. Helvering v. LeGierse, 312 U.S. 531, 541, 61 S.Ct. 646, 85 L.Ed. 996. Straight annuity contract calls for a fixed amount of payment as distinguished from the variable annuity.

Straight life annuity. See Life annuity; Straight annuity, supra.

Survivorship annuity. See Joint and survivorship annuity, supra.

Variable annuity. A contract calling for payments to the annuitant in varying amounts depending on the success of the investment policy of the insurance company; unlike a straight annuity which requires the payment of a fixed amount. Purpose of this type of annuity is to offset deflated value of dollar caused by inflation.

Annuity policy. An insurance policy providing for monthly payments to insured to begin at fixed date and continue through insured’s life. Hamilton v. Penn Mut. Life Ins. Co., 196 Miss. 345, 17 So.2d 278, 280.

Annuity trust. A form of trust calling for payment of a fixed amount of income regardless of the amount of principal. In re McQueen’s Will, 65 N.Y.S.2d 201, 205.

Annul /ənəl/. To reduce to nothing; annihilate; obliterate; to make void or of no effect; to nullify; to abolish; to do away with. To cancel; destroy; abrogate. To annul a judgment or judicial proceeding is to deprive it of all force and operation, either ab initio or prospectively as to future transactions.


Annum. Year.

Annum, diem, et vastum /ˌænəm, dɪˈæm, æt vɪˈɛstəm/. See Year, day, and waste.

Annus /ˌænəs/. Lat. In civil and old English law, a year; the period of three hundred and sixty-five days. See Annual.

Annus, dies, et vastum /ˌænəs, dɪˈæiz, æt vɪˈɛstəm/. In old English law, year, day, and waste. See Year, day, and waste.

Annus est mora motus quo suum planeta pervolvat circulum /ˌænəs e̱st mərə məˈwədz kəˌwɔlw s(ˈy)uˈwam pərˈvɔlvət sərk(ˈy)ələm/. A year is the duration of the motion by which a planet revolves through its orbit.

Annus et dies /ˌænəs æt dɪˈæiz/. A year and a day.

Annus inceptus pro completo habetur /ˌænəs ɪnˈsɛptəs prəˌkəmpləˈto habətər/. A year begun is held as completed.

Annus luctus /ˌænəs lʊkˈtəs/. The year of mourning. It was a rule among the Romans, and also the Danes and Saxons, that widows should not marry infra annum luctus (within the year of mourning).

Annus utilis /ˌænəs juˈwɪdələs/. A year made up of available or serviceable days. In the plural, anni utilis signifies the years during which a right can be exercised or a prescription grow. In prescription, the period of incapacity of a minor, etc., was not counted; it was no part of the anni utilis.

Annuus reditus /ˌænəs rɪˈdətəs/. A yearly rent; annuity. 2 Bl.Comm. 41.

Anomalous /ˌænəˈmələs/. Deviating from common rule, method, or type. Irregular; exceptional; abnormal; unusual.

Anomalous indorser /ˌænəˈmələs ɪndəˈsər/. A stranger to a note, who indorses it after its execution and delivery but before maturity, and before it has been endorsed by the payee.

Anomalous pleia /ˌænəˈmələs pɪˈleɪə/. One which is partly affirmative and partly negative.

Anon., An., A /ˈænən/. Abbreviations for anonymous.
A non posse ad non esse sequitur argumentum necessarlie negative, licet non affirmativae /éy nón pósíy žé
nón éstiy sékwadár árgyámántam néesáréiivi négá-
táiyi, láyts nón sfrmatáiyi/. A literal translation—
From impossibility to non-existence the inference fol-
lowers necessarily in the negative, though not in the
affirmative—is as ambiguous as the original. It
could be translated thus: The negative inference of
non-existence necessarily follows from impossibility
of existence, but the affirmative inference of exist-
cence cannot be drawn from mere possibility.

Anonymous. Nameless; lacking a name or names; e.g.
a publication, article, or the like, without any designa-
tion of authorship; an unsigned letter; a tip from an
unknown service.

Another. Additional. Distinct or different.

Another action pending. See Autre action pendant.

Anoysance /ánóýzans/. Annoyance; nuisance.

Ansel, ansul, or auncel /ónsal/. In old English law, an
ancient mode of weighing by hanging scales or hooks
at either end of a beam or staff, which, being lifted
with one's finger or hand by the middle, showed the
equality or difference between the weight at one end
and the thing weighed at the other.

Answer. As a verb, the word denotes an assumption of
liability, as to "answer" for the debt or default of
another. See also Affimative defense; Defense; De-
nial; Supplemental answer.

Discovery. A person who fails to answer, or answers
evasively or incompletely, deposition or interrogatory
questions, may be compelled to do so under Fed.R.
Civil P. 37.

Frivolous answer. See Sham answer, infra.

Irrelevant answer. One that has no substantial rela-
tion to the controversy; distinguishable from a sham
answer. Such may be ordered stricken under Fed.R.
Civil P. 12(f).

Pleading. A pleading by which defendant endeavors
to resist the plaintiff's demand by an allegation of
facts, either denying allegations of plaintiff's com-
plaint or confessing them and alleging new matter in
avoidance, which defendant alleges should prevent
recovery on facts alleged by plaintiff. In pleading,
under the Codes and Rules of Civil Procedure, the
answer is the formal written statement made by a
defendant setting forth the grounds of his defense;
corresponding to what in actions under the common-
law practice is called the "plea." See Fed.R. Civil P.
8 and 12.

Under Fed.R.Civil P. 12, a person may use an an-
swer to set up all defenses, but he also has the option
to use a motion to assert certain defenses.

In chancery pleading, the term denotes a defense in
writing, made by a defendant to the allegations con-
tained in a bill or information filed by the plaintiff
against him.

Sham answer. One sufficient on its face but so
clearly false that it presents no real issue to be tried.
One good in form, but false in fact and not pleaded in
good faith. A frivolous answer, on the other hand, is
one which on its face sets up no defense, although it
may be true in fact.

Antapocha /ántépóka/. In the Roman law, a transcript
or counterpart of the instrument called "apochae" (q.v.), signed by the debtor and delivered to the credi-
tor.

Ante. Lat. Before. Usually employed in old pleadings
as expressive of time, as pre (before) was of place, and
coram (before) of person.

Occurring in a report or a text-book, it is used to refer
the reader to a previous part of the book. Syn-

ononymous to "supra"; opposite of "post" or "infra."

Antea /ántéïs/. Lat. Formerly; heretofore.

Antecedent /ántéasiyd/. Prior in point of time.

Antecedent claim. In law of negotiable instruments, a
holder takes for value if he takes the instrument for
an antecedent claim against any person whether or
not the claim is due. U.C.C. § 3–303(b).

Antecedent creditors. Those whose debts are created
before the debtor makes a transfer not lodged for
record.

Antecedent debt. In contract law, that which may or
may not furnish consideration for a new contract to
pay. A negotiable instrument given for an anteced-
ent debt is supported by adequate consideration.
U.C.C. § 3–408.

In bankruptcy law, a debt which is incurred before
four months prior to filing of bankruptcy petition and
hence is not a preference. Bankruptcy Act (1898),
§ 60a.

Antecessor /ántésséris/. An ancestor (q.v.).

Antedate. To affix an earlier date; to date an instrum-
ent as of a time before the time it was written.
Such does not affect the negotiability of the instru-
ment. U.C.C. § 3–114.

Ante exhibitionem billie /ántíy ekshabishiyównam billiy/.
Before the exhibition of the bill. Before suit begun.

Ante-factum /ántíy-féktyam/ or ante-gestum /ántíy-
jéstam/. Done before. A Roman law term for a
previous act, or thing done before.

Antejuramentum /ántíyjúramántam/. In Saxon law, a
preliminary or preparatory oath (called also "preju-
ramentum," and "juramentum calumniae," (q.v.),
which both the accuser and accused were required to
make before any trial or purgation; the accuser
swearing that he would prosecute the criminal, and
the accused making oath on the very day that he was
to undergo the ordeal that he was innocent of the
crime with which he was charged.

Ante litem motam /ántíy lýadým mówdám/. At time
when declarant had no motive to disturb truth.
Before suit brought, before controversy instituted.
Also, before the controversy arose.

Ante mortem interest /ántíy mórdám intógróst/. Inter-
ests existing only prior to, and not after, transferor's
death.

Antenati /ántíynéyday/.

Ante natus /ántíy néyday/. Born before. A person
born before another person or before a particular
event. The term is particularly applied to one born in a country before a revolution, change of government or dynasty, or other political event, such that the question of his rights, status, or allegiance will depend upon the date of his birth. In this event, the term commonly denotes one born before the act of union with Scotland; in America, one born before the declaration of independence. Its opposite is post natus, one born after the event.

Antenuptial /əntjuːˈnɒptʃəl/. Made or done before a marriage.

Antenuptial agreement. A contract between spouses made in contemplation of marriage. Antenuptial agreements are generally entered into by people about to enter marriage in an attempt to resolve issues of support, distribution of wealth and division of property in the event of the death of either or the failure of the proposed marriage resulting in either separation or divorce. Commonly, within the statute of frauds which requires a writing and signing to be enforceable, the consideration must be adequate. Kosik v. George, 253 Or. 15, 452 P.2d 560. See also Antenuptial settlements.

Antenuptial gift. A transfer of property from one party to the marriage to the other before the marriage without consideration.

Antenuptial settlements. Contracts or agreements between a man and woman before marriage, but in contemplation and generally in consideration of marriage, whereby the property rights and interests of either the prospective husband or wife, or both of them, are determined, or where property is secured to either or both of them, or to their children. In re Carnevale’s Will, 248 A.D. 62, 289 N.Y.S. 185, 188. See Antenuptial agreement; Palimony.

Antenuptial will. A will executed by a person prior to his marriage. Such will is generally deemed revoked unless it appears on the face of the will that it is in contemplation of marriage.

Anthropometry /ænθrəpɒmətrɪ/. In criminal law and medical jurisprudence, the measurement of the human body. A system of measuring the dimensions of the human body, both absolutely and in their proportion to each other, the facial, cranial, and other angles, the shape and size of the skull, etc., for purposes of comparison with corresponding measurements of other individuals, and serving for the identification of the subject in cases of doubtful or disputed identity. It was largely adopted after its introduction in France in 1883, but fell into disfavor as being costly and as liable to error. It has given place to the “finger print” system devised by Francis Galton. See Bertillon System.

Antichresis /æntiˈkriːzɪs/. In the civil law, a species of mortgage, or pledge of immovables. An agreement by which the debtor gives to the creditor the income from the property which he has pledged, in lieu of the interest on his debt. In the French law, if the income was more than the interest, the debtor was entitled to demand an account of the income, and might claim any excess.

By the law of Louisiana, there are two kinds of pledges,—the pawn and the antichresis. A pawn relates to movables, and the antichresis to immovables. The antichresis must be reduced to writing; and the creditor thereby acquires the right to the fruits, etc., of the immovables, deducting yearly their proceeds from the interest, in the first place, and afterwards from the principal of his debt. He is bound to pay taxes on the property, and keep it in repair, unless the contrary is agreed. The creditor does not become the proprietor of the property by failure to pay at the agreed time, and any clause to that effect is void. He can only sue the debtor, and obtain sentence for sale of the property. The possession of the property is, however, by the contract, transferred to the creditor. La.Civil Code Arts. 3176–3181. The “antichresis” is an antiquated contract, and has been resorted to in Louisiana in but a few instances.

Anticipation. Act of doing or taking a thing before its proper time. To do, take up, or deal with, before another; to preclude or prevent by prior action; to be before in doing.

In conveyancing, the act of assigning, charging, or otherwise dealing with income before it becomes due.

In patent law, a person is said to have been anticipated when he patents a contrivance already known within the limits of the country granting the patent. Topliff v. Topliff, 145 U.S. 156, 12 S.Ct. 825, 36 L.Ed. 658. Defense of “anticipation” in suit for patent infringement is made out when, except for insubstantial differences, the prior patent contains all of the same elements operating in the same fashion to perform an identical function. Ropat Corp. v. West Bend Co., D.C.III., 382 F.Supp. 1030, 1036. Unless all of the same elements are found in exactly same situation and are united in same way to perform identical function in a single prior art reference, there is no “anticipation” which will invalidate that patent. Ceramic Tilers Supply, Inc. v. Tile Council of America, Inc., C.A.Cal., 378 F.2d 283, 284.

In law of negligence, “anticipation” is not confined to expectation. It means probability, not possibility, as applied to duty to anticipate consequences of conduct attacked as negligent. Empire Dist. Electric Co. v. Harris, C.C.A.Mo., 82 F.2d 48, 52.

Anticipation note. Discount or rebate for prepayment.

Anticipatory breach of contract. Such occurs when the promisor without justification and before he has committed a breach makes a positive statement to promise indicating he will not or cannot perform his contractual duties. Daun v. Superior Court, Sutter County, 228 C.A.2d 283, 39 Cal.Rptr. 443, 446.

The right of one party to a contract to sue for breach before the date set for performance when the other party conveys his intention not to perform (U.C.C. § 2–610), though the repudiating party may retract his repudiation prior to date for performance if the other party has not acted on the repudiation (U.C.C. § 2–611). Some jurisdictions require the aggrieved party to wait for the date for performance before commencing suit.

Anticipatory nuisance. The right in equity to prevent a condition from becoming a nuisance by injunction or other order of the court.
ANTICIPATORY OFFENSE

Anticipatory offense. A crime which has as its object a further crime, such as an attempt, a conspiracy, a solicitation, all of which are crimes in themselves.

Anticipatory repudiation. See Anticipatory breach of contract.

Anti-deficiency legislation. Statutes which are enacted to provide revenue when a budget deficiency is created.


Anti-dumping duty. Tariff, purpose of which is to prevent imports of goods for sale at a lower price than that charged in the country of origin. See Dumping Act.

Antigraphus. In Roman law, an officer whose duty it was to take care of tax money. A comptroller.

Antigraphy. A copy or counterpart of a deed.

Anti-lapse statute. Legislation enacted in most jurisdictions to provide for the testamentary passing of property to heirs and next of kin of the designated legatee or devisee if he dies before the testator, thus preventing a lapse of the legacy and the passing of such property through intestacy to the heirs and next of kin of the testator.

Anti manifesto. A term used in international law to denote a proclamation or manifesto published by one of two belligerent powers, alleging reasons why the war is defensive on its part.

Antinomia. In Roman law, a real or apparent contradiction or inconsistency in the laws. Conflicting laws or provisions of law; inconsistent or conflicting decisions or cases.

Antonymy. A term used in logic and law to denote a real or apparent inconsistency or conflict between two authorities or propositions; same as antinomia (q.v.).

Antiqua custuma. In Old English law, an export duty on wool, woollens, and leather, imposed during the reign of Edw. I. It was so called by way of distinction from an increased duty on the same articles, payable by foreign merchants, which was imposed at a later period of the same reign and was called "custuma nova."

Antique /éntakvéri/. In Roman law, to restore a former law or practice; to reject or vote against a new law; to prefer the old law. Those who voted against a proposed law wrote on their ballots the letter "A," the initial of antiquo, I am for the old law.

Antiqua statuta. Also called "Vetera Statuta." English statutes from the time of Richard I to Edward III. See Nova statuta.

Antiquum dominicum. In Old English law, ancient desmesne.


Antithetarius. In Old English law, a man who endeavors to discharge himself of the crime of which he is accused, by retorting the charge on the accuser. He differs from an approver in this: that the latter does not charge the accuser, but others.

Antitrust acts. Federal and state statutes to protect trade and commerce from unlawful restraints, price discriminations, price fixing, and monopolies. Most states have mini-antitrust acts patterned on the federal acts. The principal federal antitrust acts are: Sherman Act (1890); Clayton Act (1914); Federal Trade Commission Act (1914); Robinson-Patman Act (1936). See Boycott; Combination in restraint of trade; Price fixing; Restraint of trade; Rule (Rule of reason).


Anxiety. An unpleasant affective state with the expectation but not the certainty of something happening; sometimes manifested as a sense of fear, poorly understood by the subject, which arises without justifiable cause; anxious state may have overtones of "impending" danger rather than present danger. See Phobia.

Any. Some; one out of many; an indefinite number. One indiscriminately of whatever kind or quantity. Federal Deposit Ins. Corporation v. Winton, C.C.A. Tenn., 131 F.2d 780, 782. One or some (indeed). Siegel v. Siegel, 135 N.J.Eq. 5, 37 A.2d 57, 58. "Any" does not necessarily mean only one person, but may have reference to more than one or to many. Doerty v. King, Tex.Civ.App., 183 S.W.2d 1004, 1007.

Word "any" has a diversity of meaning and may be employed to indicate "all" or "every" as well as "some" or "one" and its meaning in a given statute depends upon the context and the subject matter of the statute. Donohue v. Zoning Bd. of Appeals of Town of Norwalk, 155 Conn. 550, 235 A.2d 643, 646, 647.

It is often synonymous with "either", "every", or "all". Its generality may be restricted by the context; thus, the giving of a right to do some act "at any time" is commonly construed as meaning within a reasonable time; and the words "any other" following the enumeration of particular classes are to be read as "other such like," and include only others of like kind or character.

A.O.C. Anno orbis conditi, the year of the creation of the world.

A.P.A. Administrative Procedure Act.

A pais. To the country; at issue.

Apanage. In Old French law, a provision of lands or feudal superiorities assigned by the kings of France for the maintenance of their younger sons. An allowance assigned to a prince of the reigning house for his proper maintenance out of the public treasury.

Apartment house. A building arranged in several suites of connecting rooms, each suite designed for indepen-
dent housekeeping, but with certain mechanical conveniences, such as heat, light, or elevator services, in common to all families occupying the building. Sometimes called a flat or flat house.

**Apatisatio** /apədzé'ysh(ɪ)ə/w/. An agreement or compact.

**A.P.C.** Alien Property Custodian.

**A.P.C.N.** Anno post Christum natum, the year after the birth of Christ.

**Aperta brevia** /apə́rdə bɾiːviə/ Open, unsealed writs.

**Apertum factum** /apərdəm fæktəm/. An overt act.

**Apertura testamenti** /əpərtura tɛstamɛntitʃ/ In the civil law, a form of proving a will, by the witnesses acknowledging before a magistrate their having sealed it.

**Apex.** The summit or highest point of anything; the top; e.g., in mining law, "apex of a vein." See Larkin v. Upton, 144 U.S. 19, 12 S.Ct. 614, 36 L.Ed. 330. An "apex" is all that portion of a terminal edge of a mineral vein from which the vein has extension downward in the direction of the dip. Stewart Mining Co. v. Ontario Mining Co., 237 U.S. 350, 35 S.Ct. 610, 614, 59 L.Ed. 989. Or it is the juncture of two dipping limbs of a fissure vein. Jim Butler Tonopah Mining Co. v. West End Consol. Mining Co., 247 U.S. 450, 38 S.Ct. 574, 576, 62 L.Ed. 1207.

**Apex juris** /əpə́pɛks jʊrɪs/. The summit of the law; a legal subtlety; a nice or cunning point of law; close technicality; a rule of law carried to an extreme point, either of severity or refinement. A term used to denote a stricter application of the rules of law than is indicated by the phrase *summum jus* (q.v.).

**Apex rule.** In mining law, the mineral laws of the United States give to the locator of a mining claim on the public domain the whole of every vein the apex of which lies within its surface exterior boundaries, or within perpendicular planes drawn downward indefinitely on the planes of those boundaries; and he may follow a vein which thus apexes within his boundaries, on its dip, although it may so far depart from the perpendicular in its course downward as to extend outside the vertical side-lines of his location; but he may not go beyond his end-lines or vertical planes drawn downward therefrom. This is called the apex rule. 30 U.S.C.A. § 26.

**Aphasia** /əfəˈziːə/ Loss of the faculty or power of articulate speech; a condition in which the patient, while retaining intelligence and understanding and with the organs of speech unimpaired, is unable (in "motor aphasia") to utter articulate words, or unable to vocalize the particular word which is in his mind and which he wishes to use, or utters words different from those he believes himself to be speaking, or (in "sensory aphasia" or apraxia) is unable to understand spoken or written language. *Sensory aphasia* includes word blindness and word deafness, visual and auditory aphasia. *Motor aphasia* often includes agraphia, or the inability to write words of the desired meaning. The seat of the disease is in the brain, but it is not a form of insanity.

**Aphonia** /əˈfɔniə/. Loss of the power of articulate speech in consequence of defective conditions of some of the vocal organs. It may be incomplete, in which case the patient can whisper. It is to be distinguished from congenital inability to speak, and from temporary loss of voice through extreme hoarseness or minor affections of the vocal cords, as also from aphasia, the latter being a disease of the brain without impairment of the organs of speech.

**Apicles juris non sunt jura [jus]** /əˈpiːsəˌʃiʃ ʝʊrə nɔ̃ sənt jʊrə/ Extremities, or mere subtleties of law are not rules of law [are not law]. Legal principles must not be carried to their extreme consequences, without regard for equity and good sense. See *Apex juris*.

**Aplices litigandi** /əˈpiːsəˌʃiʃ ˈlɪdʒəˌɡəndi/ Extremely fine points, or subtleties of litigation. Nearly equivalent to the modern phrase "sharp practice." "It is unconscionable in a defendant to take advantage of the *aplices litigandi*, to turn a plaintiff around and make him pay costs when his demand is just." Per Lord Mansfield, in 3 Burr. 1243.

**A piratis aut latronibus capti liberi permanent** /əˈpiːrədəs ɔt ˌlætrəˈnʌbəs kæptə ˈlɪbəri pərˈmɛntəm/. Persons taken by pirates or robbers remain free.

**A piratis et latronibus capta dominum non mutant** /əˈpiːrədəs ɛt ˌlætrəˈnʌbəs kæpta dəˈmɪniəm nɔn ˈmjuːətəntə/. Capture by pirates and robbers does not change title. No right to booty vests in piratical captors; no right can be derived from them by recaptors to the prejudice of the original owners.

**Apeona** /əˈpiːniə/. Want of breath; difficulty in breathing; partial or temporary suspension of respiration; specifically, such difficulty of respiration resulting from over-oxygenation of the blood, and in this distinguished from "asphyxia" (q.v.), which is a condition resulting from a deficiency of oxygen in the blood due to suffocation or any serious interference with normal respiration. The two terms were formerly (but improperly) used synonymously.

**Apolo (also Apoca)** /əˈpəksə/. Lat. In the civil law, a writing acknowledging payments; acquittance. It differs from acceptance in this: that acceptance imports a complete discharge of the former obligation whether payment be made or not; *apoca*, discharge only upon payment being made. See *Antapoca*.

**Apoloha oneratorie** /əˈpəskɨɔ oˈnɹeɾəˈtɾiːɪʃi/. In old commercial law, bills of lading.

**Aporcrisarius** /əˈpəskɾɪsrɪəˈrɪs/. In civil law, a messenger; an ambassador.

In ecclesiastical law, one who answers for another. An officer whose duty was to carry to the emperor messages relating to ecclesiastical matters, and to take back his answer to the petitioners. An officer who gave advice on questions of ecclesiastical law. An ambassador or legate of a pope or bishop. A messenger sent to transact ecclesiastical business and report to his superior; an officer who had charge of the treasury of a monastic edifice; an officer who took charge of opening and closing the doors.

**Aporcrisarius cancellarius** /əˈpəskɾɪsrɪəˈrɪs kɛnˈsɛlərɪʃi/. In the civil law, an officer who took
charge of the royal seal and signed royal dispatches. Called, also, secretarius, consiliarius (from his giving advice); referendarius; a consiliis (from his acting as counsellor); a responsis, or responsalis.

Apographia /əˈpəɡrəfiə/. In civil law, an examination and enumeration of things possessed; an inventory.

Apoplexy /əˈpəplɛksɪ/. The failure of consciousness and suspension of voluntary motion from suspension of the functions of the cerebrum. The group of symptoms arising from rupture of a minute artery and consequent hemorrhage into the substance of the brain or from the lodgment of a minute clot in one of the cerebral arteries.

Apostacy (also spelled Apostasy). The total renunciation of Christianity, by embracing either a false religion or no religion at all. In old English law, this offense could take place only in such as had once professed the Christian religion. 4 Bl.Comm. 43.

Apostata /əˈpəstətə/. In civil and old English law, an apostate; a deserter from the faith; one who has renounced the Christian faith.

Apostata capiendo /əˈpəstətə kæpɪˈliːndə/. An obsolete English writ which accused against an apostate, or one who had violated the rules of his religious order. It was addressed to the sheriff, and commanded him to deliver the defendant into the custody of the abbot or prior.

A posteriori /əˈpəstərɔriə/. Lat. From the effect to the cause; from what comes after. A term used in logic to denote an argument founded on experiment or observation, or one which, taking ascertained facts as an effect, proceeds by synthesis and induction to demonstrate their cause.

Apostille, or appostille /əˈpɒstɛl/. L. Fr. An addition; a marginal note or observation.

Apostles. In English admiralty practice, a term borrowed from the civil law, denoting brief dismissory letters granted to a party who appeals from an inferior to a superior court, embodying a statement of the case and a declaration that the record will be transmitted.

Apostoli /əˈpɒstɔlɪ/. In civil law, certificates of the inferior judge from whom a cause is removed, directed to the superior. See Apostles.

Apostolus /əˈpɒstələs/. A messenger; an ambassador, legate, or nuncio.

Apotheca /əˈpɔθiːkə/. In the civil law, a repository; a place of deposit, as of wine, oil, books, etc.

Apparator /əˈpærətər/. A furnisher or provider. Formerly the sheriff, in England, had charge of certain county affairs and disbursements, in which capacity he was called "apparator comitatus" (apparator for the county), and received therefor a considerable emolument.

Apparent. That which is obvious, evident, or manifest; what appears, or has been made manifest. That which appears to the eye or mind; open to view; plain; patent. In respect to facts involved in an appeal or writ of error, that which is stated in the record. See also Appear on face.

Apparent agency. See Agency.

Apparent authority. In the law of agency, such authority as the principal knowingly or negligently permits the agent to assume, or which he holds the agent out as possessing. Such authority as he appears to have by reason of the actual authority which he has. Such authority as a reasonably prudent man, using diligence and discretion, in view of the principal's conduct, would naturally suppose the agent to possess. Finnegan Constr. Co. v. Robino-Ladd Co., 354 A.2d 142, 144. Such authority as a principal intentionally or by want of ordinary care causes or allows third person to believe that agent possesses. Lewis v. Michigan Milers Mut. Ins. Co., 154 Conn. 660, 228 A.2d 803, 806. It includes the power to do whatever is usually done and necessary to be done in order to carry into effect the principal power conferred.

The power to affect the legal relations of another person by transactions with third persons, professedly as agent for the other, arising from and in accordance with the other's manifestations to such third persons. Restatement, Second, Agency § 8.

Apparent danger. As used with reference to the doctrine of self-defense in homicide, means such overt actual demonstration, by conduct and acts, of a design to take life or do some great personal injury, as would make the killing apparently necessary to self-preservation.

Apparent defects. Those defects in goods which can be discovered by simple inspection; see U.C.C. § 2–605. Also, may refer to title defects which appear on the record. See Patent (Patent defect).

Apparent easement. See Easement.

Apparent heir. One whose right of inheritance is indefeasible, provided he outlives the ancestor. To be contrasted with presumptive heir whose claim to inheritance is defeated on the birth of an heir closer in relationship to the ancestor, though at a given point in time the heir presumptive is entitled to the inheritance.

Apparent necessity. See Apparent danger.

Apparitor /əˈpærətər/. In old English law, an officer or messenger employed to serve the process of the spiritual courts and summon offenders.

In the civil law, an officer who waited upon a magistrate or superior officer, and executed his commands.

Apparlement /əˈpærəlɛmənt/. In old English law, resemblance; likelihood; as apparlement of war.

Apparura /əˈpərərə/. In old English law, the apparura were furniture, implements, tackle, or apparel.

App. Ct. Appellate Court.

Appeal. Resort to a superior (i.e. appellate) court to review the decision of an inferior (i.e. trial) court or administrative agency. There are two stages of appeal in the federal and many state court systems; to wit, appeal from trial court to intermediate appellate court and then to Supreme Court. There may also be several levels of appeal within an administrative agency; e.g. appeal from decision of Administrative
Law Judge to Appeals Council in social security case. In addition, an appeal may be taken from an administrative agency to a trial court (e.g. from Appeals Council in social security case to U.S. district court). Also, an appeal may be as of right (e.g. from trial court to intermediate appellate court) or only at the discretion of the appellate court (e.g. by writ of certiorari to U.S. Supreme Court). Provision may also exist for joint or consolidated appeals (e.g. Fed.R.App.P. 3) and for cross appeals (where both parties to a judgment appeal therefrom).

Appeal was also the name formerly given to the proceeding in English law where a person, indicted of treason or felony, and arraigned for the same, confessed the fact before plea pleaded, and appealed, or accused others, his accomplices in the same crime, in order to obtain his pardon. In this case he was called an “approver” or “prover,” and the party appealed or accused, the “appellee.”

See also Consolidated appeal; Courts of Appeals, U.S.; Cross appeal; Interlocutory appeal; Interlocutory Appeals Act; Limited appeal.

Appealable order. A decree or order which is sufficiently final to be entitled to appellate review, as contrasted with an interlocutory order which generally is not appealable until the case has been tried and judgment entered, e.g. a denial of motion for summary judgment is not appealable but the allowance of such motion is a final judgment and hence appealable. Fed.R.Civ.P. 56.

Appeal bond. The bond given on taking an appeal, by which the appellant and his sureties are bound to pay costs if he fails to prosecute the appeal with effect. See e.g. Fed.R.App.P. 7.

Appeal in forma pauperis /apɪl in fɔrˈmɑː pəˈpærəs/. A privilege given indigent person to prosecute an appeal, otherwise and independently allowable, without payment of fees and costs incident to such prosecution. See e.g. Fed.R.App.P. 24.

Appeal record. See Record (on appeal).

Appeals council. Body to which appeal is taken from finding and ruling of administrative law judge in social security matters. 42 U.S.C.A. § 405(b).

Appeals courts. See Appellate court; Court of Appeals, U.S.; Court of Customs and Patent Appeals; Court of Military Appeals; Supreme Court

Appear. To be properly before a court; as a fact or matter of which it can take notice. To be in evidence; to be proved. Coming into court by a party to a suit, whether plaintiff or defendant. See Appearance.

Appearance. A coming into court as party to a suit, either in person or by attorney, whether as plaintiff or defendant. The formal proceeding by which a defendant submits himself to the jurisdiction of the court. The voluntary submission to a court’s jurisdiction.

In civil actions the parties do not normally actually appear in person, but rather through their attorneys. Also, at many stages of criminal proceedings, particularly involving minor offenses, the defendant’s attorney appears on his behalf. See e.g. Fed.R.Crim.P. 43.

An appearance may be either general or special; the former is a simple and unqualified or unrestricted submission to the jurisdiction of the court, the latter a submission to the jurisdiction for some specific purpose only, not for all the purposes of the suit. A special appearance is for the purpose of testing the sufficiency of service or the jurisdiction of the court; a general appearance is made where the defendant waives defects of service and submits to the jurisdiction. Insurance Co. of North America v. Kunin, 175 Neb. 260, 121 N.W.2d 372, 375, 376.

See also General appearance; Notice to appear.

Appearance by attorney. An act of an attorney in prosecuting an action on behalf of his client. Document filed in court in which attorney sets forth fact that he is representing a party to the action.

Appearance docket. A docket kept by the clerk of the court in which appearances are entered, containing also a brief abstract of all the proceedings in the cause.

Common law classifications. At common law an appearance could be either compulsory or voluntary, the former where it was compelled by process served on the party, the latter where it was entered by his own will or consent, without the service of process, though process may be outstanding. Also, optional when entered by a person who intervened in the action to protect his own interests, though not joined as a party; conditional, when coupled with conditions as to its becoming or being taken as a general appearance; gratis, when made by a party to the action, but before the service of any process or legal notice to appear; de bene esse, when made provisionally or to remain good only upon a future contingency; or when designed to permit a party to a proceeding to refuse to submit his person to the jurisdiction of the court unless it was finally determined that he had forever waived that right; subsequent, when made by a defendant after an appearance had already been entered for him by the plaintiff; corporal, when the person was physically present in court.

Initial appearance. A court proceeding for a defendant charged with a felony, during which the judge advises the defendant of the charges against him and of his rights, decides upon bail and/or other conditions of release, and sets the date for a preliminary hearing. See e.g. Fed.R.Crim.P. 5.

Notice of appearance. A notice given by defendant to a plaintiff that he appears in the action in person or by attorney.

Appear on face. That which is clear and apparent from a reading of the document. A defect in process or venue which can be gleaned from examining the pleadings and which does not require going outside the record. See also Apparent.

Appellant. The party who takes an appeal from one court or jurisdiction to another. Used broadly or nontechnically, the term includes one who sues out a writ of error.

Appellate. Pertaining to or having cognizance of appeals and other proceedings for the judicial review of adjudications. Word “appellate” has a general meaning, and it has a specific meaning indicating the

Appellate court. A court having jurisdiction of appeal and review; a court to which causes are removable by appeal, certiorari, error or report. A reviewing court, and, except in special cases where original jurisdiction is conferred, not a "trial court" or court of first instance. See e.g. Court of Appeals; Court of Customs and Patent Appeals; Court of Military Appeals; Supreme Court.

Appellate jurisdiction. The power vested in an appellate court to review and revise the judicial action of an inferior court, evidenced by an appealable order or an appealable judgment rendered by such court. Trengen v. Mongeon, N.D., 200 N.W.2d 50, 53. The power and authority to take cognizance of a cause and proceed to its determination, not in its initial stages (i.e. original jurisdiction) but only after it has been finally decided by an inferior court, i.e., the power of review and determination on appeal, writ of error, certiorari, or other similar process. Jurisdiction on appeal; jurisdiction to revise or correct the proceedings in a cause already instituted and acted upon by an inferior court, or by a tribunal having the attributes of a court. Limits of appellate jurisdiction are governed by statutes (e.g. 28 U.S.C.A. § 1291 et seq.) or constitutions.

Appellate review. Examination of lower court proceeding by an appellate court brought about by appeal, bill of exceptions, report or certiorari. Such may also embrace review of administrative board's decision by an inferior court; e.g. review by federal district court of social security administration decision.


Appellant /æplɪˈɛʃ(ɪ)yə/. Lat. An appeal.

Appellator /æpˈlɛtər/. An old law term having the same meaning as "appellant" (q.v.).

In the civil law, the term was applied to the judge ad quem, or to whom an appeal was taken.

Appellee. The party in a cause against whom an appeal is taken; that is, the party who has an interest adverse to setting aside or reversing the judgment. Sometimes also called the "respondent." It should be noted that a party's status as appellant or appellee does not necessarily bear any relation to his status as plaintiff or defendant in the lower court.

Appello /æˈpɛloʊ/. Lat. In the civil law, "I appeal." The form of making an appeal apud acta.

Appellor /æˈpɛlər/. In old English law, a criminal who accused his accomplices, or who challenged a jury. See Approver.

Append. To add or attach.

Appendage. Something added as an accessory to or the subordinate part of another thing. See Appendant; Appendix.

Appendant. A thing annexed to or belonging to another thing and passing with it. Something added or attached.

At common law, a thing of inheritance belonging to another inheritance which is more worthy; as an advowson, common, etc., which may be appendant to a manor, common of fishing to a freehold, a seat in a church to a house, etc. It differs from appurtenance, in that appendant must ever be by prescription, i.e., a personal usage for a considerable time, while an appurtenance may be created at this day; for if a grant be made to a man and his heirs, of common in such a moor for his beasts levant or couchant upon his manor, the commons are appurtenant to the manor, and the grant will pass them.

See also Appendix; Appurtenance; Appurtenant.

Appendita /æˈpɛndɪʃ(ə)ɪtə/. The appendages or appurtenances of an estate or house, dwelling, etc.; thus, penthouses are the appendita domus.

Appendix. Supplementary materials added to appellate brief; i.e. record on appeal. In federal appellate procedure, the appellant is required to file an appendix to the briefs which shall contain the following: (1) the relevant portions of the pleadings, charge, findings or opinion; (2) the judgment, order or decision in question; and (3) any other parts of the record to which the parties wish to direct the particular attention of the court. Fed.R.App.P. 30.

Appensura /æˈpɛns(ʊ)ərə/. Payment of money by weight instead of by count.

Appertain. To belong to; to have relation to; to be appurtenant to. See Appurtenance; Appurtenant.

Appertaining. Connected with in use or occupancy.

Applicable. Fit, suitable, pertinent, or appropriate.

Applicable local law. Term used to determine the persons who come within the term heirs and is the law which would be used to ascertain the heirs of the designated ancestor if he had owned the property and had died intestate. Restatement of Law of Property, § 305, Comment e.

Applicant. An applicant, as for letters of administration, is one who is entitled thereto, and who files a petition asking that letters be granted.

Applicare /æˈplɪkəri/. Lat. In old English law, to fasten to; to moor (a vessel). Anciently rendered, "to apply."

Applicatio est vita regula /æˈplɪkəʃ(ɪ)əʊ ɛst vəɪdə ʁəɡwələ/. Application is the life of a rule.

Application. A putting to, placing before, preferring a request or petition to or before a person. The act of making a request for something. A petition. The use or disposition made of a thing. A bringing together, in order to ascertain some relation or establish some connection; as the application of a rule or principle to a case or fact. See also Apply; Petition.

Insurance. The preliminary request, declaration, or statement made by a party applying for an insurance policy, such as one on his life, or against fire.
Payments. Appropriation of a payment to some particular debt; or the determination to which of several demands a general payment made by a debtor to his creditor shall be applied.

Purchase money. The disposition made of the funds received by a trustee on a sale of real estate held under the trust.

Application of rules. Refers to area of practice governed by rules of procedure and not left to common law or statutory law.

Apply. To make a formal request or petition, usually in writing, to a court, officer, board, or company, for the granting of some favor, or of some rule or order, which is within his or their power or discretion. For example, to apply for an injunction, for a pardon, for a policy of insurance, or for a receiver. See Application; Petition.

To use or employ for a particular purpose; to appropriate and devote to a particular use, object, demand, or subject-matter. Thus, to apply payments to the reduction of interest. See Appropriate.

To use, or refer, as suitable or relative; to co-ordinate language with a particular subject-matter; as to apply the words of a statute to a particular state of facts.

The word "apply" is used in connection with statutes in two senses. When construing a statute, in describing the class of persons, things, or functions which are within its scope; as that the statute does not "apply" to transactions in interstate commerce. When discussing the use made of a statute, in referring to the process by which the statute is made operative; as where the jury is told to "apply" the statute of limitation if they find that the cause of action arose before a given date.

Appoint. To designate, ordain, prescribe, constitute, or nominate. To allot or set apart. To assign authority to a particular use, task, position, or office.

Term is used where exclusive power and authority is given to one person, officer, or body to name persons to hold certain offices. It is usually distinguished from "elect," meaning to choose by a vote of the qualified voters of the city; though this distinction is not invariably observed.

See also Appointment.

Appointee. A person who is appointed or selected for a particular purpose; as the appointee under a power of appointment is the person who is to receive the benefit of the power.

Appointment. The designation of a person, by the person or persons having authority therefor, to discharge the duties of some office or trust. In re Nicholson's Estate, 104 Colo. 561, 93 P.2d 880, 884. See Illusory appointment; Power of appointment.

The exercise of a right to designate the person or persons who are to take the use of real estate. The act of a person in directing the disposition of property, by limiting a use, or by substituting a new use for a former one, in pursuance of a power granted to him for that purpose by a preceding deed, called a "power of appointment"; also the deed or other instrument by which he so conveys. Where the power embraces several permitted objects, and the appointment is made to one or more of them, excluding others, it is called "exclusive."

Appointment may signify an appropriation of money to a specific purpose. It may also mean the arranging of a meeting.

Office or public function. The selection or designation of a person, by the person or persons having authority therefor, to fill an office or public function and discharge the duties of the same. The term "appointment" is to be distinguished from "election." "Election" to office usually refers to vote of people, whereas "appointment" relates to designation by some individual or group. Board of Education of Boyle County v. McChesney, 235 Ky. 692, 32 S.W.2d 26, 27.

Appointment, power of. See Power of appointment.

Appointor. The person who appoints, or executes a power of appointment; as appointee is the person to whom or in whose favor an appointment is made. One authorized by the donor, under the statute of uses, to execute a power.

Apport. L. Fr. In old English law, tax; tallage; tribute; imposition; payment; charge; expenses.

Apportion. To divide and distribute proportionally.

Apportionment /spərˈʃənmənt/. Determination of the number of representatives which a State, county, or other subdivision may send to a legislative body. The U.S. Constitution provides for a census every ten years, on the basis of which Congress apportions representatives according to population; but each State must have at least one representative. "Districting" is the establishment of the precise geographical boundaries of each such unit or constituency. Seamans v. Fedourch, 16 N.Y.2d 94, 262 N.Y.S.2d 444, 209 N.E.2d 778, 779. Apportionment by state statute which denies the rule of one-man, one-vote is violative of equal protection of laws. Baker v. Carr, 369 U.S. 186, 82 S.Ct. 691, 7 L.Ed.2d 663. See also Legislative apportionment; Reapportionment.

The allocation of a charge or cost such as real estate taxes between two parties, often in the same ratio as the respective times that the parties are in possession or ownership of property during the fiscal period for which the charge is made or assessed.

Contracts. The allowance, in case of a severable contract, partially performed, of a part of the entire consideration proportioned to the degree in which the contract was carried out.

Corporate shares. The pro tanto division among the subscribers of the shares allowed to be issued by the charter, where more than the limited number have been subscribed for.

Estate taxes. Unless the will otherwise provides, taxes shall be apportioned among all persons interested in the estate. The apportionment is to be made in the proportion that the value of the interest of each person interested in the estate bears to the total value of the interests of all persons interested in the estate. The values used in determining the tax are to be used for that purpose. If the decedent's will directs a method of apportionment of tax different from the method described in the Probate Code, the method
APPORTIONMENT

described in the will controls. Uniform Probate Code, § 3–916(b).

Incumbences. Where several persons are interested in an estate, apportionment, as between them, is the determination of the respective amounts which they shall contribute towards the removal of the incumbence.

Liability. Legal responsibility of parties to a transaction or tort may be distributed or apportioned among them by statute or by agreement. See Comparative negligence; Contribution.

Rent. The allotment of shares in a rent to each of several parties owning it. The determination of the amount of rent to be paid when the tenancy is terminated at some period other than one of the regular intervals for the payment of rent.

Representatives. The determination upon each decennial census of the number of representatives in congress which each state shall elect, the calculation being based upon the population. See U.S.Const., Art. 1, § 2; Amend. 14, § 2.

Taxes. The apportionment of a tax consists in a selection of the subjects to be taxed, and in laying down the rule by which to measure the contribution which each of these subjects shall make to the tax.

Apportionment clause. Insurance policy clause which distributes insurance in proportion to the total coverage.

Apports en nature /apɔrʦ ɔn nɔtju/. In French law, that which a partner brings into the partnership other than cash; for instance, securities, realty or personality, cattle, stock, or even his personal ability and knowledge.

Apportum /apɔrdam/. In old English law, the revenue, profit, or emolument which a thing brings to the owner. Commonly applied to a corodry or pension.

Apposer /apɔwzar/. In old English law, an officer in the exchequer, clothed with the duty of examining the sheriffs in respect of their accounts. Usually called the "foreign apposer." The office is now abolished.

Appostille, or apostille /apɔstal/. In French law, an addition or annotation made in the margin of a writing.

Appraisal. A valuation or an estimation of value of property by disinterested persons of suitable qualifications. The process of ascertaining a value of an asset or liability that involves expert opinion rather than explicit market transactions. See also Appraise.

Appraisal clause. Clause in insurance policy providing that the insurer has the right to demand an appraisal of the loss or damage.

Appraisal remedy. The dissenting shareholder’s appraisal remedy is essentially a statutory creation to enable shareholders who object to certain extraordinary matters to dissent and to require the corporation to buy their shares at the value immediately prior to the approval of such matter and thus to withdraw from the corporation. In different jurisdictions, the appraisal remedy often applies to sales of substantially all corporate assets other than in the regular course of business, mergers, and consolidations, more rarely to certain amendments of the articles of incorporation or miscellaneous matters, but usually not to dissolution. The appraisal remedy is often limited to shareholders of record entitled to vote on the matter.

Appraisal rights. See Appraisal remedy.

Appraise. To fix or set a price or value upon; to fix and state the true value of a thing, and, usually, in writing. To value property at what it is worth. To "appraise" money means to count. See also Appraisal.

Appraissement. A just and true valuation of property. A valuation set upon property under judicial or legislative authority. A valuation or estimation of the value of property. See also Appraisal.

Appraiser. A person selected or appointed by competent authority or interested party to make an appraisement; to ascertain and state the true value of goods or real estate. Frequently appointed in probate and condemnation proceedings; also used by condemnation authorities, banks and real estate companies to ascertain market value of real property.

Appreciable. Capable of being estimated, weighed, judged of, or recognized by the mind. Capable of being perceived or recognized by the senses. Perceptible but not a synonym of substantial.

Appreciate. To estimate justly; to set a price or value on. When used with reference to the nature and effect of an act, "appreciate" may be synonymous with "know" or "understand" or "realize."

Appreciation in value. Increase in the market value of an asset over its value at some earlier time. May be due from inflation and/or increased demand for asset.

Apprehend. To take hold of, whether with the mind (as to conceive, believe, fear, dread, understand, be conscious or sensible of), or actually and bodily (as to seize or arrest a person).

Apprehension /əprɛhɛnʃ(ə)n/ow/. Lat. In the civil and old English law, a taking hold of a person or thing; apprehension; the seizure or capture of a person.

Apprehensio /əprɛhɛnsi(ʊ)n/ow/. One of the varieties or subordinate forms of occupatio, or the mode of acquiring title to things not belonging to any one.

Apprehension. The seizure, taking, or arrest of a person on a criminal charge.

Civil law. A physical or corporal act (corpus), on the part of one who intends to acquire possession of a thing, by which he brings himself into such a relation to the thing that he may subject it to his exclusive control; or by which he obtains the physical ability to exercise his power over the thing whenever he pleases. One of the requisites to the acquisition of judicial possession, and by which, when accompanied by intention, (animus) possession is acquired.

Apprendre. A fee or profit taken or received.

Apprentice en la ley /əprɛnʦə ɔn la leɪ/. An ancient name for students at law, and afterwards applied to counsellors, apprentici ad barras, from which comes
the more modern word “barrister.” In some of the ancient law-writers the terms apprentice and barrister are synonymous.

Apprenticeship. An apprentice is a person who agrees to work for an employer for a specified time for the purpose of learning the craft, trade or profession in which the employer agrees to instruct him. In a more popular sense the term is used to convey the idea of a learner in any field of employment or business. The requirements of an apprenticeship contract both as to contents and manner of execution are prescribed by statute in a number of states. See also Articles of apprenticeship.

The term during which an apprentice is to serve; the status of an apprentice; the relation subsisting between an apprentice and his master.

Apprenticius ad legem /æpřentɪʃiəs æd lɪjɪm/. An apprentice to the law; a law student; a counsellor below the degree of serjeant. See Apprentice en la ley.

Approach. To come nearer in place or time.

Approaches. A way, passage, street, or avenue by which a place or building can be approached; an access.

Approach, right of. In international maritime law, the right of a ship of war, upon the high seas, to draw near to another vessel for the purpose of ascertaining the nationality of the latter. The Marianna Flora, 24 U.S. 1, 11 Wheat. 1, 6 L.Ed. 405. At present the right of approach has no existence apart from the right of visit.

Probation /ˌpɜːbroʊˈbɛʃən/. Denotes approval and generally includes commendation. Application of N. Y. Soul Clinic, 208 Misc. 612, 144 N.Y.S.2d 543, 545.

Appropriate. To make a thing one’s own; to make a thing the subject of property; to exercise dominion over an object to the extent, and for the purpose, of making it subservive one’s own proper use or pleasure. To prescribe a particular use for particular moneys; to designate or destine a fund or property for a distinct use or for the payment of a particular demand. Also used in the sense of distribute. In this sense it may denote the act of an executor or administrator who distributes the estate of his decedent among the legatees, heirs, or others entitled, in pursuance of his duties and according to their respective rights. See Appropriation; Expropriation.

Appropriated surplus. In accounting, portion of surplus set aside for specific purpose other than for existing liability.

Appropriation. The act of appropriating or setting apart; prescribing the destination of a thing; designating the use or application of a fund. McKenzie Const. Co. v. City of San Antonio, Tex.Civ.App., 50 S.W.2d 349, 352.

In governmental accounting, an expenditure authorized for a specified amount, purpose, and time. See also Appropriate; Misappropriation.

Appropriation of land. The act of selecting, devoting, or setting apart land for a particular use or purpose, as where land is appropriated for public buildings, military reservations, or other public uses. Taking of private property for public use in the exercise of the power of eminent domain. In this sense it may refer merely to physical occupation and contemplate payment prior thereto, in contra-distinction to “taking,” referring to a legal taking and presupposing payment after damages are due. See Condemnation; Eminent domain; Expropriation.

Appropriation of payments. The application of a payment to the discharge of a particular debt. Thus, if a creditor has two distinct debts due him from his debtor, and the latter makes a general payment on account, without specifying at the time to which debt he intends the payment to apply, it is optional for the creditor to appropriate (apply) the payment to either of the two debts he pleases.

Appropriation of water. An appropriation of water flowing on the public domain consists in the capture, impounding, or diversion of it from its natural course or channel and its actual application to some beneficial use private or personal to the appropriator, to the entire exclusion (or exclusion to the extent of the water appropriated) of all other persons. To constitute a valid appropriation, there must be an intent to apply the water to some beneficial use existing at the time or contemplated in the future, a diversion from the natural channel by means of a ditch or canal, or some other open physical act of taking possession of the water, and an actual application of it within a reasonable time to some useful or beneficial purpose.

In re Manse Spring and Its Tributaries, Nye County, 60 Nev. 262, 108 P.2d 311, 314; State of Neb. v. State of Wyo., 325 U.S. 589, 65 S.Ct. 1332, 1349, 89 L.Ed. 1815. It follows water to its original source whether through surface or subterranean streams or through percolation. Justesen v. Olsen, 86 Utah 158, 40 P.2d 802, 809; and entitles appropriator to continuing right to use water to extent of appropriation, but not beyond that reasonably required and actually used.

Public law. The act by which the legislative department of government designates a particular fund, or sets apart a specified portion of the public revenue or of the money in the public treasury, to be applied to some general object of governmental expenditure, or to some individual purchase or expense. Authority given by legislature to proper officers to apply distinctly specified sum from designated fund out of treasury in given year for specified object or demand against state. State ex rel. Murray v. Carter, 167 Okl. 473, 30 P.2d 700, 702.

A specific appropriation is an act of the legislature by which a named sum of money has been set apart in the treasury, and devoted to the payment of a particular demand.

Appropriation bill. A measure before a legislative body authorizing the expenditure of public moneys and stipulating the amount, manner, and purpose of the various items of expenditure. Appropriation bills in Congress must originate in the House. U.S.Const. Art. I, Sec. 7. See also Appropriation (Public law).

Appropriator. One who makes an appropriation; as, an appropriator of water.
APPROVAL

Approval. The act of confirming, ratifying, assenting, sanctioning, or consenting to some act or thing done by another. "Approval" implies knowledge and exercise of discretion after knowledge. McCarten v. Sanderson, 111 Mont. 407, 109 P.2d 1108, 1112. The act of a judge or magistrate in sanctioning and accepting as satisfactory a bond, security, or other instrument which is required by law to pass his inspection and receive his approbation before it becomes operative. See Affirm; Approve; Assent; Conditioning; Confirmation; Connivance; Consent; Ratification. For "sale on approval", see Sale.

Approval sales. A buyer may, by agreement, accept goods on approval, and title does not pass until he has indicated his approval. Approval is a condition precedent to passing of title and risk. U.C.C. § 2–326.

Approve. To be satisfied with; to confirm, ratify, sanction, or consent to some act or thing done by another. To sanction officially; to ratify; to confirm; to pronounce good; think or judge well of; admit the propriety or excellence of; be pleased with. Distinguishable from "authorize," meaning to permit a thing to be done in future. To take to one's proper and separate use. To improve; to enhance the value or profits of anything. To inclose and cultivate common or waste land. See also Approval; Confirmation; Ratification.

Approved indorsed notes. Notes indorsed by another person than the maker, for additional security, the indorser being satisfactory to the payee. See Accommodation paper; Accommodation party.

Approval. In English law, the improvement or partial inclosure of a common. The profits arising from the improvement of land approved.

In old English law, a practice of criminal prosecutions by which a person accused of treason or felony was permitted to exonerate himself by accusing others and escaping prosecution himself. The custom existed only in capital cases, and consisted in the accused, called "approver", being arraigned and permitted to confess before plea and appeal or accuse another as his accomplice of the same crime in order to obtain his pardon. See Approver.

Approver. L. Fr. To approve or prove; to vouch.

In old English law, an accomplice in crime who accused others of the same offense, and was admitted as a witness at the discretion of the court to give evidence against his companions in guilt. He was vulgarly called "King's Evidence." One who confessed himself guilty of felony and accused others of the same crime to save himself from punishment. If he failed to convict those he accused he was at once hung. See also Antithetarius.

In old English law, certain men sent into the several counties to increase the farms (rents) of hundreds and wapentakes, which formerly were let at a certain value to the sheriff.

Approximate. Used in the sense of an estimate merely, meaning more or less, but about and near the amount, quantity, or distance specified. Near to; about; a little more or less; close. "Approximately" is very nearly synonymous with "proximately", meaning very nearly, but not absolutely.

Approximation. Equitable doctrine by which precise terms of charitable trust can be varied under certain circumstances. Applicable to charitable trusts and employed only where on failure of trust the court finds a general charitable intent. Under this doctrine, the general intent of the donor is carried out as nearly as may be even if the particular method pointed out by him cannot be followed. Harris v. Attorney General, 31 Conn.Sup. 93, 324 A.2d 279, 283. See Cyprus.

Appraiser /əprəwɪˈrɪr/. To take to one's use or profit.

Appurtenance /æpəˈdɑːrəns/. That which belongs to something else; an adjunct; an appendage. Something annexed to another thing more worthy as principal, and which passes as incident to it, as a right of way or other easement to land; an outhouse, barn, garden, or orchard, to a house or messuage. Joplin Waterworks Co. v. Jasper County, 327 Mo. 964, 38 S.W.2d 1068, 1076. An article adapted to the use of the property to which it is connected, and which was intended to be a permanent accession to the freehold. A thing is deemed to be incidental or appurtenant to land when it is by right used with the land for its benefit, as in the case of a way, or watercourse, or of a passage for light, air, or heat from or across the land of another. See also Appendant.

Appurtenant. Belonging to; accessory or incident to; adjunct, appended, or annexed to; answering to accessorium in the civil law. Employed in leases for the purpose of including any easements or servitudes used or enjoyed with the demised premises. A thing is "appurtenant" to something else when it stands in relation of an incident to a principal and is necessarily connected with the use and enjoyment of the latter. A thing is deemed to be incidental or appurtenant to land when it is by right used with the land for its benefit, as in the case of a way, or water-course, or of a passage for light, air, or heat from or across the land of another.

APR. See Annual percentage rate.

A.P.R.C. Anno post Roman conditam, year after the foundation of Rome.

A prendre /ˈprɛndrid/. L. Fr. To take; to seize. Bref à prendre la terre, a writ to take the land. A right to take something out of the soil of another is a profit à prendre, or a right coupled with a profit. Distinguished from an easement. Sometimes written as one word, apprendre, apprendre. See Profit à prendre.

A priori /ˈprɔrrɪri/. Lat. From the cause to the effect; from what goes before. A term used in logic to denote an argument founded on analogy, or abstract considerations, or one which, positing a general principle or admitted truth as a cause, proceeds to deduce from it the effects which must necessarily follow.

A provisioni viri /ˈprɔvizʒəni vɪrɪ/. By the provision of man.

Apt. Fit; suitable; appropriate.

Apta viro /ˈæpta viroʊ/. Fit for a husband; marriageable; a woman who has reached marriageable years.
Apt words. Words proper to produce the legal effect for which they are intended; sound technical phrases.

A pud acta /ápad ákt/. Among the acts; among the recorded proceedings. In the civil law, this phrase is applied to appeals taken orally, in the presence of the judge, at the time of judgment or sentence. Credit Co., Ltd., v. Arkansas Cent. Ry. Co., 128 U.S. 258, 9 S.Ct. 107, 108, 32 L.Ed. 448.

Aqua /ákwa/. In the civil and old English law, water; sometimes a stream or water-course.

Aqua aestiva /ákwa íystíva/. In Roman law, summer water; water that was used in summer only.

Aqua cedit solo /ákwa síydat sólow/. Water follows the land. A sale of land will pass the water which covers it. 2 Bl.Comm. 18.

Aqua current /ákwa káhrenz/. Running water.

Aqua currit et debet currere, ut currere solebat /ákwa káhrat ét débat káhraráy, át káhráray sowlybat/. Water runs, and ought to run, as it has used to run. A running stream should be left to flow in its natural channel, without alteration or diversion; that water is the common and equal property of every one through whose domain it flows.

Aqua dulcis, or frisca /ákwa dálsas/*friska/. Fresh water.

Aque ductus /ákwiw dáktas/. In the civil law, a servitude which consists in the right to carry water by means of pipes or conduits over or through the estate of another.

Aqua haustus /ákwiw hóstas/. In the civil law, a servitude which consists in the right to draw water from the fountain, pool, or spring of another.

Aqua inmittendiæ /ákwiw imaténéiy/. A civil law easement or servitude, consisting in the right of one whose house is surrounded with other buildings to cast waste water upon the adjacent roofs or yards. Similar to the common law easement of ditches.

Aqua fontanea /ákwa fonténiya/. Spring water.

Aquaugium /ákweyjyam/. A canal, ditch, or water course running through marshy grounds. A mark or gauge placed in or on the banks of a running stream, to indicate the height of the water, was called "aquaugium."

Aqua profluen /ákwa prófluwenz/. Flowing or running water.

Aqua quotidiana /ákwa kwowtídýéynya/. In Roman law, daily water; water that might be drawn at all times of the year (qua quis quotidie possit uti, si vellet).

Aqua salsa /ákwa sálzsa/. Salt water.

Aquatic rights. Rights which individuals have to the use of the sea and rivers, for the purpose of fishing and navigation, and also to the soil in the sea and rivers. See Riparian rights; Water (Water rights).

Aquilian law. See Lex aquilia.

A quo /éy kwów/. Lat. From which. A court a quo (also written "a qua") is a court from which a cause has been removed. The judge a quo is the judge in such court. A term used, with the correlative ad quem (to which), in expressing the computation of time, and also of distance in space. Thus, dies a quo, the day from which and dies ad quem, the day to which, a period of time is computed. So, terminus a quo, the point or limit from which, and terminus ad quem, the point or limit to which, a distance or passage in space is reckoned.

A quo invito alliquid exigu potest /éy kwów inváydwosh éskwad égzájay powdást/. From whom something may be exacted against his will.

A.R. Anno Regni. In the year of the reign; as A. R. V. 22, (Anno Regni Victoriae Reginae vicissimo secundo) in the twenty-second year of the reign of Queen Victoria.

Arabant /áréybant/. They plowed. A term of feudal law, applied to those who held by the tenure of plowing and tilling the lord's lands within the manor.

Arable land /árabal lánd/. That which is fit for plowing or tillage, and thus is distinguishable from swamp land, which is land that is too wet for cultivation.

Arabo. In feudal law, to make oath in the church or some other holy place. All oaths were made in the church upon the relics of saints, according to the Riparian laws.


Arator. A plowman; a farmer of arable land.

Aratrum terre /áréytram téry/. In old English law, a plow of land; a plowland; as much land as could be tilled with one plow (or by a single "arator" or plowman).

Aratura terre /áratýúra téry/. The plowing of land by the tenant, or vassal, in the service of his lord.

Araturia /árat(y)úriya/. Land suitable for the plow; arable land.

Arbiter /árbdatr/. A person chosen to decide a controversy; an arbitrator, referee. A person bound to decide according to the rules of law and equity, as distinguished from an arbitrator, who may proceed wholly at his own discretion, so that it be according to the judgment of a sound man.

In the Roman law, a judge invested with a discretionary power. A person appointed by the praetor to examine and decide that class of causes or actions termed bonae fidei," and who had the power of judging according to the principles of equity, (ex aequo et bono) distinguished from the judex, (q.v.) who was bound to decide according to strict law.

Arbitrage /árbatraj/. The simultaneous purchase in one market and sale in another of a security or commodity in hope of making a profit on price differences in the different markets. See Arbitration of exchange. For "arbitrage bond", see Bond.
Arbitrament /ˈɑːrbɪtrəmənt/. The award or decision of arbitrators upon a matter of dispute, which has been submitted to them.

Arbitrament and award /ˈɑːrbɪtrəmənt ənd ˈɔwərd/. A plea to an action brought for the same cause which had been submitted to arbitration and on which an award had been made.

Arbitramentum æquum tribuit cuique suum /ar-bıtrəmɛntəm ɪˈkływəm trɪbɪˈyuːwɔt kəˈkwi kəˈsuːm/. A just arbitration renders to every one his own.

Arbitrarily. See Arbitrary.

Arbitrariness. Conduct or acts based alone upon one’s will, and not upon any course of reasoning and exercise of judgment. Garman v. Myers, 183 Okl. 141, 80 P.2d 624, 626.

Arbitrary. Means in an “arbitrary” manner, as fixed or done capriciously or at pleasure. Without adequate determining principle; not founded in the nature of things; nonrational; not done or acting according to reason or judgment; depending on the will alone; absolutely in power; capriciously; tyrannical; despotic; Cornell v. Swisher County, Tex.Civ.App., 78 S.W.2d 1072, 1074. Without fair, solid, and substantial cause; that is, without cause based upon the law, U. S. v. Lotempio, D.C.N.Y., 58 F.2d 358, 359; not governed by any fixed rules or standard. Ordinarily, “arbitrary” is synonymous with bad faith or failure to exercise honest judgment and an arbitrary act would be one performed without adequate determination of principle and one not founded in nature of things. Huey v. Davis, Tex.Civ.App., 556 S.W.2d 860, 865.

Arbitrary and capricious. Characterization of a decision or action taken by an administrative agency or inferior court meaning willful and unreasonable action without consideration or in disregard of facts or without determining principle. Elwood Investors Co. v. Behme, 79 Misc.2d 910, 361 N.Y.S.2d 488, 492.

Arbitrary power. Power to act according to one’s own will; especially applicable to power conferred on an administrative officer, who is not furnished any adequate determining principle. Fox Film Corporation v. Trumbull, D.C.Conn., 7 F.2d 715, 727.

Arbitrary punishment. That punishment which is left to the decision of the judge, in distinction from those defined by statute. See Sentence.

Arbitration /ˈɑːrbɪtrəʃən/. The reference of a dispute to an impartial (third) person chosen by the parties to the dispute who agree in advance to abide by the arbitrator’s award issued after a hearing at which both parties have an opportunity to be heard.

An arrangement for taking and abiding by the judgment of selected persons in some disputed matter, instead of carrying it to established tribunals of justice, and is intended to avoid the formalities, the delay, the expense and vexation of ordinary litigation. Wauregan Mills Inc. v. Textile Workers Union of America, A.F.L.–C.I.O., 21 Conn.Sup. 134, 146 A.2d 592, 595. Such arbitration provisions are common in union collective bargaining agreements.

The majority of the states have adopted the Uniform Arbitration Act.

A major body offering arbitration services is the American Arbitration Association (q.v.).

See also Conciliation; Mediation; Reference.

Compulsory arbitration is that which occurs when the consent of one of the parties is enforced by statutory provisions. Examples of such are state statutes requiring compulsory arbitration of labor disputes involving public employees.

Interest and grievance arbitration distinguished. Interest arbitration involves settlement of terms of a contract between the parties as contrasted with grievance arbitration which concerns the violation of interpretation of an existing contract. School Committee of Boston et al. v. Boston Teachers Union etc., 363 N.E.2d 485.

Voluntary arbitration is by mutual and free consent of the parties.

Arbitration Acts. Federal and state laws which provide for submission of disputes to process of arbitration, including labor grievances and disputes of public employees. An example of a federal Act is Title 9, U.S.C.A. § 1 et seq. which governs settlement of disputes involved in maritime transactions and commerce under federal statutes. Most states have arbitration acts, many of which are patterned on the Uniform Arbitration Act. The purpose of such acts, in general, is to validate arbitration agreements, make the arbitration process effective, provide necessary safeguards, and provide an efficient procedure when judicial assistance is necessary.

Arbitration and award. An affirmative defense to the effect that the subject matter of the action has been settled by a prior arbitration. Fed.R. Civ. P. 8(c).

Arbitration board. A panel of arbitrators appointed to hear and decide a dispute according to rules of arbitration. Such services are offered by the American Arbitration Association.

Arbitration clause. A clause inserted in a contract providing for compulsory arbitration in case of dispute as to rights or liabilities under such contract; e.g. disputes arising under union collective bargaining agreement, or disputes between consumer and retailer or manufacturer.

Arbitration of exchange. This takes place where a merchant pays his debts in one country by a bill of exchange upon another. The business of buying and selling exchange (bills of exchange) between two or more countries or markets, and particularly where the profits of such business are to be derived from a calculation of the relative value of exchange in the two countries or markets, and by taking advantage of the fact that the rate of exchange may be higher in one place than in the other at the same time. See Arbitrage.

Arbitrator. A private, disinterested person, chosen by the parties to a disputed question, for the purpose of hearing their contention, and giving judgment between them; to whose decision (award) the litigants submit themselves either voluntarily, or, in some cases, compulsorily. See Referee; Umpire.

Arbitrium /ˈɑːrbruəriəm/. The decision of an arbiter, or arbitrator; an award; a judgment.
Arbitrium est judicium /arbitriyam est juwdishiyam/. An award is a judgment.

Arbitrium est judicium boni viri, secundum quum et bonum /arbitriyam est juwdishiyam bowniy viray, sakandam lykwen at bownam/. An award is the judgment of a good man, according to justice.

Arbor civilis /'arbar siyivas/. A genealogical tree.

Arbor consanguinitatis /'arbar konseungwiniyetidas/. A table, formed in the shape of a tree, showing the genealogy of a family; e.g. the arbor civilis of the civilians and canonists.

Arbor finialis /'arbar fnaylas/. In old English law, a boundary tree; a tree used for making a boundary line.

Arcana imperii /'arkena impiriya/. State secrets. 1 Bl.Com. 337.

Arcarius /'arkeriya/. In civil and old English law, a treasurer; a keeper of public money.

Archaelonemia /'arkeysonowiya/. A collection of Saxon laws, published during the reign of Queen Elizabeth, in the Saxon language, with a Latin version by Lam bard.

Archdeaconry /'archdiykanriya/. A division of a diocese, and the circuit of an archdeacon's jurisdiction.

Archdeacon's court. In English ecclesiastical law, a court held before a judge appointed by the archdeacon, and called his official. Its jurisdiction comprised the granting of probates and administrations, and ecclesiastical causes in general, arising within the archdeaconry. It was the most inferior court in the whole ecclesiastical polity of England.

Archery. In feudal law, a service of keeping a bow for the lord's use in the defense of his castle.

Arches Court /'archez koot/. In English ecclesiastical law, a court of appeal belonging to the Archbishop of Canterbury, the judge of which is called the "Dean of the Arches"; because his court was anciently held in the church of Saint Mary-le-Bow (Sancta Maria de Arcubus), so named from the steeple, which is raised upon pillars built archwise. The court was afterwards held in the hall belonging to the College of Citizens, commonly called "Doctors' Commons". It is now held in Westminster Hall. Its proper jurisdiction is only over the thirteen peculiar parishes belonging to the archbishop in London, but, the office of Dean of the Arches having been for a long time united with that of the archbishop's principal official, the Judge of the Arches, in right of such added office, it receives and determines appeals from the sentences of all inferior ecclesiastical courts within the province. Many original suits are also brought before him from which the inferior judge has waived jurisdiction. From the Court of Arches an appeal lies to the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council.

Archetype /'arkatyp/. The original from which a copy is made.

Archicappellanus /'arciyakapelynas/. L. Lat. In old European law, a chief or high chancellor (summus cancellarius).

Architect. One who makes plans and specifications for a building and superintends its construction. Stephens County v. J. N. McCommon, Inc., 122 Tex. 148, 52 S.W.2d 53. Also one who plans and constructs landscape work. State v. McIhenny, 201 La. 78, 9 So.2d 467, 470.

Architect's lien. A lien on real estate created by statute in favor of the architect who drew the plans and supervised the construction of the real estate for purpose of insuring payment of his fee.

Archives. Place where old books, manuscripts, records, etc. are kept.

Archivist /'arkivist/. Custodian of archives.

Arcifinious /'arciyfiniyo/. (Lat. arcfinius or arcifinalis; Fr. arcfinie). Pertaining to landed estates having natural boundaries, such as woods, mountains, or rivers. The owners of such estates, unlike the owners of "agri limitati" (q.v.), have the right of alluvion. Also, having a frontier forming a natural defense.

Arcta et salva custodia /'arkta et salva kastowdiya/. Lat. In strict (or close) and safe custody or keeping. When a defendant is arrested on a capias ad satisfaciendum (ca.sq.), he is to be kept arcta et salva custodi. 3 Bl.Com. 415.

Ardent spirits. Synonymous with distilled or spirituous liquors and, sometimes, with intoxicating liquors generally, though the term is properly applied only to liquors obtained by distillation, such as rum, whiskey, brandy, and gin. Sarills v. U. S., 152 U.S. 570, 572, 14 S.Ct. 720, 38 L.Ed. 556.

Ardour /'ar dara/. In old English law, an incendiary; a house burner. An arsonist.

Area. A surface, a territory, a region. Fleming v. Farmers Peanut Co., C.C.A.Ga., 128 F.2d 404, 406. Any plane surface, also the inclosed space on which a building stands. A particular extent of space or surface or one serving a special purpose. In the civil law, a vacant space in a city; a place not built upon. For "common area", see Common.

Area bargaining. Negotiation of collective bargaining agreement between a union and more than one employer within a given geographical area.

Area variance. Such variance authorizes deviations from restrictions upon construction and placement of buildings and structures which are employed to serve permitted statutory use. Bienen v. City of Dayton, 29 Or.App. 761, 566 P.2d 904, 919.

A remanaunt /'a ramayeunt/. Forever.

A rendre /'a ronda/. Fr. To render, to yield. That which is to be rendered, yielded, or paid. Profits à rendre comprehend rents and services.

Arentaire /'arantere/. Lat. To rent; to let out at a certain rent. Arentatio. A renting.

Areopagite /'arciyopagay/. In ancient Greek law, a lawyer or chief judge of the Areopagus in capital matters in Athens; a tribunal so called after a hill or slight eminence, in a street of that city dedicated to Mars, where the court was held in which those judges were wont to sit.
Argumentative instruction. A jury instruction which singles out or unduly emphasizes a particular issue, theory, or defense, or one which tends to invade the province of the jury with regard to the weight, probative effect, or sufficiency of the evidence or the inferences to be drawn therefrom.

Argumentative question. A faulty form of examination of witness by propounding a question which suggests answer in a manner favorable to party who advances the question or which contains a statement in place of a question. See Leading question.

Argumentum ab auctoritate est fortissimum in lege /ārgymantēm ab oktōrēidiyē est fortīsam in lījyē/. An argument from authority is the strongest in the law. “The book cases are the best proof of what the law is.”

Argumentum ab impossibili valet in lege /ārgymantēm ab imposībālī vēlād in lījyē/. An argument drawn from an impossibility is forcible in law.

Argumentum ab inconvenienti /ārgymantēm ab īkkanvīnīyēntay/. An argument arising from the inconvenience which the proposed construction of the law would create.

Where the constitutionality of a statute is concerned, it is only when the question is close and doubtful that this doctrine will be applied and consideration taken of the consequences of declaring the statute unconstitutional. Calhoun County v. Early County, 205 Ga. 169, 52 S.E.2d 854; Smith v. City Council of Augusta, 203 Ga. 511, 47 S.E.2d 582, 587.

Argumentum ab inconveniēnti est validum in lege; quā lex non permitted ad quod inconveniens /ārgymantēm ab īkkanvīnīyēntay ēst vālīdām in lījyē; kvāyā lēks non parenēd ēskōwōd īkkanvīnīyēntay/. An argument drawn from what is inconvenient is good in law, because the law will not permit any inconvenience.

Argumentum ab inconveniēnti plurimum valet [est vālīdum] in lege /ārgymantēm ab īkkanvīnīyēntay pl(y)ūramām vēlād ēst vālīdōm/. An argument drawn from inconvenience is of the greater weight [is forcible] in law. If there be in any deed or instrument equivocal expressions, and great inconvenience must necessarily follow from one construction, it is strong to show that such construction is not according to the true intention of the grantor; but where there is no equivocal expression in the instrument, and the words used admit only of one meaning, arguments of inconvenience prove only want of foresight in the grantor.

Argumentum a communiter accidentibus in jure frequentem est /ārgymantēm ēy kāmyūwāndar ākkadēntābas ēn jūriyī frījkwen ēst/. An argument drawn from things commonly happening is frequent in law.

Argumentum a divisione est fortissimum in jure /ārgymantēm ēy divizhiyōwēniyē est fortīsam in jūriyī/. An argument from division [of the subject] is of the greatest force in law.

Argumentum a majori ad minus negative non valet; valet e converso /ārgymantēm ēy məjōray ēd māynas negātāvyi nōn vēlād; vēlād iy kanvārsōw/. An argu-
ment from the greater to the less is of no force negatively; affirmatively (or conversely) it is.

**Argumentum a simili valet in lege** /árgywuṃmëntăm̂ éy simulay vældă in lîyi'j/. An argument from a like case (from analogy) is good in law.

**Aribannum** /ærəbənəm̂/. In feudal law, a fine for not setting out to join the army in obedience to the summons of the king.

**Arlerbam**, or **arriere-ban** /ær(ɨ)ıyé bän̄/. An edict of the ancient kings of France and Germany, commanding all their vassals, the noblesse, and the vassals' vassals, to enter the army, or forfeit their estates on refusal. See **Arrier ban**.

**Arinanni** /ærəmənəy/. A medieval term for a class of agricultural owners of small alodial farms, which they cultivated in connection with larger farms belonging to their lords, paying rent and service for the latter, and being under the protection of their superiors. Military tenants holding lands from the emperor.

**Arise**. To spring up, originate, to come into being or notice; to become operative, sensible, visible, or audible; to present itself. Bergin v. Temple, 111 Mont. 539, 111 P.2d 286, 289, 290.

A case "arises" under the Constitution or a law of the United States, so as to be within the jurisdiction of a federal court, whenever its correct decision depends on the construction of either. Bleece v. Safety Transit Co., C.C.A.S.C., 50 F.2d 852, 854.

A cause of action or suit "arises", so as to start running of limitation, when party has a right to apply to proper tribunal for relief, Washington Security Co. v. State, 9 Wash.2d 197, 114 P.2d 965, 967; and it arises at time when and place where act is unlawfully omitted or committed. State ex rel. Birnamwood Oil Co. v. Shaughnessy, 243 Wis. 306, 10 N.W.2d 292, 295. See **Limitation (Statute of limitation)**.

**Arising out of and in the course of own employment**. Workmen's Compensation Acts provide for compensating an employee whose injury is one "arising out of and in the course of the employment." These words describe an injury directly and naturally resulting in a risk reasonably incident to the employment. Thomas v. Proctor & Gamble Mfg. Co., 104 Kan. 432, 179 P. 372, 374; Trudenich v. Marshall, D.C.Wash., 34 F.Supp. 486, 488. They mean that there must be some causal connection between the conditions under which the employee worked and the injury which he received.

The words "arising out of employment" refer to the origin of the cause of the injury, while "course of employment" refers to the time, place, and circumstances under which the injury occurred. An injury arises "out of" employment if it arises out of nature, conditions, obligations and incidents of the employment. Newman v. Bennett, 212 Kan. 562, 512 P.2d 497, 501.

**Aristocracy**. A government in which a class of men, believed to be superior, rules supreme. A form of government which is lodged in a minority consisting of those believed to be best qualified; a privileged class of the people; nobles, dignitaries, people of wealth and station.

**Aristo-democracy**. A form of government where the power is divided between the nobles (or the more powerful) and the people.

**Arma** /árma/. Lat. Arms; weapons, offensive and defensive; armor; arms or cognizances of families.

**Arma dare** /árma dériy/. To dub or make a knight.

**Arma in armatos sumere jura sinunt** /árma in arméodos s(y)úwmariy jûš sâyánt/. The laws permit the taking up of arms against armed persons.

**Arma moluta** /árma mal(y)úwda/. Sharp weapons that cut, in contradistinction to such as are blunt, which only break or bruise.

**Arma reversata** /árma râvârséyda/. Reversed arms, a punishment for a traitor or felon.

**Armata vis** /arméyds víš/. In the civil law, armed force.

**Armed**. Furnished or equipped with weapons of offense or defense. People ex rel. Griffin v. Hunt, 150 Misc. 163, 270 N.Y.S. 248, 254.

**Armed neutrality**. An attitude of neutrality between belligerents which the neutral state is prepared to maintain by armed force if necessary.

**Armed peace**. A situation in which two or more nations, while actually at peace with each other, are armed for possible or probable hostilities.

**Armed robbery**. An aggravated form of robbery in which the defendant is armed with a dangerous weapon, though it is not necessary to prove that he used the weapon to effectuate the robbery. The taking of property from person or presence of another by use of force or by threatening use of force while armed with a dangerous weapon. People v. Redding, 43 Ill.App. 1024, 2 Ill.Dec. 784, 357 N.E.2d 1227, 1230.

**Armiger** /ármsjar/. An armor-bearer; an esquire. A title in old English law of dignity belonging to gentlemen authorized to bear arms. In its earlier meaning, a servant who carried the arms of a knight. A tenant by scutage; a servant or valet; applied, also, to the higher servants in convents.

**Arming one's self**. Equipping one's self with a weapon or weapons.

**Armiscara** /ármaskéra/. An ancient mode of punishment, which was to carry a saddle at the back as a token of subjection.

**Armistice**. A suspending or cessation of hostilities between belligerent nations or forces for a considerable time. An armistice differs from a mere "suspension of arms" (q.v.) in that the latter is concluded for very brief periods and for local military purposes only, whereas an armistice not only covers a longer period, but is agreed upon for political purposes. It is said to be **general** if it relates to the whole area of the war, and **partial** if it relates to only a portion of that area. Partial armistices are sometimes called truces (q.v.) but there is no hard and fast distinction.

**Arm of the sea**. A portion of the sea projecting inland, in which the tide ebbs and flows. It is considered as extending as far into the interior of a country as the
water of fresh rivers is propelled backwards by the ingress of the tide. See *Fauces terre*.

**Armorial bearings** /ˈɑːrmɔːrɪəl ˈbɛrɪŋz/. In English law, a device depicted on the (now imaginary) shield of one of the nobility, of which gentry is the lowest degree. The criterion of nobility is the bearing of arms, or armorial bearings, received from ancestry.

**Armorum appellazione, non solum scuta et gladii et galeae, sed et fustes et lapides continentur** /ɒrmərəm əˈpɛləpələˈʒiənələ, nɒn ˈsʌləm skətə ət gləˈdiːjət et ˈɡæliːə, ˈsɛd et ˈfʌstəz ət ˈlæpɪdɪəz kɒntɪnəntə/. Under the name of arms are included, not only shields and swords and helmets, but also clubs and stones.

**Armory.** A building where arms, ammunition, and instruments of war are stored.

**Arms.** Anything that a man wears for his defense, or takes in his hands as a weapon. See also *Bear arms*.

**Arms, law of.** Agreements (as established e.g. by Geneva Convention) which give precepts and rules concerning conditions of war; e.g. treatment of prisoners, wounded, etc.

**Arm’s length transaction.** Said of a transaction negotiated by unrelated parties, each acting in his or her own self interest; the basis for a fair market value determination. Commonly applied in areas of taxation where there are dealings between related corporations, e.g. parent and subsidiary. Incto, Inc. v. Higgins, D.C. N.Y., 21 F.Supp. 418. The standard under which unrelated parties, each acting in his or her own best interest, would carry out a particular transaction. For example, if a corporation sells property to its sole shareholder for $10,000, in testing whether $10,000 is an “arm’s length” price it must be ascertained for how much the corporation could have sold the property to a disinterested third party in a bargained transaction.

**Arms, right to.** Right guaranteed by Second Amendment, U.S. Constitution; does not however permit a person to carry gun in violation of state or federal gun law. Com. v. Jackson, Mass., 344 N.E.2d 166.

**Army.** Armed forces of a nation intended for military service on land.

**Regular army.** The permanent military establishment, which is maintained both in peace and war according to law. Compare *Militia*.

**Around.** In the vicinity of; near or close-by.

**Arpen, arpent, arpenus.** A civil and French measure of land equal to about an acre.

**Arpentator** /ɑːrpəntɛˈdər/. A measurer or surveyor of land.

**Arra /ɛrə/.** In the civil law, earnest; earnest-money; evidence of a completed bargain. Used of a contract of marriage, as well as any other. Spelled, also, *Arrha*, *Arrhe*, *Arce*. Cf. *Ares*.

**Arraign /ərˈriːn/.** In old English law, to order; or set in order; to conduct in an orderly manner; to prepare for trial. *To arraign an assise* was to cause the tenant to be called to make the plaint, and to set the cause in such order as the tenant might be enforced to answer thereunto. See *Arraignment*.

**Arraignment /ərˈriːnma nt/.** Procedure whereby the accused is brought before the court to plead to the criminal charge in the indictment or information. The charge is read to him and he is asked to plead “guilty” or “not guilty” or, where permitted, “nolo contendere.” State v. McCotter, 288 N.C. 227, 217 S.E.2d 525, 529.

Arraignment shall be conducted in open court and shall consist of reading the indictment or information to the defendant or stating to him the substance of the charge and calling on him to plead thereto. He shall be given a copy of the indictment or information before he is called upon to plead. Fed.R.Crim.P. 10.

See also *Information*.

**Arraignment, deed of.** In England, arrangements between debtors and creditors outside of bankruptcy. Deeds of Arraignment Act of 1914.

**Arraigns, clerk of.** In old English law, an assistant to the clerk of assise.

**Arrangement with creditors.** A plan of a debtor for the settlement, satisfaction, or extension of the time of payment of his debts. Chapter XI of the federal Bankruptcy Act provides for a device whereby, under the protection and supervision of the court, a financially troubled business may work out a composition or extension agreement with its creditors permitting it to stay in business, rather than going bankrupt. Arrangements of individual debtors with their creditors are provided for under Chapter XIII of the Act. See also *Composition with creditors; Wage earner’s plan*.

**Array /ərˈriː/.** The whole body of persons summoned to serve as jurors, from which the final trial jury is selected. Also, the list of jurors impaneled. See *Jury panel*.

**Arrears, arrearages.** Money which is overdue and unpaid; e.g. overdue mortgage or rent payments.

Term used to describe cumulative preferred stock dividends that have not been declared on time.

**Arrent /ərˈrent/.** In old English law, to let or demise at a fixed rent. Particularly used with reference to the public domain or crown lands; as where a license was granted to inclose land in a forest with a low hedge and a ditch, under a yearly rent, or where an encroachment, originally a purpursure, was allowed to remain on the fixing and payment of a suitable compensation to the public for its maintenance.

**Arrest.** To deprive a person of his liberty by legal authority. Taking, under real or assumed authority, custody of another for the purpose of holding or detaining him to answer a criminal charge or civil demand. State v. Ferraro, 81 N.J.Sup. 213, 195 A.2d 227; People v. Wipfler, 37 Ill.App.3d 400, 346 N.E.2d 41, 44.

Arrest involves the authority to arrest, the assertion of that authority with the intent to effect an arrest, and the restraint of the person to be arrested. Village of Hoffman Estates v. Union Oil Co. of California, 13 Ill.Dec. 277, 370 N.E.2d 1304, 1308. All that is required for an “arrest” is some act by officer
indicating his intention to detain or take person into custody and thereby subject that person to the actual control and will of the officer; no formal declaration of arrest is required. Com. v. Brown, 230 Pa.Super. 214, 326 A.2d 906, 907.

See also Booking; Citizen’s arrest; Custodial arrest; False arrest; Lawful arrest; Probable cause; Reasonable grounds; Warrantless arrest.

**Citizen’s arrest.** See Citizen’s arrest.

**Civil arrest.** The apprehension of a person by virtue of a lawful authority to answer the demand against him in a civil action. Also includes arrest of a ship or cargo in maritime in rem actions. Fed.R. Civil P., Supp. Adm.V. R. C(3), D.

**Parol arrest.** One ordered by a judge or magistrate from the bench, without written complaint or other proceedings, of a person who is present before him, and which is executed on the spot; as in case of breach of the peace in open court.

**Privilege from arrest.** See Privilege.

**Rearrest.** Right of officer to take without warrant one who has escaped after arrest, or violated parole, or failed to respond to bond for appearance.

**Warrantless arrest.** Seizure of a person without warrant but based on probable cause that he has committed felony. May also be made for commission of misdemeanor amounting to breach of peace in presence of officer. Wong Sun v. U. S., 371 U.S. 471, 83 S.Ct. 407, 9 L.Ed.2d 441.

**Warrant of arrest.** See Warrant.

**Arrestandis bonis ne dissipentur /ār’estándas bównas níy dásápéntar/.** In old English law, a writ which lay for a person whose cattle or goods were taken by another, who during a contest was likely to make away with them, and who had not the ability to render satisfaction.

**Arrestando ipsum qui pecuniam recept /ār’estándow ípsow kwáy pakýwniýam rásýpat/.** In old English law, a writ which issued for apprehending a person who had taken the ken’s prest money to serve in the wars, and then hid himself in order to avoid going.

**Arrestatio /ār’estéysh(i)yow/.** In old English law, an arrest (q.v.).

**Arresto facto super bonis mercatorum alienigenorum /ār’estów fáktów s(y)ůwpar bównas márkatórum āl-iýmýñjanóróm/.** In old English law, a writ against the goods of aliens found within this kingdom, in recompense of goods taken from a denizen in a foreign country, after denial of restitution. The ancient civilians called it “clarigatio,” but by the moderns it is termed “repressalia.”

**Arrest of inquest.** Pleading in arrest of taking the inquest upon a former issue, and showing cause why an inquest should not be taken.

**Arrest of judgment.** The act of staying a judgment, or refusing to render judgment in an action at law and in criminal cases, after verdict, for some matter intrinsic appearing on the face of the record, which would render the judgment, if given, erroneous or reversible. The court on motion of a defendant shall arrest judg-

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**ARSENALS**

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**Arrest record.** Official form completed by police department when a person is arrested. Also, cumulative record of instances in which a person has been arrested, commonly maintained by probation office and useful to judge in setting sentences for second, third, etc. offenders.

**Arrest warrant.** See Warrant.

**Arrêt /ārēt/ärēy/.** Fr. A judgment, sentence, or decree of a court of competent jurisdiction. The term is derived from a court of French law, and is used in Canada and Louisiana.

**Saisie arrêt is an attachment of property in the hands of a third person.**

**Arrebet /ɑrĕd dietary.** Convened before a judge and charged with a crime.

**Arrhabo /ɑrĕhbow/.** In the civil law, earnest money given to bind a bargain.

**Arrhe /āriy/.** In the civil law, money or other valuable things given by the buyer to the seller, for the purpose of evidencing the contract; earnest money. See **Arra; Pot-de-vin.**

**Arræ sponsalitie** were the earnest or present given by one betrothed to the other at the betrothal.

**Arriage and carriage /āraj an kēraj/.** In English and Scotch law, indefinite services formerly demandable from tenants, but prohibited by statute.

**Arrier ban /ɑr(i)yør bı̂n/.** In feudal law, a second summons to join the lord, addressed to those who had neglected the first. A summons of the inferiors or vassals of the lord. See **Arier ban.**

**Arriere fief, or fee /ɑr(i)yør fiy(f)/.** In feudal law, a fief or fee dependent on a superior one; an inferior fief granted by a vassal of the king, out of the fief held by him.

**Arriere vassal /ɑr(i)yør vēsalo/.** In feudal law, the vassal of a vassal.

**Arrival.** To come to, or reach, a particular place. The attainment of an end or state. The act of arriving.

In marine insurance, arrival of a vessel means an arrival for purposes of business, requiring an entry and clearance and stay at the port so long as to require some of the acts connected with business, and not merely touching at a port for advices, or to ascertain the state of the market, or being driven in by an adverse wind and sailing again as soon as it changes. F. S. Royster Guano Co. v. U. S., C.C.A.Va., 18 F.2d 469, 470.

**Arrogation.** In the civil law, the adoption of a person who was of full age or sui juris.

**Ars et pensate /ārisy ét pansédyli/.** Burnt and weighed. A term formerly applied to money tested or assayed by fire and by weighing.

**Arsenas /ɑrsanālz/.** Store-houses for arms; dockyards, magazines, and other military stores.
Arser in le main /arsé yôn la mén/. Fr. Burning in the hand. The punishment by burning or branding the left thumb of lay offenders who claimed and were allowed the benefit of clergy, so as to distinguish them in case they made a second claim of clergy.

Arson. At common law, the malicious burning of the house of another. This definition, however, has been broadened by state statutes and criminal codes. For example, the Model Penal Code, § 220.1(1), provides that a person is guilty of arson, a felony of the second degree, if he starts a fire or causes an explosion with the purpose of: (a) destroying a building or occupied structure of another; or (b) destroying or damaging any property, whether his own or another’s, to collect insurance for such loss.

In several states, this crime is divided into arson in the first, second, and third degrees, the first degree including the burning of an inhabited dwelling-house in the nighttime; the second degree, the burning (at night) of a building other than a dwelling-house, but so situated with reference to a dwelling-house as to endanger it; the third degree, the burning of any building or structure not the subject of arson in the first or second degree, or the burning of property, his own or another’s, with intent to defraud or prejudice an insurer thereof.

Arson clause. Clause in insurance policy voiding coverage if fire is set under direction or by insured.

Arsura /ars(y)ûra/. The trial of money by heating it after it was coined. The loss of weight occasioned by this process. A pound was said to burn so many pence (tot ardere denarios) as it lost by the fire. The term is now obsolete.

Art. Systematic application of knowledge or skill in effecting a desired result; also an employment, occupation or business requiring such knowledge or skill; a craft; as industrial arts.

In the law of patents, this term means a useful art or manufacture which is beneficial and which is described with exactness in its mode of operation. Such an art can be protected only in the mode and to the extent thus described. It is synonymous with process or method when used to produce a useful result, and may be either a force applied, a mode of application, or the specific treatment of a specific object, and must produce physical effects. Emmett v. Metals Processing Corporation, C.C.A.Ariz., 118 F.2d 796, 798.

In seduction cases, “art” means the skillful and systematic arrangement of means for the attainment of a desired end.

Arteriosclerosis. Abnormal thickening and hardening of the arteries.

Artesian basin. A body of water more or less compact, moving through soils with more or less resistance.

Arthel, ardhel, or arddelio. In old English law, to avouch; as if a man were taken with stolen goods in his possession he was allowed a lawful arthel, i.e., voucher, to clear him of the felony.

Article. A separate and distinct part of an instrument or writing; one of several things presented as connected or forming a whole. A particular object or substance, a material thing or a class of things. Material or tangible object. See Articles.

In English ecclesiastical law, a complaint exhibited in the ecclesiastical court by way of libel. The different parts of a libel, responsive allegation, or counter allegation in the ecclesiastical courts.

Articed clerk. In English law, a clerk bound to serve in the office of a solicitor in consideration of being instructed in the profession. This is the general acceptance of the term; but it is said to be equally applicable to other trades and professions.

Articles. A connected series of propositions; a system of rules. The subdivisions of a document, code, book, etc. A specification of distinct matters agreed upon or established by authority or requiring judicial action.

A statute; as having its provisions articulately expressed under distinct heads.

A system of rules established by legal authority; as articles of war, articles of the navy, articles of faith. (See infra.)

A contractual document executed between parties, containing stipulations or terms of agreement; as articles of agreement, articles of partnership.


In chancery practice, a formal written statement of objections filed by a party, after depositions have been taken, showing ground for discrediting the witnesses.

In ecclesiastical law, a complaint in the form of a libel exhibited to an ecclesiastical court. See Article.

Articles of agreement. A written memorandum of the terms of an agreement.

Articles of amendment. Terms and conditions of corporate management enacted subsequent to articles of incorporation. See Articles of incorporation.

Articles of apprenticeship. Written agreement between master and minor under which minor agrees to work for master for stated period of time in return for instruction in a trade by the master.

Articles of association. Basic instrument filed with the appropriate governmental agency (e.g. Sec. of State) on the incorporation of a business. It sets forth the purposes of the corporation, its duration, the rights and liabilities of shareholders and directors, etc., Model Bus. Corp. Act, § 48. Certificate (similar to one of incorporation) used by non-stock companies such as charitable and mutual corporations. Articles of association are to be distinguished from a charter, in that the latter is a grant of power from the sovereign or the legislature. See Articles of incorporation; Certificate of incorporation.

Articles of Confederation. The name of the instrument embodying the compact made between the thirteen original states of the Union, operative from March 1, 1781 to March 4, 1789, before the adoption of the present Constitution.

Articles of consolidation. Document filed with Secretary of State setting forth terms and conditions of

Articles of dissolution. Document to be filed in duplicate with Secretary of State after corporation has provided for all its debts and the distribution of all its net assets, prior to dissolution. Model Bus. Corp. Act, §§ 85, 86.

Articles of faith. In English law, the system of faith of the Church of England, more commonly known as the "Thirty-Nine Articles."

Articles of impeachment. A formal written allegation of the causes for impeachment; answering the same office as an indictment in an ordinary criminal proceeding. See Impeachment.

Articles of incorporation. The basic instrument filed with the appropriate governmental agency (e.g. Sec. of State) on the incorporation of a business; sometimes also called "certificate of incorporation." The contents thereof are prescribed in the general incorporation statutes. In many jurisdictions official forms are also prescribed. In most jurisdictions, corporate existence begins with the filing, usually with the secretary of state, of the articles or certificate of incorporation. In some jurisdictions, duplicate articles of incorporation are filed, and corporate existence begins with the issue of a formal certificate appended thereto called a "certificate of incorporation." Various conditions precedent to doing business might also be imposed. See Articles of association; Certificate of incorporation.

Articles of partnership. A written agreement by which the parties enter into a co-partnership upon the terms and conditions therein stipulated.

Articles of the clergy. The title of a statute passed in the ninth year of Edward II for the purpose of adjusting and settling the great questions of cognizance then existing between the ecclesiastical and temporal courts.

Articles of the Navy. Articles (statutes) for the government of the Navy.

Articles of the peace. In English law, a complaint made or exhibited to a court by a person who makes oath that he is in fear of death or bodily harm from some one who has threatened or attempted to do him injury. The court may thereupon order the person complained of to find sureties for the peace, and, in default, may commit him to prison. Such articles were formerly issued in the High Court; but since 1938 the procedure has only been available in courts of summary jurisdiction.

Articles of union. In English law, articles agreed to, A.D. 1707, by the parliaments of England and Scotland, for the union of the two kingdoms. They were twenty-five in number.

Articles of war. Codes framed for the government of a nation's army or navy; e.g. Code of Military Justice.

Articulated pleading. The stating in separate paragraphs, separately numbered, of each material fact of the petition, complaint, answer, etc. See e.g. Fed.R.Civ.P. 10(b).

Articulately /artikẙlətəli/. Article by article; by distinct clauses or articles; by separate propositions.

Articulī /artikẙləli/. Lat. Articles; items or heads. A term applied to some old English statutes, and occasionally to treatises.

Articulī cleri /artikẙləli klirə/. "Articles of the clergy" (q.v.). See Circumspexite agatis.

Articulī de moneta /artikẙləli dɪ mənədə/. Articles concerning money, or the currency. The title of a statute passed in the twentieth year of Edward I.

Articulī magnē chartae /artikẙləli mægn̥i kær̥də/. The preliminary articles, forty-nine in number, upon which the Magna Charta was founded.

Articulī super chartae /artikẙləli s(ɪ)̊wpar kær̥də/. Articles upon the charters. The title of a statute passed in the twenty-eighth year of Edward I, st. 3, confirming or enlarging many particulars in Magna Charta, and the Charta de Foresta, and appointing a method for enforcing the observance of them, and for the punishment of offenders.

Articulō mortis /artikyləlw mərdəs/. (Or more commonly in articulo mortis.) At the point of death; in the article of death, which means at the moment of death; in the last struggle or agony.

Artifice /ərdəfis/. An ingenious contrivance or device of some kind, and, when used in a bad sense, it corresponds with trick or fraud. It implies craftiness and deceit, and imports some element of moral obliquity. See also Sham.

Artificer /artifiser/. One who buys goods in order to reduce them, by his own art or industry, into other forms, and then to sell them.

One who is actually and personally engaged or employed to do work of a mechanical or physical character, not including one who takes contracts for labor to be performed by others, i.e. a mechanic or workman as contrasted from the employer of such. One who is master of his art, and whose employment consists chiefly in manual labor. A craftsman; an artisan.

Artificial. As opposed to "natural", means created or produced by man. California Casualty Indemnity Exchange v. Industrial Accident Commission of California, 13 Cal.2d 529, 90 P.2d 289. Created by art, or by law; existing only by force of or in contemplation of law. Humanly contrived. A will or contract is described as "artificially" drawn if it is couched in apt and technical phrases and exhibits a scientific arrangement.

Artificial force. In patent law, a natural force so transformed in character or energies by human power as to possess new capabilities of action; this transformation of a natural force into a force practically new involves a true inventive act.

Artificial insemination. Method by which a female is impregnated through injection of semen from a donor other than her husband; and other than through sexual intercourse.

Artificially developed water. Artifically developed water, to which one may acquire right superior to
judicature of earlier appropriators of natural waters of stream into which he turns it, is water produced and contributed by him, which would not have reached stream if left to flow in accordance with natural laws. In re Nix, 96 Colo. 540, 45 P.2d 176, 178.

Artificial persons. Persons created and devised by human laws for the purposes of society and government, as distinguished from natural persons. Corporations are examples of artificial persons.

Artificial presumptions. Also called "legal presumptions:" those which derive their force and effect from the law, rather than their natural tendency to produce belief. See Presumption.

Artificial succession. The succession between predecessors and successors in a corporation aggregate or sole.

Artificial water course. See Water course.

Artisan. One skilled in some kind of trade, craft, or art requiring manual dexterity; e.g. a carpenter, plumber, tailor, mechanic.

Artisan's lien. The statutory right of an artisan to keep possession of the object that he has worked on until he has been paid for such labor.

Art, words of. Words used in a technical sense; words scientifically fit to carry the sense assigned them.

A rubro ad nigrum /ɛˈrʌbrə ðəˌnɪɡrəm/. Lat. From the red to the black; from the rubric or title of a statute (which, anciently, was in red letters), to its body, which was in the ordinary black.

Arura /əˈrʊra/. An old English law term, signifying a day's work in plowing.

AS or A/S or A/s. Account sales; also after sight, at sight.

As. Lat. In the Roman and civil law, a pound weight; and a coin originally weighing a pound, (called also "libra") divided into twelve parts, called "uncia." The parts were reckoned as follows: uncia, 1 ounce; sextans, 2 ounces; triens, 3 ounces; quadrans, 4 ounces; quincunx, 5 ounces; semis, 6 ounces; septunx, 7 ounces; bes, 8 ounces; dodrans, 9 ounces; dextans, 10 ounces; deunx, 11 ounces. Frequently applied in the civil law to inheritances; the whole inheritance being termed "as," and its several proportionate parts "sextans," "quadrans," etc. The term "as," and the multiples of its uncia, were also used to denote the rates of interest. 2 Bl.Comm. 462, note m.

Any integral sum, subject to division in certain proportions.

As. Used as an adverb, etc., means like, similar to, of the same kind, in the same manner, in the manner in which. It may also have the meaning of because, since, or it being the case that; in the character or under the name of with significance of in degree; to that extent; so far.

As against; as between. These words contrast the relative position of two persons, with a tacit reference to a different relationship between one of them and a third person. For instance, the temporary bailee of a chattel is entitled to it as between himself and a stranger, or as against a stranger; reference being made by this form of words to the rights of the bailor.

A savoir. To wit.

Ascend. To go up; to pass up or upwards; to go or pass in the ascending line.

Ascendants. Persons with whom one is related in the ascending line; one's parents, grandparents, great-grandparents, etc.

Ascent. Passage upward; the transmission of an estate from the ancestor to the heir in the ascending line.

Ascertain. To fix; to render certain or definite; to estimate and determine; to clear of doubt or obscurity. To insure as a certainty. To find out by investigation. U. S. v. Carver, 260 U.S. 482, 43 S.Ct. 181, 182, 67 L.Ed. 361. Sometimes it means to "assess"; or to "hear, try, and determine".

Ascertained as aforesaid. Manner theretofore prescribed.

Ascriptitus (or ascripticus) /ˌæskrɪpˈtɪʃɪəs/. In Roman law, a foreigner who had been registered and naturalized in the colony in which he resided.

Asexualization. See Vasectomy.

Aside. On one side; apart. To set aside; to annul; to make void.

As is. A sale of goods by sample "as is" requires that the goods be of the kind and quality represented, even though they be in a damaged condition. U.C.C. § 2-313. Use of expression in sales agreement that goods are sold "as is" implies that buyer takes the entire risk as to the quality of the goods involved and he must trust to his own inspection. Implied and express warranties are excluded in sales of goods "as is". U.C.C. § 2-316.

Ask. Demand, request, solicit, petition, appeal, apply for, move for, pray for.

Asking price. The price at which a seller lists his property for sale. Generally connotes a willingness to sell for less than the listed or asking price. May be applied to both real and personal property for sale though more commonly used in sales of real estate.

As per. A term which is not susceptible of literal translation, but which is commonly understood to mean, "in accordance with", or "in accordance with the terms of", or "as by the contract authorized".

Aspersions /ˈæspərˌzhan/. Term may mean the making of calumnious report or may mean nothing more than criticism or censure.

Asphyxia /ˈæsfɪksiə/. Apparent death, suspended animation, in living organism due to deficiency of oxygen and excess of carbon dioxide in the blood.

Asphyxia carbonica /ˌæsfɪksiə karbˈoʊnəkə/. A suffocation from inhalation of coal gas, water gas, or carbon monoxide.

Asphyxiation /ˌæsfɪkʃɪˈeɪʃən/. A state of asphyxia.
Asportation /əˈspɔrtəˈʃən/. The removal of things from one place to another. The carrying away of goods; one of the circumstances requisite to constitute the offense of larceny. The distance away which the property must be moved to constitute the crime need not be substantial; a slight distance will do. Smith v. United States, C.A.Nev., 291 F.2d 220. But the entire property must be moved.

Asportation was an essential element of common-law kidnapping.

Asportavit /əˈspɔrtəˈvət/. He carried away. Sometimes used as a noun to denote a carrying away. An "asportavit of personal chattels".

ASPR. Armed Services Procurement Regulations.

Assart /əˈsãrt/. In English law, the offense committed in the forest, by pulling up the trees by the roots that are thickets and coverts for deer, and making the ground plain as arable land. It differs from waste, in that waste is the cutting down of coverts which may grow again, whereas assart is the plucking them up by the roots and utterly destroying them, so that they can never afterward grow. This is not an offense if done with license to convert forest into tillage ground.

Assart rents. Rents paid to the Crown for assorted lands.

Assassination /əˈsãsənˈɛʃən/. Murder committed, usually, though not necessarily, for hire, without direct provocation or cause of resentment given to the murderer by the person upon whom the crime is committed; though an assassination of a public figure might be done by one acting alone for personal, social or political reasons. It is a federal crime, punishable as a homicide, to assassinate the President, President-elect, Vice President, or if there is no Vice President, the officer next in order of succession to the office of President, the Vice-President-elect, or any individual who is acting as President under the Constitution, 18 U.S.C.A. § 1751. In addition, advocating the overthrow of the government by assassination of any officer of such government is a crime under 18 U.S.C.A. § 2385.

Assault. Any willful attempt or threat to inflict injury upon the person of another, when coupled with an apparent present ability so to do, and any intentional display of force such as would give the victim reason to fear or expect immediate bodily harm, constitutes an assault. An assault may be committed without actually touching, or striking, or doing bodily harm, to the person of another. State v. Murphy, 7 Wash. App. 505, 500 P.2d 1276, 1281.

Frequently used to describe illegal force which is technically a battery. For crime of assault victim need not be apprehensive of fear if the outward gesture is menacing and defendant intends to harm, though for tort of assault, element of victim's apprehension is required. Com. v. Slaney, 345 Mass. 135, 185 N.E.2d 919. It is unlawful attempt to commit a battery. People v. Lopez, 271 C.A.2d 754, 77 Cal. Rptr. 59, 63.

In some jurisdictions degrees of the offense are established as first, second and even third degree assault.

See also Aggravated assault; Aggravated battery; Battery; Conditional assault; Felonious assault; Fresh complaint rule; Malicious assault with deadly weapon.

Aggravated assault. One committed with the intention of committing some additional crime; or one attended with circumstances of peculiar outrage or atrocity. This class includes assault with a dangerous or deadly weapon (q.v.). A person is guilty of aggravated assault if he: (a) attempts to cause serious bodily injury to another, or causes such injury purposely, knowingly or recklessly under circumstances manifesting extreme indifference to the value of human life; or (b) attempts to cause or purposely or knowingly causes bodily injury to another with a deadly weapon. Model Penal Code, § 211.1.

Simple assault. An assault unaccompanied by any circumstances of aggravation. A person is guilty of simple assault if he (a) attempts to cause or purposely, knowingly or recklessly causes bodily injury to another; or (b) negligently causes bodily injury to another with a deadly weapon; or (c) attempts by physical menace to put another in fear of imminent serious bodily injury. Model Penal Code, § 211.1.

Assault and battery. Any unlawful touching of another which is without justification or excuse. It is both a tort, Trogun v. Fruchtmann, 58 Wis.2d 569, 207 N.W.2d 297, as well as a crime, Scruggs v. State, Ind.App., 317 N.E.2d 807, 809. The two crimes differ from each other in that battery requires physical contact of some sort (bodily injury or offensive touching), whereas assault is committed without physical contact. In most jurisdictions, statutes have created aggravated assaults and batteries, punishable as felonies, and worded in various ways. See Battery.

Assault with dangerous or deadly weapon. An unlawful attempt or offer to do bodily harm without justification or excuse by use of any instrument calculated to do harm or cause death. An aggravated form of assault as distinguished from a simple assault; e.g. planting loaded gun at one is an assault with dangerous weapon. State v. Gregory, 108 Ariz. 445, 501 P.2d 387, 390.

Assault with intent to commit manslaughter. An unlawful assault committed in such manner and with such means as would have resulted in commission of crime of manslaughter if person assaulted had died from effects of assault.

Assault with intent to commit murder. To constitute this assault, specific intent to kill, actuated by malice aforethought, must concur. Perez v. State, 114 Tex. Cr.R. 473, 22 S.W.2d 309, 310.

Assault with intent to commit rape. Crime is constituted by the existence of the facts which bring the offense within the definition of an assault, coupled with an intention to commit the crime of rape. Steptoe v. State, 134 Tex.Cr.R. 320, 115 S.W.2d 916, 917.

Assay /əˈsɛɪ/ /əˈsɛi/. The proof or trial, by chemical experiments, of the purity or fineness of metals; particularly of the precious metals, gold and silver. West v. State, 140 Tex.Cr.R. 493, 145 S.W.2d 580, 584. Examination and determination as to characteristics (as weight, measure, or quality).
ASSAYER

Assayer. One whose business it is to make assays of the precious metals. West v. State, 140 Tex.Cr.R. 493, 145 S.W.2d 590, 584.

Assayer of the king. An officer of the royal mint, appointed by St. 2 Hen. VI, c. 12, who received and tested the bullion taken in for coining; also called "assayor regis."

Assay office. The U.S. Assay Office, under the Bureau of the Mint, is responsible for the process of assaying gold and silver, required by government, incidental to maintaining the coinage.

Assecure /āsēkyaˈrɛːri/. To assure, or make secure by pledges, or any solemn interposition of faith.

Assecuration /āsēkyaˈrɛʃən/. In European law, assurance; insurance of a vessel, freight, or cargo.

Assecurator /āsēkyaˈrɛdər/. In maritime law, an insurer.


Assembly. The concourse or meeting together of a considerable number of persons at the same place. Also the persons so gathered.

Political assemblies are those required by the constitution and laws: for example, the general assembly.

The lower or more numerous branch of the legislature in many of the states (e.g. N.Y.) is also called the "Assembly" or "House of Assembly." See also House of Representatives.

Popular assemblies are those where the people meet to deliberate upon their rights; these are guaranteed by the Constitution. See Assembly, right of.

Assemblyman. Member of state Assembly (q.v.).

Assembly, right of. Right guaranteed by First Amendment, U.S. Constitution, allowing people to meet for any purpose connected with government; it encompasses meeting to protest governmental policies and actions and the promotion of ideas. See Unlawful assembly.

Assembly, unlawful. The congregating of people which results in antisocial behavior of the group, e.g. blocking a sidewalk, obstructing traffic, littering streets; but, a law which makes such congregating a crime because people may be annoyed is violative of the right of free assembly. Coates v. City of Cincinnati, 402 U.S. 611, 91 S.Ct. 1686, 29 L.Ed.2d 214. See Unlawful assembly.

Assent. Compliance; approval of something done; a declaration of willingness to do something in compliance with a request; acquiescence; agreement. To approve, ratify and confirm. It implies a conscious approval of facts actually known, as distinguished from mere neglect to ascertain facts. Sometimes it is equivalent to "authorize". See Approval; Approve; Consent.

Express assent. That which is openly declared. Implied assent. That which is presumed by law, and proved by conduct of the parties. See Consent (Implied consent).

Mutual assent. The meeting of the minds of both or all the parties to a contract; the fact that each agrees to all the terms and conditions, in the same sense and with the same meaning as the others.

Assert. To state as true; declare; maintain.

Assertory covenant /āsərˈdɔrɪ ˈkɑːvənənt/. One which affirms that a particular state of facts exists; an affirming promise under seal. See Affirmation; Jurat.

Assertory oath /əsərˈdɔrɪ ˈɔːθ/. See Oath.

Assess /əsēs/. To ascertain; fix the value of. To fix the amount of the damages or the value of the thing to be ascertained. To impose a pecuniary payment upon persons or property. To ascertain, adjust, and settle the respective shares to be contributed by several persons toward an object beneficial to them all, in proportion to the benefit received. To tax.

In connection with taxation of property, means to make a valuation and appraisal of property, usually in connection with listing of property liable to taxation, and implies the exercise of discretion on the part of officials charged with duty of assessing, including the listing or inventory of property involved, determination of extent of physical property, and placing of a value thereon. To adjust or fix the proportion of a tax which each person, of several liable to it, has to pay; to apportion a tax among several; to distribute taxation in a proportion founded on the proportion of burden and benefit. To calculate the rate and amount of taxes. To levy a charge on the owner of property for improvements thereto, such as for sewers or sidewalks.

"Access" is sometimes used as synonymous with "levy".

See also Assessment.

Assessable insurance. Insurance policy under which insured is liable for additional premium if losses are unusually large.

Assessable stock. Stock where the stockholder may have to pay more than his original investment if corporate affairs so require.

Assessed. Term is equivalent to "imposed." To value or appraise. Abrams v. City and County of San Francisco, 48 Cal.App.2d 1, 119 P.2d 197, 199.

Assessed valuation. Value on each unit of which a prescribed amount must be paid as property taxes. The worth or value of property established by taxing authorities on the basis of which the tax rate is applied. Commonly, however, it does not represent the true or market value of the property.

Assessment. In a general sense, the process of ascertaining and adjusting the shares respectively to be contributed by several persons toward a common beneficial object according to the benefit received. A valuation or a determination as to value of property. It is often used in connection with assessing property taxes or levying of property taxes. Also the amount assessed. See also Assess; Equalization.
Corporations. Installments of the money subscribed for shares of stock, called for from the subscribers by the directors, from time to time as the company requires money, are called "assessments," or, in England, "calls." While the terms "call" and "assessment" are generally used synonymously, the latter term applies with peculiar aptness to contributions above the par value of stock or the subscription liability of the stockholders; whereas "call" or "installments" means action of the board of directors demanding payment of all or portion of unpaid subscriptions.

Damages. Fixing the amount of damages to which the successful party in a suit is entitled after judgment has been taken; also the name given to the determination of the sum which a corporation proposing to take lands for a public use must pay in satisfaction of the demand proved or the value taken.

Insurance. An apportionment made in general average upon the various articles and interests at risk, according to their value at the time and place of being in safety, for contribution for damage and sacrifices purposely made, and expenses incurred for escape from impending common peril.

A sum specially levied in mutual benefit insurance upon a fixed and definite plan within the limit of the company's or society's fundamental law of organization to pay losses, or losses and expenses incurred, being to a certain degree substantially the equivalent of premiums. The periodical demands made by a mutual insurance company, under its charter and by-laws, upon the makers of premium notes, are also denominated "assessments." Meaning "premiums," Ancient Order of United Workmen of Kansas v. Hobbs, 136 Kan. 708, 18 P.2d 561, 562; and being the consideration for the insurance contracts.

Special assessment. A "special assessment" is in the nature of a tax levied upon property according to benefits conferred on the property. Davies v. City of Lawrence, 218 Kan. 551, 545 P.2d 1115, 1120. A levy upon the owners of property adjacent to a public improvement (e.g. sidewalks) to defray the capital cost thereof. It differs from a tax in that it is levied for a specific purpose and in an amount proportioned to the direct benefit of the property assessed.

Taxation. The listing and valuation of property for the purpose of apportioning a tax upon it, either according to value alone or in proportion to benefit received. Moore v. Johnson Service Co., W.Va., 219 S.E.2d 315, 319. Also determining the share of a tax to be paid by each of many persons; or apportioning the entire tax to be levied among the different taxable persons, establishing the proportion due from each. Northwestern Imp. Co. v. Henneford, 184 Wash. 502, 51 P.2d 1083, 1085. It fixes the liability of the taxpayer and ascertains the facts and furnishes the data for the proper preparation of the tax rolls. Dallas Joint Stock Land Bank of Dallas v. State, Tex.Civ. App., 118 S.W.2d 941, 942. The process whereby the Internal Revenue Service imposes an additional tax liability. If, for example, the IRS audits a taxpayer's income tax return and finds gross income understated or deductions overstated, it will assess a deficiency in the amount of the tax that should have been paid in light of the adjustments made.

See also Deficiency assessment; Jeopardy assessment.

Assessment base. Total assessed value of all property in an assessment district.

Assessment company. In life insurance, a company in which a death loss is met by levying an assessment on the surviving members of the association.

Assessment contract. One wherein the payment of the benefit is in any manner or degree dependent on the collection of an assessment levied on persons holding similar contracts. See also Assessment insurance.

Assessment district. In taxation, any subdivision of territory, whether the whole or part of any municipality, in which by law a separate assessment of taxable property is made by the officers elected or appointed therefor.

Assessment for benefits. A burden levied under the power of taxation. Jackson v. City of Lake Worth, 156 Fla. 452, 23 So.2d 526, 528. See Assessment.

Assessment fund. The assessment fund of a mutual benefit association is the balance of the assessments, less expenses, out of which beneficiaries are paid.

Assessment insurance. Exists when benefit to be paid is dependent upon collection of such assessments as may be necessary for paying the amounts to insured. Keen v. Bankers Mut. Life Co., 230 Mo.App. 1072, 93 S.W.2d 85, 90. Type of mutual insurance where the policyholders are assessed whenever there is a loss.

Assessment list. The list furnished by the assessor to the board of equalization or board of assessment. See Assessment roll.


Assessment ratio. For purposes of taxation of property is the ratio of assessed value to fair market value. Campbell Chain Co. of Cal. v. Alameda County, 12 C.A.3d 248, 90 Cal.Rptr. 501, 504.

Assessment roll. In taxation, the list or roll of taxable persons and property, completed, verified, and deposited by the assessors.

Assessment work. Under the mining laws of the United States, the holder of an unpatented mining claim on the public domain is required, in order to hold his claim, to do labor or make improvements upon it to the extent of at least one hundred dollars in each year. 30 U.S.C.A. § 28. This is commonly called by miners "doing assessment work."

Assessor. An officer chosen or appointed to appraise, value, or assess property. A person learned in some particular science or industry, who sits with the judge on the trial of a cause requiring such special knowledge and gives his advice.

Asset Depreciation Range (ADR). The range of depreciable lives allowed by the Internal Revenue Service for a specific depreciable asset.

Asset dividend. See Dividend.
Assets. Property of all kinds, real and personal, tangible and intangible, including, *inter alia*, for certain purposes, patents, and causes of action which belong to any person including a corporation and the estate of a decedent. The entire property of a person, association, corporation, or estate that is applicable or subject to the payment of his or her or its debts.

See also Dead asset; Marshalling assets.

Accrued assets. Assets arising from revenues earned but not yet due.

Assets entre mains. L. Fr. Assets in hand; assets in the hands of executors or administrators, applicable for the payment of debts.

Assets per descent. That portion of the ancestor’s estate which descends to the heir, and which is sufficient to charge him, as far as it goes, with the specialties of his ancestors.

Bankruptcy. The property or effects of a bankrupt or insolvent, applicable to the payment of his debts.

Capital assets. For income tax purposes, a capital asset is defined as all property held by a taxpayer (e.g. house, car, stocks, bonds), except for certain assets listed in I.R.C. § 1221. Under the tax laws however, a given asset may be treated as a capital asset for one purpose, and as an ordinary asset for another.

Broadly speaking, all assets are capital except those specifically excluded. Major categories of non-capital assets include: property held for resale in the normal course of business (i.e. inventory), trade accounts and notes receivable, depreciable property and real estate used in a trade or business (i.e. I.R.C. “§ 1231 assets”). I.R.C. § 1221.

Commercial assets. The aggregate of available property, stock in trade, cash, etc., belonging to a merchant or mercantile company.

Current assets. Assets readily convertible into cash, e.g. securities, notes, accounts receivable. See also Quick assets, infra.

Equitable assets. All assets which are chargeable with the payment of debts or legacies in equity, and which do not fall under the description of legal assets. Those portions of the property which by the ordinary rules of law are exempt from debts, but which the testator has voluntarily charged as assets, or which, being non-existent at law, have been created in equity. They are so called because they can be reached only by the aid and instrumentality of a court of equity, and because their distribution is governed by a different rule from that which governs the distribution of legal assets.

Fixed assets. Assets of a permanent or long-term nature used in operation of business and not intended for sale.

Frozen assets. Assets which are difficult to convert into cash (e.g. real estate for which there is no market); also, assets which cannot be used because of legal restriction.

Intangible assets. Assets to which an arbitrary dollar value is attached; e.g. patents, trademarks, goodwill.

Legal assets. See Legal assets.

Liquid assets. See Current assets, supra.

Net assets. Excess of assets over liabilities.

Net operating assets. The excess of cash and other assets which will be converted into cash in near future through normal operation over current liabilities.

Nominal assets. Assets whose value is difficult to determine, e.g. a judgment or claim; also, book value of asset in contrast to actual value.

Personal assets. Chattels, money, and other personal property belonging to a bankrupt, insolvent, or decedent estate, which go to the assignee or executor. See also Personal effects.

Probate assets. Property of a decedent available for the payment of debts and legacies; the estate coming to the heir or personal representative which is chargeable, in law or equity, with the obligations which such heir or representative is required, in his representative capacity, to discharge.

Quick assets. Accounting term used to describe cash and receivables, including notes and sometimes marketable investments, which will be converted into cash as part of normal operations. See also Current assets, supra.

Real assets. Land and real estate.

Wasting assets. Assets exhausted through use or loss of value; e.g. patents, oil wells, coal deposits.

Asseveration /sēvārēyshan/. An affirmation; a positive assertion; a solemn declaration. This word is seldom, if ever, used for a declaration made under oath, but denotes a declaration accompanied with solemnity or an appeal to conscience, whereas an oath one appeals to God as a witness of the truth of what one says.

Assign. To transfer, make over, or set over to another. To appoint, allot, select, or designate for a particular purpose, or duty. To point at, or point out; to set forth, or specify; to mark out or designate; to particularize, as to assign errors on a writ of error; to assign breaches of a covenant. See also Assignment.

Assignability. Quality or legal attribute which permits a thing to be transferred or negotiated.

Assignable. See Assignability.

Assignable lease. A lease which contains a provision permitting its transfer by lessee or one which is silent as to lessee’s right to transfer his interest and hence a lease which may be transferred. Assignment of lease is distinguishable from sublease to extent, inter alia, that in assigning, lessee transfers his entire estate in the demised premises, whereas in sublease the sublessee acquires something less than the lessee’s entire interest. Spears v. Canon de Carnue Land Grant, 80 N.M. 766, 461 P.2d 415, 417.

Assignation house. A bawdy house; a house of prostitution.

Assignatus utitur jure auctoris /əsəgnēȳdəs yūwdədər jūri joktōrəs/. An assignee uses the right of his principal; an assignee is clothed with the rights of his principal.

Assigned account. Pledge of account receivable to bank or factor as security for loan.
Assigned counsel. An attorney appointed by court to represent an indigent person; most commonly in criminal cases. See U.S. Constitution, Sixth Amendment (right to counsel); Fed.R.Crim.P. 44. See also Counsel, right to.

Assigned risk. A risk which is not ordinarily acceptable to insurers but for which coverage is required by state statute and which is, therefore, assigned to insurers participating in an assigned risk pool. See Assigned risk plan.

Assigned risk plan. In those states having compulsory motor vehicle insurance, statutes provide that persons who are unable to buy coverage may secure insurance through a statutory plan under which insurers are compelled to write coverage for such persons. The insurance is handled through a pool of insurers.

Assignee /əˈsɪznɪ/ A person to whom an assignment is made; grantee.

Under U.C.C., assignee is subject to all defenses which may be asserted against assignor by account debtor. U.C.C. § 9–318.

Assignee in fact is one to whom an assignment has been made in fact by the party having the right.

Assignee in law is one in whom the law vests the right; as an executor or administrator.

Assignee clause. A provision in Judiciary Act of 1789 preventing one who could not show diversity of citizenship to bring suit in Federal Court from assigning his claim to one who had the required diversity; modified in 28 U.S.C.A. § 1359 to prevent only assignment made collusively to invoke diversity jurisdiction. See Caribbean Mills, Inc. v. Kramer, C.A.5th, 392 F.2d 387.

Assignment. A transfer or making over to another of the whole of any property, real or personal, in possession or in action, or of any estate or right therein. It includes transfers of all kinds of property (Higgins v. Monckton, 28 Cal.App.2d 723, 83 P.2d 516, 519), including negotiable instruments. The transfer by a party of all of its rights to some kind of property, usually intangible property such as rights in a lease, mortgage, agreement of sale or a partnership. Tangible property is more often transferred by possession and by instruments conveying title such as a deed or a bill of sale.

Assignment for benefit of creditors. A general assignment for benefit of creditors is transfer of all or substantially all of debtor's property to another person in trust to collect any money owing to debtor, to sell property, to distribute the proceeds to his creditors and to return the surplus, if any, to debtor. Under Bankruptcy Act of 1898, such assignment was an "act of bankruptcy" if made within 4 months of bankruptcy. Bankruptcy Act (1898) § 3a(4). See also Preferential assignment.

Assignment of account. Transfer to assignee giving him a right to have moneys when collected applied to payment of his debt. Nanny v. H. E. Pogue Distillery Co., 56 Cal.App.2d 817, 135 P.2d 686, 688.

Assignment of counsel. See Assigned counsel; Assistance of counsel; Counsel, right to.

Assignment of dower. The act by which the share of a widow in her deceased husband's real estate is ascertained and set apart to her.

Assignment of error. See Error.

Assignment of income. A procedure whereby a taxpayer attempts to avoid the recognition of income by assigning the property that generates the income to another. Such a procedure will not avoid the recognition of income by the taxpayer making the assignment if it is said that the income was earned at the point of the transfer. In this case, usually referred to as an anticipatory assignment of income, the income will be taxed to the person who earns it.

Assignment of wages. Transfer of right to collect wages from wage earner to creditor; generally, statutes govern the extent to which such assignment may be made.

Assignment pro tanto. Where an order is drawn upon a third party and made payable out of a particular fund then due or to become due to the drawer, the delivery of the order to the payee operates as an assignment pro tanto of the fund. Doyle v. East New York Sav. Bank, 44 N.Y.S.2d 318, 323.

Assignment with preferences. An assignment for the benefit of creditors, with directions to the assignee to prefer a specified creditor or class of creditors, by paying their claims in full before the others receive any dividend, or in some other manner. More usually termed a "preferential assignment." Such assignments may constitute an "act of bankruptcy" (q.v.).

Foreign assignment. An assignment made in a foreign country, or in another state.

General assignment. An assignment made for the benefit of all the assignor's creditors, instead of a few only; or one which transfers the whole of his estate to the assignee, instead of a part only.

Voluntary assignment. An assignment for the benefit of his creditors made by a debtor voluntarily, as distinguished from a compulsory assignment which takes place by operation of law in proceedings in bankruptcy. Such constitutes an assignment of a debtor's property in trust to pay his debts generally, in distinction from a transfer of property to a particular creditor in payment of his demand, or to a conveyance by way of collateral security or mortgage.

Assignor /əˈsɜːnər/. A person who assigns or transfers property to another. See Grantor.

Assigns. Assignees; those to whom property is, will, or may be assigned. Used e.g. in the phrase, in deeds, "heirs, administrators, and assigns to denote the assignable nature of the interest or right created." It generally comprehends all those who take either immediately or remotely from or under the assignor, whether by conveyance, devise, descent, or act of law.

Assisa /əˈsɪza/. In old English and Scotch law, an assise; a kind of jury or inquest; a writ; a sitting of a court; an ordinance or statute; a fixed or specific time, number, quantity, quality, price, or weight; a tribute, fine, or tax; a real action; the name of a writ. See Assise.
ASSISA ARMORUM

Assisa armorum /asáya arma/ram/. Assise of arms. A statute or ordinance requiring the keeping of arms for the common defense.

Assisa cadere /asáya kaðýari/. To fail in the assise; i.e., to be nonsuited. 3 Bl.Comm. 402.

Assisa cadit in juratum /asáya kaðýað an jæryðan/. The assise falls (turns) into a jury; hence to submit a controversy to trial by jury.

Assisa continua/nda /asáya kantinyuywënda/. An ancient writ addressed to the justices of assise for the continuation of a cause, when certain facts put in issue could not have been proved in time by the party alleging them.

Assisa de Clarendon /asáya diy klærondo/. The assise of Clarendon. A statute or ordinance passed in the tenth year of Henry II, by which those that were accused of any heinous crime, and not able to purge themselves, but must abjure the realm, had liberty of forty days to stay and try what succor they could get of their friends towards their sustenance in exile.

Assisa de foresta /asáya diy forësta/. Assise of the forest; a statute concerning orders to be observed in the royal forests.

Assisa de mensuris /asáya diy mens(y)ýuras/. Assise of measures. A common rule for weights and measures, established throughout England by Richard I, in the eighth year of his reign.

Assisa de nocomento /asáya diy nókaménów/. An assise of nuisances; a writ to abate or redress a nuisance.

Assisa de utrum /asáya diy yúytrum/. An obsolete writ, which lay for the parson of a church whose predecessor had alienated the land and rents of it.

Assisa frische fortie /asáya fríksiy fórshiyyiy/. Assise of fresh force, which see.

Assisa mortis d'ancestoris /asáya módras dæn-sestóras/. Assise of mort d'ancestor, which see.

Assisa nove disseisine /asáya nówviy dasíyanjíy/. Assise of novel disseisine, which see.

Assisa panis et cerevisie /asáya pénàs ñt sarávishiyiy/. Assise of bread and ale, or beer. The name of a statute passed in the fifty-fifth year of Henry III, containing regulations for the sale of bread and ale; sometimes called the "statute of bread and ale."

Assisa proroganda /asáya prórowgwënda/. An obsolete writ, which was directed to the judges assigned to take assisses, to stay proceedings, by reason of a party to them being employed in the king's business.

Assisa ultima presentat/ions /asáya åltímiy pré-zantéshiyiwýmys/. Assise of darrein presentment (q.v.).

Assisa venallum /asáya vanélylyymmetric/. The assise of salable commodities, or of things exposed for sale.

Assise, or assise /asáya/. An ancient species of court, consisting of a certain number of men, usually twelve, who were summoned together to try a disputed cause, performing the functions of a jury, except that they gave a verdict from their own investigation and knowledge and not upon evidence adduced. From the fact that they sat together (assedeo), they were called the "assise." A court composed of an assembly of knights and other substantial men, with the baron or justice, in a certain place, at an appointed time. The verdict or judgment of the jurors or recognitors of assise. 3 Bl.Comm. 57, 59.

In later English law, the name "assises" or "assizes" was given to the court, time, or place where the judges of assise and nisi prius, who were sent by special commission from the crown on circuits through the kingdom, proceeded to take indictments, and to try such disputed causes issuing out of the courts at Westminster as were then ready for trial, with the assistance of a jury from the particular county. These judges of assise were the successors of the ancient "justices in eyre." They sat by virtue of four separate authorities: (1) Commission of Oyer and Terminer, (2) of goal delivery, (3) of nisi prius, and (4) Commission of Peace. In 1771 the Crown Court was established which superseded the criminal jurisdiction of courts of assise and all the jurisdiction of quarter sessions. The assise courts were accordingly abolished.

Anything reduced to a certainty in respect to time, number, quantity, quality, weight, measure, etc.

A species of writ, or real action, said to have been invented by Glanville, chief justice to Henry II, and having for its object to determine the right of possession of lands, and to recover the possession. 3 Bl. Comm. 184, 185.

The whole proceedings in court upon a writ of assise. The verdict or finding of the jury upon such a writ. 3 Bl.Comm. 57.

See also Certificate of assize.

Assise of Clarendon. See Assisa.

Assise of darrein presentment. A writ of assise which formerly lay when a man or his ancestors under whom he claimed presented a clerk to a benefice, who was instituted, and afterwards, upon the next avoidance, a stranger presented a clerk and thereby disturbed the real patron. 3 Bl.Comm. 245. It has given way to the remedy by quare impedit.

Assise of fresh force. In old English practice, a writ which lay by the usage and custom of a city or borough, where a man was disseised of his lands and tenements in such city or borough. It was called "fresh force," because it was to be sued within forty days after the party's title accrued to him.

Assise of mort d'ancestor. A real action which lay to recover land of which a person had been deprived on the death of his ancestor by the abatement or intrusion of a stranger. 3 Bl.Comm. 185. It was abolished by St. 3 & 4 Wm. IV, c. 27.

Assise of Northampton. A re-enactment and enlargement (1176) of the Assise of Clarendon.

Assise of novel disseisine. A writ of assise which lay for the recovery of lands or tenements, where the claimant had been lately disseised.

Assise of nuisance. A writ of assise which lay where a nuisance had been committed to the complainant's freehold; either for abatement of the nuisance or for damages.
**Association**

**Associate.** Signifies confederacy or union for a particular purpose, good or ill. To join together, as e.g. partners. See Association.

Having subordinate status; e.g. associate professor.

An officer in each of the English courts of common law, appointed by the chief judge of the court, and holding his office during good behavior, whose duties were to superintend the entry of causes, to attend the sittings of nisi prius, and there receive and enter verdicts, and to draw up the postea and any orders of nisi prius. The associates were later officers of the Supreme Court of Judicature, and are styled “Masters of the Supreme Court”.

Duties of associates are now carried out by clerks in the Crown Office and Associates Department of the Central Office of the Supreme Court.

**Associate justices.** Judges of courts, other than the presiding or chief justice.

**Associates in office.** Those who are united in action; who have a common purpose; who share the responsibility or authority and among whom is reasonable equality. Those who are authorized by law to perform the duties jointly or as a body.

**Association.** The act of a number of persons in uniting together for some special purpose or business. It is a term of vague meaning used to indicate a collection or organization of persons who have joined together for a certain or common object. Also, the persons so joining; the state of being associated.

An unincorporated society; a body of persons united and acting together without a charter, but upon the methods and forms used by incorporated bodies for the prosecution of some common enterprise. Clark v. Grand Lodge of Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen, 328 Mo. 1084, 43 S.W.2d 404, 408. It is not a legal entity separate from the persons who compose it. See also Affiliation.

An organization treated as a corporation for Federal tax purposes even though it may not qualify as such under applicable state law. What is designated as a trust or a partnership, for example, may be classified as an association if it clearly possesses corporate attributes. Corporate attributes include: centralized management, continuity of existence, free transferability of interests, and limited liability. I.R.C. § 7701(a)(3).

A “business trust” is an “association” when it has a continuing entity throughout trust period, centralized management, continuity of trust uninterrupted by death among beneficial owners, means for transfer of beneficial interests, and limitation of personal liabilities of participants to property embarked in undertaking. Fletcher v. Clark, D.C.Wyo., 57 F.Supp. 479, 480.

See also Articles of association; Confederacy; Joint stock association; Non-profit association; Professional association; Unincorporated association.

**Partnership association.** See Partnership.

**Professional corporation.** See Corporation (Professional corporation).

**Unincorporated association.** A confederation of individuals organized for a specific purpose which may

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**Assise of the forest.** A statute touching orders to be observed in the king’s forests.

**Assise of utrum.** A writ of assise which lay for a parson to recover lands which his predecessor had improperly allowed the church to be deprived of. 3 Bl.Comm. 257.

An assise for the trial of the question of whether land is a lay fee, or held in frankalmoigne.

**Assise rents.** The certain established rents of the freeholders and ancient copyholders of a manor; so called because they are assised, or made precise and certain.

**Grand assize.** A peculiar species of trial by jury, introduced in the time of Henry II, giving the tenant or defendant in a writ of right the alternative of a trial by battel, or by his peers. Abolished by 3 & 4 Wm. IV, c. 42, § 13. 3 Bl.Comm. 341. See Battel.

**Assiser /ásázər/:** An assessor; juror; an officer who has the care and oversight of weights and measures.

**Assisors /ásázərz/:** In Scotch law, jurors; the persons who formed that kind of court which in Scotland was called an “assise,” for the purpose of inquiring into and judging divers civil causes, such as perambulations, cognitions, molestations, purpurestures, and other matters; like jurors in England.

**Assist.** To help; aid; succor; lend countenance or encouragement to; participate in as an auxiliary. To contribute effort in the complete accomplishment of an ultimate purpose intended to be effected by those engaged.

**Assistance, or (assistants) court of.** See Court of assistants.

**Assistance of counsel.** Sixth Amendment to Federal Constitution, guaranteeing accused in criminal prosecution “assistance of counsel” for his defense, means effective assistance, as distinguished from bad faith, sham, mere pretense or want of opportunity for conferences and preparation. Fed.R.Crim.P. 44; Gideon v. Wainwright, 372 U.S. 335, 83 S.Ct. 792, 9 L.Ed.2d 799; Geder v. U. S., 425 U.S. 80, 96 S.Ct. 1330, 47 L.Ed.2d 592. See Assigned counsel; Counsel, right to.

**Assistance, writ of.** See Writ of assistance.

**Assistant.** A deputy, aide, or subordinate; as an assistant assessor. One who stands by and aids or helps another. Ordinarily refers to employee whose duties are to help his superior, to whom he must look for duty to act. State ex rel. Dunn v. Ayers, 112 Mont. 120, 113 P.2d 785, 788.

**Assisus /ásáyzəs/:** Rented or farmed out for a specified assise; that is, a payment of a certain assessed rent in money or provisions.

**Assize /ásəz/:** See Assise.

**Assizes de Jerusalem /ásáyzəz da járwəzələm/:** A code of feudal jurisprudence prepared by an assembly of barons and lords A.D. 1099, after the conquest of Jerusalem. It was compiled principally from the laws and customs of France.
ASSOCIATION

or may not be profit making but which is not chartered as a corporation.

Association, freedom of. See Assembly, right of.

Association of American Law Schools, The. AALS is literally an association of law schools. After a school has graduated at least three annual classes it is eligible to apply for membership. Compliance with the rules of membership are determined through a three or four person inspection team. Recommendations for admission to membership are made by the Executive Committee, upon advice of the Accreditation Committee. Membership is attained by action of the House of Representatives.

Assoll /asöyl/. (Spelled also assoile, absole, assoilyie.) To absolve; acquit; to set free; to deliver from excommunication.

As soon as. This term has a relative meaning according to the thing which is to be done. It may denote merely a reasonable time; or may be equivalent to "whenever", or may mean "immediately".

As soon as may be. Promptly and with due diligence; as soon as was reasonably possible; within a reasonable time; as soon as possible; fortoth:; as soon as they conveniently can. George A. Fuller Co. v. Jersey City, 21 N.J.Misc. 38, 29 A.2d 720, 722.

As soon as practicable. Means reasonable time. These words are not synonymous with "as soon as possible"; they mean ordinarily as soon as reasonably can be expected; or "in due time". But the words have also been construed as practically synonymous with speedily.

The words "as soon as practicable" within liability policy requirement the insured will notify the insurer of an occurrence as soon as practicable means within reasonable time in view of all the facts and circumstances of each particular case. Greenway v. Selected Risks Ins. Co., D.C.App., 307 A.2d 753, 755.

As speedily as possible. Means within reasonable time or without unreasonable delay having regard to all the circumstances of the case and the things to be done. Tatum v. Levi, 117 Cal.App. 83, 3 P.2d 963, 967.

Assume. To pretend. To undertake; engage; promise. To take to or upon one's self. Also taking up, receiving, adopting, taking to oneself, or to put on deceitfully, take appearance of, affect, or outwardly seem. To take on, become bound as another is bound, or put oneself in place of another as to an obligation or liability. Texas Employers' Ins. Ass'n v. Texas & P. Ry. Co., Tex.Civ.App., 129 S.W.2d 746, 749. See also Assumption.

Assumed facts. Facts concerning which no evidence has been introduced at trial and hence no rulings of law or jury instructions are required. In argument, a hypothetical set of facts used to illustrate a point of law.

Assumed name. See Alias.

Assumed risk. See Assumption of risk.

A summo remedio ad inferiorem actionem non habetur regressus, neque auxiliéum /éy sámow ramifid(i)ow aed infiriýoram ákshiyownam nóng habiydor rágréssas, nökwi ogzil(i)ym/. From (after using) the highest remedy, there can be no recourse (going back) to an inferior action, nor assistance (derived from it). A maxim in the old law of real actions, when there were grades in the remedies given; the rule being that a party who brought a writ of right, which was the highest writ in the law, could not afterwards resort to descend to an inferior remedy. 3 Bl.Comm. 193, 194.

Assumpsit /asám(p)sat/. Lat. He undertook; he promised.

A promise or engagement by which one person assumes or undertakes to do some act or pay something to another. It may be either oral or in writing, but is not under seal. It is express if the promisor puts his engagement in distinct and definite language; it is implied where the law infers a promise (though not formal one has passed) from the conduct of the party or the circumstances of the case. Dukes v. Rogers, 67 Ga.App. 661, 21 S.E.2d 295, 297.

A common law form of action which lies for the recovery of damages for the non-performance of a parol or simple contract; or a contract that is neither of record nor under seal. A liberal and equitable action, applicable to almost every case where money has been received which in equity and good conscience ought to be refunded; express promise is not necessary to sustain action, but it may be maintained whenever anything is received or done from the circumstances of which the law implies a promise of compensation. The action of assumpsit differs from trespass and trover, which are founded on a tort, not upon a contract; from covenant and debt, which are appropriate where the ground of recovery is a sealed instrument, or special obligation to pay a fixed sum; and from replevin, which seeks the recovery of specific property, if attainable, rather than of damages.

Express assumpsit. See Express assumpsit.

General (common or indebitatus) assumpsit is an action of assumpsit brought upon the promise or contract implied by law in certain cases. It is founded upon what the law terms an implied promise on the part of defendant to pay what, in good conscience, he is bound to pay to plaintiff.

Special assumpsit is an action of assumpsit brought upon an express contract or promise.

Assumpsit for money had and received. Is of equitable character and lies, in general, whenever defendant has received money which in equity and good conscience he ought to pay to plaintiff.

Assumpsit on quantum meruit /asám(p)sat òn kwóntam méruwat/. When a person employs another to do work for him, without any agreement as to his compensation, the law implies a promise from the employer to the workman that he will pay him for his services as much as he may deserve or merit. In such case, the plaintiff may suggest in his declaration that the defendant promised to pay him as much as he reasonably deserved, and then aver that his trouble was worth such a sum of money, which the defendant has omitted to pay. This is called an "assumpsit on quantum meruit". Travis v. Kennedy, Tex.Civ.App., 66 S.W.2d 444, 446. See also Quantum meruit.
Assumption. The act of conceding or taking for granted. Laying claim to or taking possession of.

The act or agreement of assuming or taking upon one's self. The undertaking or adoption of a debt or obligation primarily resting upon another, as where the purchaser of real estate "assumes" a mortgage resting upon it, in which case he adopts the mortgage debt as his own and becomes personally liable for its payment. The difference between the purchaser of land assuming a mortgage on it and simply buying subject to the mortgage, is that in the former case he makes himself personally liable for the payment of the mortgage debt, while in the latter case he does not. When he takes the conveyance subject to the mortgage, he is bound only to the extent of the property. Where one "assumes" a lease, he takes to himself the obligations, contracts, agreements, and benefits to which the other contracting party was entitled under the terms of the lease. See Assumption of mortgage.

Assumption clause. In mortgages, a provision that the mortgage may not be assumed without written consent of mortgagee. See Assumption of mortgage. Also a provision in an instrument of transfer in which the transferee agrees to assume an obligation of the transferor.

Assumption fee. Lender's charge for processing records for new buyer assuming an existing loan (mortgage).

Assumption of care. See Good Samaritan doctrine.


Assumption of mortgage. To take or acquire a mortgage or deed of trust from some prior holder. Thus, a purchaser may assume or take over the mortgage of the seller. Often this requires permission of the mortgagee. This is distinguishable from taking equity of redemption subject to mortgage because in latter case grantee is not contractually bound to pay mortgage, whereas if he assumes the mortgage, he binds himself to mortgagor to pay the mortgage and to fulfill all other terms and conditions of mortgage. See also Assumption.

Assumption of risk. The doctrine of assumption of risk, also known as volenti non fit injuria, means legally that a plaintiff may not recover for an injury to which he assents, i.e., that a person may not recover for an injury received when he voluntarily exposes himself to a known and appreciated danger. The requirements for the defense of volenti non fit injuria are that: (1) the plaintiff has knowledge of facts constituting a dangerous condition, (2) he knows the condition is dangerous, (3) he appreciates the nature or extent of the danger, and (4) he voluntarily exposes himself to the danger. An exception may be applicable even though the above factors have entered into a plaintiff's conduct if his actions come within the rescue or humanitarian doctrine. Clarke v. Brockway Motor Trucks, D.C.Pa., 372 F.Supp. 1342, 1347.

A defense to action of negligence which consists of showing that the plaintiff, knowing the dangers and risk involved, chose to act as he did. An affirmative defense which the defendant in a negligence action must plead and prove. Fed.R.Civ.P. 8(c). It is not a defense under state workers' compensation laws or in FELA actions. Many states have abolished the defense of assumption of risk in automobile cases with the enactment of no-fault insurance acts or comparative negligence acts.

Assurance. The act or action of assuring; e.g., a pledge, guaranty, or surety. A declaration tending to inspire full confidence.

The deed or instrument by which real property is conveyed; also, the act of conveying such.

Same as "Insurance"; term used in Canada and England.

In England, the legal evidences of the transfer of property are called the "common assurances" of the kingdom, whereby every man's estate is assured to him, and all controversies, doubts, and difficulties are either prevented or removed.

Assurance, further, covenant for. See Covenant (Covenant for further assurance).

Assure. To make certain and put beyond doubt. To declare, aver, avouch, assert, or ensure positively. To declare solemnly; to assure to any one with design of inspiring belief or confidence. Used interchangeably with "insure" in insurance law. In real property documents it means a warranty; and in business documents, generally, it means a pledge or security. Utilities Engineering Institute v. Kofod, 185 Misc. 1035, 58 N.Y.S.2d 743, 745.

Assured. A person who has been insured by some insurance company, or underwriter, against losses or perils mentioned in the policy of insurance. Ordinarily synonymous with "insured".

Assured clear distance ahead. Requires driver to keep automobile under such control that he can stop in distance that he can clearly see; the distance varying with circumstances. Lauerman v. Strickler, 141 Pa. Super. 240, 14 A.2d 608, 610; Smiley v. Arrow Spring Bed Co., 138 Ohio St. 81, 33 N.E.2d 3, 5, 6, 7, 9.

Assurer. An insurer against certain perils and dangers; an underwriter; an indemiffer.

Astitulation /a'stiplieshan/. A mutual agreement, assent, and consent between parties; also a witness or record.

Astrarius hæres /a'streirias hiriyz/. An heir apparent who has been placed, by conveyance, in possession of his ancestor's estate during such ancestor's lifetime.

Astitution /a'sti(yyyy)wshan/. An arraignment (q.v.).

Astrarius /a'streirias/. In old English law, a household; belonging to the house; a person in actual possession of a house.

Astrarius hæres /a'streirias hiriyz/. Where the ancestor by conveyance hath set his heir apparent and his family in a house in his lifetime.
Astrer /éstári/. In old English law, a householder, or occupant of a house or hearth.

Astrihilet. In Saxon law, a penalty for a wrong done by one in the king’s peace. The offender was to replace the damage twofold.

Astrum /éstram/. A house, or place of habitation.

Asylum /ásáylam/. A sanctuary, or place of refuge and protection, where criminals and debtors found shelter, and from which they could not be taken without sacrilege. Shelter; refuge; protection from the hand of justice. The word includes not only place, but also shelter, security, protection. While a foreign country has the right to offer an asylum to fugitives from other countries, there is no corresponding right on the part of the alien to claim asylum. This right of asylum has been voluntarily limited by most countries by treaties providing for the extradition (q.v.) of fugitive criminals (international extradition).

In time of war, a place of refuge in neutral territory for belligerent warships.

An institution for the protection and relief of unfortunates, as asylum for the poor, or for the insane; though this term is no longer generally used for such institutions.

At. A term of considerable elasticity of meaning, and somewhat indefinite. A function word to describe or indicate presence or occurrence in, on, or near; or to indicate the means, cause, or manner; or to indicate that which one is occupied or employed. As used to fix a time, it does not necessarily mean eo instante or the identical time named, or even a fixed definite moment. Often expresses simply nearness and proximity, and consequently may denote a reasonable time.

Atamita /atámda/. In the civil law, a great-great-grandfather’s sister.


At any time prior to. Synonymous with “not later than”. Hughes v. United States, C.C.A.Tenn., 114 F.2d 285, 287.

At arm’s length. Beyond the reach of personal influence or control. Parties are said to deal “at arm’s length” when each stands upon the strict letter of his rights, and conducts the business in a formal manner, without trusting to the other’s fairness or integrity, and without being subject to the other’s control or overmastering influence. See Arm’s length transaction.

Atavia /átéviya/. In the civil law, a great-grandmother’s grand-mother.

Atavunculus /ádváokylyas/. The brother of a great-grandfather’s grandmother, or a great-great-grandfather’s brother.

Atavus /ádvav/. The male ascendant in the fifth degree. The great-grandfather’s or great-grandmother’s grandfather; a fourth grandfather.

Ataxia. Condition involving impaired coordinative control over the extremities; power present in the extremities, but control is lacking.

At bar. Before the court. “The case at bar,” etc.

A tempore cujus contrarii memoria non existet /éy témparíy kryújí y kantrériyáy memóríyán e ngízístá/. From a time of which there is no memory to the contrary.

A teneris annís /éy téneras ánas/. By reason of youth.

A terme. For a or the term.

A terme de sa vie. For the term of his life.

A terme que n’est mye encore passe. For a term that has not yet passed.

A terme que passe est. For a term that has passed.

Atha /áthá/. (Spelled also Atta, Athe, Atte.) In Saxon law, an oath; the power or privilege of exacting and administering an oath.

Atheist. One who does not believe in the existence of a God.

Atia /éysh(i)ya/. Hatred or ill-will. See De odio et atia.

Atillian law. See Lex atilia.

Atinian law. See Lex atinia.

At issue. Whenever the parties come to a point in the pleadings which is affirmed on one side and denied on the other, they are said to be at an issue.

ATLA. American Trial Lawyers Association.

At large. Not limited to any particular place, district, person, matter, or question; open to discussion or controversy; not precluded. Free; unrestrained; not under corporal control, as a ferocious animal so free from restraint as to be liable to do mischief. Fully; in detail; in an extended form.

Elected officials chosen by the voters of the State as a whole rather than from separate Congressional or legislative districts.

At law. According to law; by, for, or in law. Particularly in distinction from that which is done in or according to equity; or in titles such as sergeant at law, barrister at law, attorney or counsellor at law.

At least. In deed of trust covenant specifying amount of fire insurance, means at lowest estimate, at smallest concession or claim, in smallest or lowest degree, at smallest number. Browne v. Franklin Fire Ins. Co., 225 Mo.App. 665, 37 S.W.2d 977, 978.

Atmatertera /átmetátdará/. A great-grandfather’s grandmother’s sister (atavie soror), called by Bracton “atmatertera magna.”


At once. In contracts of various kinds the phrase is construed as synonymous with “immediately" and
"forthwith," where the subject-matter is the giving of notice. The use of such term does not ordinarily call for instantaneous action, but rather that notice shall be given within such time as is reasonable in view of the circumstances. Likewise, contracts or statutes requiring the performance of a particular act "at once" are usually held to mean simply within a reasonable time. An order to "ship at once" is synonymous with "as soon as possible". Myers v. Hardin, 208 Ark. 505, 186 S.W.2d 925, 928.

A tort. Without reason; unjustly; wrongfully.

A tort et a travers. Without consideration or discernment.

A tort ou a droit. Right or wrong.

At par. Said of a bond or preferred stock issued or selling at its face value.

Atpatruus /ətˈpætruəs/. The brother of a great-grandfather's grandfather.

Atrocity /əˈtrɒsɪtɪ/. An assault by maiming and wounding. Aggravated assault.

Atrophy /əˈtrɒfi/. Degeneration or wasting away of tissues, organs or parts due to lack of use; disease or interference with nerve supply.

ATS. At suit of.


Attach. Seizure of property under a writ of attachment. See Attachment. To bind, fasten, tie, or connect, to make fast or join; its antonyms are separate, detach, remove.

Attaché /ətˈʃeɪ/. A person attached to an embassy, to the office of an ambassador, or to a foreign legation. One connected with an office, e.g., a public office.

Attached. A term describing the physical union of two otherwise independent structures or objects, or the relation between two parts of a single structure, each having its own function. As applied to buildings, the term is often synonymous with "annexed." See, also Fixture.

Attached account. Account against which court order has been issued; payments can only be made with consent of court.

Attachiamenta /ətˈʃeɪ(ɪ)əməntə/. L. Lat. Attachment.

Attachiamenta bonorum /ətˈʃeɪ(ɪ)əməntə bownoːrɔm/. A distress formerly taken upon goods and chattels, by the legal attachiatiors or bailiffs, as security to answer an action for personal estate or debt.

Attachiamenta de placitus corone /ətˈʃeɪ(ɪ)əməntə diə plaeːsətis kɒrəʊni/. Attachment of pleas of the crown.

**ATTACHMENT BOND**

Attachiamenta de spinis et boscis /ətˈʃeɪ(ɪ)əməntə diə spʌɪnɪs ət bɒskz/. A privilege granted to the officers of a forest to take to their own use thorns, brush, and windfalls, within their precincts.

Attachiamentum /ətˈʃeɪ(ɪ)əməntəm/. L. Lat. An attachment.

Ataching creditor. See Creditor.

Attachment. The act or process of taking, apprehending, or seizing persons or property, by virtue of a writ, summons, or other judicial order, and bringing the same into the custody of the court for the purpose of securing satisfaction of the judgment ultimately to be entered in the action. While formerly the main objective of attachment was to coerce the defendant debtor to appear in court by seizure of his property, today the writ of attachment is used primarily to seize the debtor's property in order to secure the debt or claim of the creditor in the event that a judgment is rendered. The remedy of attachment is governed strictly by state statutes, with such differing considerably as to when attachment is available (the majority of states providing that such is available at or after the commencement of the main action until entry of judgment). Federal courts follow the local rules or statutes relating to attachment. Fed.R.Civ.P. 64.

A remedy ancillary to an action by which plaintiff is enabled to acquire a lien upon property or effects of defendant for satisfaction of judgment which plaintiff may obtain. Lipscomb v. Rankin, C.C.A.Tex., 139 S.W.2d 367, 369.

See also Garnishment; Levy.

**Distinguished from execution.** See Execution.

Domestic and foreign. In some jurisdictions it is common to give the name "domestic attachment" to one issuing against a resident debtor (upon the special ground of fraud, intention to abscond, etc.), and to designate an attachment against a non-resident, or his property, as "foreign."

Where the defendant is a non-resident, or beyond the territorial jurisdiction of the court, his goods or land within the territory may be seized upon process of attachment; whereby he will be compelled to enter an appearance, or the court acquires jurisdiction so far as to dispose of the property attached. This is sometimes called "foreign attachment." In such a case, the proceeding becomes in substance one in rem against the attached property.

Persons. A writ issued by a court of record, commanding the sheriff to bring before it a person who has been guilty of contempt of court, either in neglect or abuse of its process or of subordinate powers. A capias (q.v.).

Property. A species of mesne process, by which a writ is issued at the institution or during the progress of an action, commanding the sheriff to seize the property, rights, credits, or effects of the defendant to be held as security for the satisfaction of such judgment as the plaintiff may recover. It is principally used against absconding, concealed, or fraudulent debtors. Mass.R. Civil P. 4.1.

Attachment bond. A bond used to dissolve an attachment so as to free the property subject to the attachment for sale or other disposition; may be surety.
ATTACHMENT BOND

company bond or personal bond with sureties. Plaintiff then looks to bond for satisfaction of his judgment.

Attachment execution. A name given in some states to a process of garnishment for the satisfaction of a judgment; but as to the garnishee it is an original process—a summons commanding him to appear and show cause, if any he has, why the judgment should not be levied on the goods and effects of the defendant in his hands.

Attachment of privilege. In old English law, a process by which a man, by virtue of his privilege, calls another to litigate in that court to which he himself belongs, and who has the privilege to answer there. A writ issued to apprehend a person in a privileged place.

Attachment of risk. Used to describe point in time, generally when title passes, when risk of loss for destruction of property which is subject of sale passes to buyer from seller. U.C.C. § 2-509.

Attachment of the forest. In old English law, one of the three courts formerly held in forests. The highest court was called “justice in eye’re’s seat;” the middle, the “swainmote;” and the lowest, the “attachment.”

Attain. To reach or come to by progression or motion; to arrive at; as, to attain a ripe old age. Watkins v. Metropolitan Life Ins. Co., 156 Kan. 27, 131 P.2d 722, 723.

Attainer /əˈtɛɪndər/. At common law, that extinction of civil rights and capacities which took place whenever a person who had committed treason or felony received sentence of death for his crime.

The effect of “attainer” upon such felon was, in general terms, that all his estate, real and personal, was forfeited. At the common law, attainder resulted in three ways, viz.: by confession, by verdict, and by process or outlawry. The first case was where the prisoner pleaded guilty at the bar, or having fled to sanctuary, confessed his guilt and absented the realm to save his life. The second was where the prisoner pleaded not guilty at the bar, and the jury brought in a verdict against him. The third, when the person accused made his escape and was outlawed.

In England, by statute 33 & 34 Vict. c. 23, attainder upon conviction, with consequent corruption of blood, forfeiture, or escheat, was abolished. In the United States, the doctrine of attainder is now scarcely known, although during and shortly after the Revolution acts of attainder were passed by several of the states. The passage of such bills is expressly forbidden by the Constitution (Art. I, Sec. 9).

Bills of attainder. Such special acts of the legislature as inflict capital punishments upon persons supposed to be guilty of high offenses, such as treason and felony, without any conviction in the ordinary course of judicial proceedings. If an act inflicts a milder degree of punishment than death, it is called a “bill of pains and penalties,” but both are included in the prohibition in the Constitution (Art. I, Sec. 9). Losier v. Sherman, 157 Kan. 153, 138 P.2d 272, 273; State v. Graves, 352 Mo. 1102, 182 S.W.2d 46, 54. See also Bill.

Attaint /əˈtɛɪnt/. Attainted, stained, or blackened.

In old English practice, a writ which lay to inquire whether a jury of twelve men had given a false verdict, in order that the judgment might be reversed. 3 Bl.Comm. 402. This inquiry was made by a grand assise or jury of twenty-four persons, usually knights, and, if they found the verdict a false one, the judgment was that the jurors should become infamous, should forfeit their goods and the profits of their lands, should themselves be imprisoned, and their wives and children thrust out of doors, should have their houses razed, their trees extirpated, and their meadows plowed up, and that the plaintiff should be restored to all that he lost by reason of the unjust verdict. 3 Bl.Comm. 404.

Attaint d’une cause /əˈtɛɪnt d(ə)yʊn kəʊz/. In French law, the gain of a suit.

Attempt. In statutes and in cases other than criminal prosecutions an “attempt” ordinarily means an intent combined with an act falling short of the thing intended. It may be described as an endeavor to do an act, carried beyond mere preparation, but short of execution.

Criminal law. An effort or endeavor to accomplish a crime, amounting to more than mere preparation or planning for it, which, if not prevented, would have resulted in the full consummation of the act attempted, but which, in fact, does not bring to pass the party’s ultimate design. The requisite elements of an “attempt” to commit a crime are: (1) an intent to commit it, (2) an overt act toward its commission, (3) failure of consummation, and (4) the apparent possibility of commission. State v. Stewart, Mo.App., 537 S.W.2d 579, 581.

A person is guilty of an attempt to commit a crime if, acting with the kind of culpability otherwise required for commission of the crime, he: (a) purposely engages in conduct which would constitute the crime if the attendant circumstances were as he believes them to be; or (b) when causing a particular result is an element of the crime, does or omits to do anything with the purpose of causing or with the belief that it will cause such result without further conduct on his part; or (c) purposely does or omits to do anything which, under the circumstances as he believes them to be, is an act or omission constituting a substantial step in a course of conduct planned to culminate in his commission of the crime. Model Penal Code, § 5.01.

Attendant, n. One who owes a duty or service to another, or in some sort depends upon him. One who follows and waits upon another.

Attendant, adj. Accompanying, or connected with.

Attendant circumstances. Facts surrounding an event, such as the time, place and declarations of a testator prior to and immediately following execution of his will.

Attendant terms. In English law, terms (usually mortgages), for a long period of years, which are created or kept outstanding for the purpose of attending or waiting upon and protecting the inheritance. A phrase used in conveyancing to denote estates which are kept alive, after the objects for which they were
originally created have ceased, so that they might be deemed merged or satisfied, for the purpose of protecting or strengthening the title of the owner. By the Satisfied Terms Act of 1845, any attendant term becoming satisfied after the Act immediately ceased. But the Act did not apply to leaseholds. That Act was repealed and replaced by Sec. 5 of the Law of Property Act of 1925, which applies to terms created out of leaseholds as well as terms created out of freeholds.

Attentat /əˈstenət/. Lat. He attempts.

In the civil and canon law, anything wrongfully innovated or attempted in a suit by an inferior judge (or judge a quo) pending an appeal.

Attention. Consideration with a view to action; notice; attentiveness; the act or state of attending.

Atterminare /əˈtarəmənəri/. In old English law, to put off to a succeeding term; to prolong the time of payment of a debt.

Attermining /əˈtarəməniŋ/. In old English law, a putting off; the granting of a time or term, as for the payment of a debt.

Attermolement. In canon law, a making terms; a composition, as with creditors.

Attest. To bear witness to; to bear witness to a fact; to affirm to be true or genuine; to act as a witness to; to certify; to certify to the verity of a copy of a public document formally by signature; to make solemn declaration in words or writing to support a fact; to signify by subscription of his name that the signer has witnessed the execution of the particular instrument. Lindsey v. Realty Trust Co., Tex.Civ.App., 75 S.W.2d 322, 324; City Lumber Co. v. Bridgeport v. Borsuk, 131 Conn. 640, 41 A.2d 775, 778. Also the technical word by which, in the practice in many of the states, a certifying officer gives assurance of the genuineness and correctness of a copy. Thus, an "attested" copy of a document is one which has been examined and compared with the original, with a certificate or memorandum of its correctness, signed by the persons who have examined it. See Affirmation; Jurat; Oath; Verification.

Attestation. The act of witnessing an instrument in writing, at the request of the party making the same, and subscribing it as a witness. The act of witnessing the execution of a paper and subscribing the name of the witness in testimony of such fact. In re Carlson's Estate, 156 Or. 597, 68 P.2d 119, 121. See Affirmation; Jurat; Oath; Verification.

Attestation clause. That clause (e.g. at the end of a will) wherein the witnesses certify that the instrument has been executed before them, and the manner of the execution of the same. A certificate certifying as to facts and circumstances attending execution of will. In re Bragg's Estate, 106 Mont. 132, 76 P.2d 57, 62. See Uniform Probate Code, § 2-502.


Attested copy. See Attest.

Attesting witness. One who signs his name to an instrument, at the request of the party or parties, for the purpose of proving and identifying it.

Attestor. One who attests or vouches for.


At the end of the will. The words "at the end of the will" within statute providing that every will shall be subscribed by testator at the end of the will mean the end of the language and not paper on which it is written. In re Hildreth's Will, 36 N.Y.S.2d 938, 939, 940.

At the market. Order to broker to buy or sell a stock at the current market price, rather than at a specified price.

At time cause of action accrues. Term is sometimes applied to present enforceable demand, but more often simply means to arise or come into existence. Stone v. Phillips, 142 Tex. 216, 176 S.W.2d 832, 833.

Attineta /əˈtinətə/. L. Lat. An attaint, stain, or blackening; a conviction or finding of guilty of some offense.

Attorn /əˈtərn/. To turn over; to transfer to another money or goods; to assign to some particular use or service. To consent to the transfer of a rent or reversion. To agree to become tenant to one as owner or landlord of an estate previously held of another, or to agree to recognize a new owner of a property or estate and promise payment of rent to him.

Attornare /əˈtərnəri/. Lat. To attend; to transfer; to turn over; to appoint an attorney or substitute.

Attornare rem /əˈtərnəri rem/. To turn over money or goods, i.e., to assign or appropriate them to some particular use or service.

Attornato faciendo vel recipiendo /əˈtərnətədəd fəʃəˈmiːndəʊ vəl rəsɪˈpəməndəʊ/. An obsolete writ, which commanded a sheriff or steward of a county court or hundred court to receive and admit an attorney to appear for the person that owed suit of court.

Attornatus /əˈtərnətəs/. One who is attorned, or put in the place of another; a substitute; hence, an attorney.

Attornatus fere in omnibus personam domini representerat /əˈtərnətəs ˈfɪrɪ ɪn əmˈnɪbəs ˈpɜːsərənəm ˈdɒmɪni ˈrɛprəˈzɛnˌtət/. An attorney represents the person of his master in almost all respects.

Attorne /əˈtərn/. L. Fr. In old English law, an attorney.

Attorney. In the most general sense this term denotes an agent or substitute, or one who is appointed and authorized to act in the place or stead of another. Nardi v. Poinsett, D.C.Ind., 46 F.2d 347, 348. An agent, or one acting on behalf of another. Sherts v. Fulton Nat. Bank of Lancaster, 342 Pa. 337, 21 A.2d 18. In its most common usage, however, unless a
contrary meaning is clearly intended, this term means "attorney at law", "lawyer" or "counselor at law".

"Attorney" means attorney, professional law association, corporation, or "partnership," authorized under applicable law to practice law. Bankruptcy Act, § 101(3).

The word "attorney" includes a party prosecuting or defending an action in person. New York C.P.L.R. § 105.

See also Attorney for government; Attorney General; Barrister; District (District Attorney); House counsel; Lawyer; Prosecuting attorney; States' Attorney; United States Attorney.

Attorney ad hoc. See Ad hoc.

Attorney at large. In old practice, an attorney who practiced in all the courts.

Attorney at law. Person admitted to practice law in his respective state and authorized to perform both civil and criminal legal functions for clients, including drafting of legal documents, giving of legal advice, and representing such before courts, administrative agencies, boards, etc.

In English law, a public officer belonging to the superior courts of common law at Westminster, who conducted legal proceedings on behalf of others, called his clients, by whom he was retained; he answered to the solicitor in the courts of chancery, and the proctor of the admiralty, ecclesiastical, probate, and divorce courts. An attorney was almost invariably also a solicitor. It was provided by the judicature act, 1873, § 87, that solicitors, attorneys, or proctors of, or by law empowered to practice in, any court the jurisdiction of which is by that act transferred to the high court of justice or the court of appeal, shall be called "solicitors of the supreme court."


Attorney fees. See American rule; Fee; Minimum fee schedules; Retainer.

Attorney in fact. A private attorney authorized by another to act in his place and stead, either for some particular purpose, as to do a particular act, or for the transaction of business in general, not of a legal character. This authority is conferred by an instrument in writing, called a "letter of attorney," or more commonly a "power of attorney."

Attorney of record. Attorney whose name must appear somewhere in permanent records or files of case, or on the pleadings or some instrument filed in the case, or on appearance docket. Person whom the client has named as his agent upon whom service of papers may be made. Reynolds v. Reynolds, 21 Cal.2d 580, 134 P.2d 251, 254.

An attorney who has filed a notice of appearance (e.g., through a praecipe) and who hence is formally mentioned in court records as the official attorney of the party. Once an attorney becomes an attorney of record, he often cannot withdraw from the case without court permission.

Every pleading of a party represented by an attorney shall be signed by at least one attorney of record in his individual name, whose address shall be stated. Fed.R. Civil P. 11.

Attorney's license. A formal document issued by a state supreme court, normally after passage of a bar examination, which permits one to practice law in that jurisdiction. Also, a similar document issued by federal courts to attorneys admitted to practice in state courts. Such licenses may be revoked because of disbarment or suspended for attorney misconduct.

Attorney's lien. See Attorney's lien.

Letter of attorney. A power of attorney: a written instrument by which one person constitutes another his true and lawful attorney, in order that the latter may do for the former, and in his place and stead, some lawful act. An instrument of writing, appointing an attorney in fact for an avowed purpose and setting forth his powers and duties. It is, in effect, a mere contract of agency. A general power authorizes the agent to act generally in behalf of the principal. A special power is one limited to particular acts.

Power of attorney. The instrument by which authority of one person to act in place and stead of another as attorney in fact is set forth.

Practice of law. See Practice.

Public attorney. A name sometimes given to an attorney at law, as distinguished from a private attorney, or attorney in fact.

Right to attorney. See Counsel, right to.

Attorney-client privilege. In law of evidence, client's privilege to refuse to disclose and to prevent any other person from disclosing confidential communications between he and his attorney. That privilege which permits an attorney to refuse to testify as to communications from client to him though it belongs to client, not to attorney, and hence client may waive it. See also Client's privilege.

Attorney for government. Includes the Attorney General, an authorized assistant of the Attorney General, a United States Attorney, an authorized assistant of a United States Attorney and when applicable to cases arising under the laws of Guam means the Attorney General of Guam or such other person or persons as may be authorized by the laws of Guam to act therein. Fed.R.Crim.P. 54(c).

Attorney General. The Attorney General, as head of the Department of Justice and chief law officer of the Federal Government, represents the United States in legal matters generally and gives advice and opinions to the President and to the heads of the executive departments of the Government when so requested. The Attorney General appears in person to represent the Government in the U.S. Supreme Court in cases of exceptional gravity or importance. See also Solicitor General.

In each state there is also an attorney general, who is the chief law officer of the state. He gives advice and opinions to the governor and to executive and administrative departments or agencies.

In England, the principal law officer of the Crown, and head of the bar of England.

Attorney general’s opinion. An opinion furnished by U.S. Attorney General to President, members of executive department or governmental agencies on request concerning question of law. Also, opinion rendered by state attorney general to Governor or state agencies on request concerning an interpretation of law.

Attorney, right to. See Counsel, right to.

Attorneyship. The office of an agent or attorney.

Attorney’s lien. The right of an attorney at law to hold or retain in his possession the money or property of a client until his proper charges have been adjusted and paid. It requires no equitable proceeding for its establishment. Also a lien on funds in court payable to the client, or on a judgment or decree or award in his favor, recovered through the exertions of the attorney, and for the enforcement of which he must invoke the equitable aid of the court.

Charging lien. An attorney’s lien, for his proper compensation, on the fund or judgment which his client has recovered by means of his professional aid and services. It is a specific lien covering only the services rendered by an attorney in the action in which the judgment was obtained, whereas a retaining lien is a general lien for the balance of the account between the attorney and his client, and applies to the property of the client which may come into the attorney’s possession in the course of his employment.

Retaining lien. The lien which an attorney has upon all his client’s papers, deeds, vouchers, etc., which remain in his possession, entitling him to retain them until satisfaction of his claims for professional services. It is a general lien.

Attornment /əˈtɔrmənt/. In feudal and old English law, a turning over or transfer by a lord of the services of his tenant to the grantee of his seigniory.

Attornment is the act of a person who holds a leasehold interest in land, or estate for life or years by which he agrees to become the tenant of a stranger who has acquired the fee in the land, or the remainder or reversion, or the right to the rent or services by which the tenant holds. It is an act by which a tenant acknowledges his obligation to a new landlord.

The agreement of a person to recognize a third party as a permissible successor party to a contract; most often, the agreement of a tenant to pay rent to a new landlord, especially a mortgagee who has foreclosed.

Attractive agencies doctrine. See Attractive nuisance doctrine.

Attractive instrumentalities doctrine. See Attractive nuisance doctrine.

Attractive nuisance doctrine. The doctrine is that person who has an instrumentality, agency, or condition upon his own premises, or who creates such condition on the premises of another, or in a public place, which may reasonably be apprehended to be a source of danger to children, is under a duty to take such precautions as a reasonably prudent man would take to prevent injury to children of tender years whom he knows to be accustomed to resort there, or who may, by reason of something there which may be expected to attract them, come there to play. See Restatement, Second, Torts § 339.

Attribution. Under certain circumstances, the tax law applies attribution rules to assign to one taxpayer the ownership interest of another taxpayer. If, for example, the stock of X Corporation is held 60% by M and 40% by S, M may be deemed to own 100% of X Corporation if M and S are mother and son. In such a case, the stock owned by S is attributed to M. Stated differently, M has a 60% “direct” and a 40% “indirect” interest in X Corporation. It can also be said that M is the “constructive” owner of S’s interest.

Aubaine /ɔbwɛyn/. See Droit d’aubaine.

A.U.C. Ab urbe condita. From the founding of the city.

Auction /əˈkʃən/. An auction is a public sale of property to the highest bidder by one licensed and authorized for that purpose. The auctioneer is employed by the seller and is primarily his agent. However, when the property is struck off he is also the agent of the buyer to the extent of binding the parties by his memorandum of sale, thus satisfying the statute of frauds. Hawaii Jewelers Ass’n v. Fine Arts Gallery, Inc., 51 Hawaii 502, 463 P.2d 914, 916.

A sale by auction is complete when the auctioneer so announces by the fall of the hammer or in other customary manner. Such a sale is with reserve unless the goods are in explicit terms put up without reserve. U.C.C. § 2–328.

Dutch auction. A method of sale by auction which consists in the public offer of the property at a price beyond its value, and then gradually lowering the price until some one becomes the purchaser.

Auctionarie /əˈkʃən(ə)rē/ı/. Catalogues of goods for public sale or auction.

Auctionarius /əˈkʃən(ə)rērēus/. A seller; a regrator; a retailer; one who bought and sold; an auctioneer, in the modern sense. One who buys poor, old, worn-out things to sell again at a greater price.

Auctioneer. A person authorized or licensed by law to sell lands or goods of other persons at public auction. One who sells goods at public auction for another on commission, or for a recompense.

Auctioneers differ from brokers, in that the latter may both buy and sell, whereas auctioneers can only sell; also brokers may sell by private contract only, and auctioneers by public auction only.

Auctor /əˈktoʊtər/. In the Roman law, an auctioneer. In the civil law, a grantor or vendor of any kind. In old French law, a plaintiff.

Auctoritas /əˈktoʊtərɪtəs/. In the civil law, authority. In old European law, a diploma, or royal charter.

Auctoritates philosophorum, medicorum, et poetarum, sunt in causis allegandae et tenendae /əkˈtoʊtətɪdɪɨz falosoʊˈfɔːrm ɛt ˈpəwətərm ɹɪnt ɪn kəˈzoʊs ɛlɡəɡəndɪ ɪt tənəndɪ/. The opinions of philosophers, physicians, and poets are to be alleged and received in causes.
AUDIENCE

Aucupia verborum sunt judice indigna /ôkyûwpiya varbôram sânt jûwdaisy indigna/. Catching at words is unworthy of a judge. Applied in State v. Flemming, 66 Me. 142, 151.

Audia alteram partem /ôdiâ élitarmô párdam/. Hear the other side; hear both sides. No man should be condemned unheard. Lowry v. Inman, 46 N.Y. 119; Shaw v. Stone, 55 Mass. (1 Cush.) 228.

Audience. In international law, a hearing; interview with the sovereign. The king or other chief executive of a country grants an audience to a foreign minister who comes to him duly accredited; and, after the recall of a minister, an “audience of leave” ordinarily is accorded to him.

Audience court. In English law, a court belonging to the Archbishop of Canterbury, having jurisdiction of matters of form only, as the confirmation of bishops, and the like. This court has the same authority with the Court of Arches, but is of inferior dignity and antiquity. The Dean of the Arches is the official auditor of the Audience court. The Archbishop of York has also his Audience court. These courts, as separate courts, have long since been disused.

Audiendo et terminando /ôdiyêndow èt têrmânyêndow/. A writ or commission to certain persons to appease and punish any insurrection or great riot.

Audit /ôdat/. Inspection and verification by I.R.S. of a taxpayer’s return or other transactions possessing tax consequences.

Systematic inspection of accounting records involving analyses, tests, and confirmations.

The hearing and investigation had before an auditor. An audience; a hearing; an examination in general. A formal or official examination and authentication of accounts, with witnesses, vouchers, etc. Green-Boots Const. Co. v. State Highway Commission, 165 Okl. 288, 25 P.2d 783.

See also Auditor; Generally Accepted Auditing Principles.

Correspondence audit. See Correspondence audit.

Desk audit. Review of civil service positions to determine if duties and responsibilities of position fit job classification and pay grade.

Field audit. An audit by the Internal Revenue Service conducted on the business premises of the taxpayer or in the office of the tax practitioner representing the taxpayer. To be distinguished from a correspondence audit or an office audit (q.v.).

Independent audit. One conducted by an outside person or firm not connected in any way with the company being audited.

Internal audit. One conducted by company personnel.

Office audit. See Office (Office audit).

Tax audit. An examination of books, vouchers and records of a taxpayer conducted by agents of the I.R.S. See Correspondence audit; Office (Office audit); RAR.

Audita querela /ôdâyda kwariyla/. The name of a common law writ constituting the initial process in an action brought by a judgment defendant to obtain relief against the consequences of the judgment on account of some matter of defense or discharge arising since its rendition and which could not be taken advantage of otherwise. Barnett v. Gitlitz, 290 Ill. App. 212, 8 N.E.2d 517, 520. May also lie for matters arising before judgment where defendant had no opportunity to raise such matters in defense. Louis E. Bower, Inc. v. Silverstein, 298 Ill.App. 145, 18 N.E.2d 385, 387.

This writ has been abolished in most states that have adopted Rules of Civil Procedure, being supplanted by motion for relief from judgment. Rule of Civil Procedure 60(b).

Audit committee. A committee of the board of directors of a corporation usually consisting of outside directors who nominate the independent auditors and discuss their work with them. If the auditors believe certain matters should be brought to the attention of stockholders, the auditors first bring these matters to the attention of the audit committee.

Auditor. One who checks the accuracy, fairness, and general acceptability of accounting records and statements and then attests to them; e.g. a Certified Public Accountant.

A State official whose duty is to examine the accounts of state agencies to determine if expenditures were made in accordance with authorizations by the legislature. See also General Accounting Office.

An officer of a business who examines and verifies accounts for accuracy.

An officer (or officers) of the court, assigned to state the items of debit and credit between the parties in a suit where accounts are in question, and exhibit the balance. Under the Rules of Civil Procedure in many states, the term “master” is used to describe those persons formerly known as auditors; e.g. Mass.R. Civil P. 53. See Master; Reference.

Auditor of the impress. Any of several officers in the English exchequer, who formerly had the charge of auditing the accounts of the customs, naval and military expenses, etc., now performed by the commissioners for auditing public accounts.

Auditor of the receipts. An officer of the English exchequer.

Public auditor. Examines account records of private businesses for a fee.

State auditor. See first general definition above.

Augmentation /ôgmanêyshan/. The increase of the crown’s revenues from the suppression of religious houses and the appropriation of their lands and revenues. Also the name of a court (now abolished) erected 27 Hen. VIII, to determine suits and controversies relating to monasteries and abbey-lands. The court was dissolved in the reign of Mary, but the office of augmentations remained long after.

A share of the great tithes temporarily granted to the vicars by the appropriators, and made perpetual by statute 29 Car. II, c. 8. The word is used in a similar sense in the Canadian law.
Augmented estate. Estate reduced by funeral and administration expenses, homestead allowance, family allowances, exemptions, and enforceable claims to which is added value of property transferred to anyone other than bona fide purchaser and value of property owned by surviving spouse at decedent's death. Uniform Probate Code, § 2–202.

Augusta legibus soluta non est /æɡˈstaː liˈjəbəs sɔlt(ə)ˈwʌðə nɔn ˈɛst/. The empress or queen is not privileged or exempted from subjection to the laws. 1 Bl.Comm. 219.

Aula /ˈɔːla/. In old English law, a hall, or court; the court of a baron, or manor; a court baron. This word was employed in medieval England along with curia; it was used of the meetings of the lord's men held there in the same way that the word court was used.

Aula ecclesiae /ˈɔːla eklɪˈziːjɪ/. A nave or body of a church where temporal courts were anciently held.

Aula regis /ˈɔːla ˈrɪːjəs/. (Called also Aula Regia.) The king's hall or palace. The chief court of England in early Norman times. It was established by William the Conqueror in his own hall. It was composed of the great officers of state, resident in the palace, and followed the king's household in all his expeditions. See, also, Curia regis.

Aulic /ˈɔːlɪk/. Pertaining to a royal court.

Aulnage. See Aulnager.

Aulnager. See Aulnager.

Aumone, service in. Where lands are given in alms to some church or religious house, upon condition that a service or prayers shall be offered at certain times for the repose of the donor's soul.

Aunt. The sister of one's father or mother, and a relation in the third degree, correlative to niece or nephew.

Aures /ɔˈriːz/. A Saxon punishment by cutting off the ears, inflicted on those who robbed churches, or were guilty of any other theft.

Aurum regine /ɔˈrum ræˈdʒiːn/′. Queen's gold. A royal revenue belonging to every queen consort during her marriage with the king.

Australian ballot. An official ballot on which the names of all the candidates are printed. Its use is accompanied by safeguards designed to maintain secrecy in voting. The so-called Australian ballot laws, widely adopted in various forms in the United States, have generally been sustained by the courts.

Auter /ˈɔwtər/, autre /ɔːˈtra/. L. Fr. Another; other. See Autre.

Authentic /ɔbɛnˈtɪk/. Genuine; true; real; pure; reliable; trustworthy; having the character and authority of an original; duly vested with all necessary formalities and legally attested. Competent, credible, and reliable as evidence.

Authentic act. In the civil law, an act which has been executed before a notary or public officer authorized to execute such functions, or which is testified by a public seal, or has been rendered public by the authority of a competent magistrate, or which is certified as being a copy of a public register.

Authentication /ɔbɛntəˈkɪʃən/. In the law of evidence, the act or mode of giving authority or legal authenticity to a statute, record, or other written instrument, or a certified copy thereof, so as to render it legally admissible in evidence. Verifications of judgments. An attestation made by a proper officer by which he certifies that a record is in due form of law, and that the person who certifies it is the officer appointed so to do. Acts done with a view of causing an instrument to be known and identified. See also Verification.

Authentication of a writing means (a) the introduction of evidence sufficient to sustain a finding that it is the writing that the proponent of the evidence claims it is or (b) the establishment of such facts by any other means provided by law. Calif.Evid.Code.

The requirement of authentication as a condition precedent to admissibility of evidence is satisfied by evidence sufficient to support a finding that the matter in question is what its proponent claims. Fed. Evid.Rule 901.

Self authentication. Statutes frequently provide that certain classes of writings shall be received in evidence "without further proof." The following fall into this category: (1) deeds, conveyances or other instruments, which have been acknowledged by the signers before a notary public, (2) certified copies of public records, and (3) books of statutes which purport to be printed by public authority. See Fed.Evid. Rule 902.

Authenticum /ɔbɛntəˈkʌm/. In the civil law, an original instrument or writing; the original of a will or other instrument, as distinguished from a copy.

Author. One who produces, by his own intellectual labor applied to the materials of his composition, an arrangement or compilation new in itself. ABeginner or mover of anything; hence efficient cause of a thing; creator; originator; a composer, as distinguished from an editor, translator or compiler.

Authorities. Citations to statutes, precedents, judicial decisions, and text-books of the law, made on the argument of questions of law or the trial of causes before a court, in support of the legal positions contended for, or adduced to fortify the opinion of a court or of a text writer upon any question. Authorities may be either primary (e.g. statutes, court decisions, regulations), or secondary (e.g. Restatements, treatises).

Authority. Permission. Right to exercise powers; to implement and enforce laws; to exact obedience; to command; to judge. Control over; jurisdiction. Often synonymous with power. The power delegated by a principal to his agent. The lawful delegation of power by one person to another. Power of agent to affect legal relations of principal by acts done in accordance with principal's manifestations of consent to agent. See Restatement, Second, Agency § 7.

Refers to the precedential value to be accorded an opinion of a judicial or administrative body. A court's opinion is binding authority on other courts.
directly below it in the judicial hierarchy. Opinions of lower courts or of courts outside the hierarchy are
governed by the degree to which it adheres to the
doctrine of stare decisis. See Stare decisis.

Legal power; a right to command or to act; the
right and power of public officials to require obe-
dience to their orders lawfully issued in the scope of
their public duties.

See also Actual authority; Apparent authority;
Binding authority; Commission; Competent authori-
ty; Control; Credentials; Implied authority; Power;
Precedent; Scope of authority.

Apparent authority. That which, though not actually
granted, the principal knowingly permits the agent to
exercise, or which he holds him out as possessing.
The power to affect the legal relations of another
person by transactions with third persons, profession-
ally as agent for the other, arising from and in accord-
ance with the other’s manifestations to such third
persons. Restatement, Second, Agency, § 8. See
Authority by estoppel.

Authority by estoppel. Not actual, but apparent
only, being imposed on the principal because his
conduct has been such as to mislead, so that it would
be unjust to let him deny it. See Apparent author-
ity.

Authority coupled with an interest. Authority given
to an agent for a valuable consideration, or which
forms part of a security.

Express authority. That given explicitly, either in
writing or orally. See Express authority.

General authority. That which authorizes the agent
doing everything connected with a particular busi-
ness. It empowers him to bind his principal by all
acts within the scope of his employment; and it
cannot be limited by any private direction not known
to the party dealing with him.

Implied authority. Actual authority circumstantially
proved. That which the principal intends his agent to
possess, and which is implied from the principal’s
conduct. It includes only such acts as are incident
and necessary to the exercise of the authority ex-
pressly granted.

Incidental authority. Such authority as is necessary
to carry on authority which is actually or apparently
given, e.g., authority to borrow money carries with it
as an incidental authority the power to sign commer-
cial paper to effectuate the borrowing.

Inferred authority. See Incidental authority, above.

Inherent authority. Such as reposes in an
agent by virtue of the agency itself.

Limited authority. Such as the agent has
when he is bound by precise instructions.

Naked authority. That arising where the principal
delegates the power to the agent wholly for the ben-
efit of the former.

Ostensible authority. See Apparent authority, supra.

Presumptive authority. See Implied authority, supra.

Special authority. That which is confined to an
individual transaction. Such an authority does not bind
the principal, unless it is strictly pursued.

Unlimited authority. That possessed by an agent
when he is left to pursue his own discretion.

Authorize. To empower; to give a right or authority to
act. To endow with authority or effective legal pow-
er, warrant, or right. People v. Young, 100 Ill.App.2d
20, 241 N.E.2d 587, 589. To permit a thing to be done
in the future. It has a mandatory effect or meaning,
implying a direction to act.

“Authorized” is sometimes construed as equivalent
to “permitted”; or “directed”, or to similar mandato-
ry language. Possessed of authority; that is, pos-
sessed of legal or rightful power, the synonym of
which is “competency.” Doherty v. Kansas City Star
Co., 143 Kan. 802, 57 P.2d 43, 45.

Authorized capital. See Authorized issue.

Authorized issue. Total number of shares of capital
stock which charter or articles of incorporation per-
mits corporation to sell.

Autocracy /ot ok rasi/. The name of an unlimited mo-
narchical government. A government at the will of
one man (called an “autocrat”), unchecked by consti-
tutional restrictions or limitations.

Autograph. One’s handwriting; written with one’s
own hand.

Autatism /at omat izam/. Behavior performed in a
state of mental unconsciousness or dissociation with-
out full awareness, i.e., somnambulism, fugues.
Term is applied to actions or conduct of an individual
apparently occurring without will, purpose, or rea-
soned intention on his part; a condition sometimes
observed in persons who, without being actually in-
sane, suffer from an obscuration of the mental facul-
ties, loss of volition or of memory, or kindred affec-
tions. “Ambulatory automatism” describes the path-
ological impulse to purposeless and irresponsible
wanderings from place to place often characteristic of
patients suffering from loss of memory with dissocia-
tion of personality. Automatism may be asserted as
a criminal defense to negate the requisite mental
state of voluntariness for commission of a crime. See
e.g. Model Penal Code, § 2.01.

Automobile guest. See Family automobile doctrine;
Family purpose doctrine; Guest; Guest statute.

Automobile insurance. A comprehensive term which
embraces insurance coverage for all risks involved in
owning and operating an automobile, such as personal
injury protection, property damage to another and to
the insured, fire, theft and vandalism. See Insur-
ance.

Autonomy. The political independence of a nation; the
right (and condition) of power of self-government.
The negation of a state of political influence from
without or from foreign powers. Green v. Oberfell,
73 App.D.C. 298, 121 F.2d 46, 57.

Autoptic evidence. An exhibit of a thing offered
before jury as evidence to be seen through jury’s own
eyes. Johnson v. State, 139 Tex.Cr.R. 279, 139
S.W.2d 579, 581. See Autoptic preference; Demo-
strative evidence.

Autopsy /ot op si/. The dissection of a dead body for
the purpose of inquiring into the cause of death. A
post mortem examination to determine the cause,
seat, or nature of a disease. Such is normally re-
quired by statute for deaths by violent or unnatural means.

Autopic preference. Proffering or presenting in open court of articles for observation or inspection of the tribunal. See Auto-optic evidence; Demonstrative evidence.

Auto theft. A form of larceny, the subject matter of which is a motor vehicle. The taking and carrying away of a motor vehicle from the owner or possessor with intent to deprive him permanently of it. The intent distinguishes larceny from a lesser offense of use without authority. See also Joy riding.

Autre action pendant /òwtrà ʌksiɔɪnɔn pɔndɔn/. In common law pleading, another action pending. A species of plea in abatement.

Autre droit /òwtrɔ dr(w)ɔ/. In right of another, e.g., a trustee holds trust property in right of his cessui que trust. A prochein amy sues in right of an infant. 2 Bl.Comm. 176.

Autrois /òwtrois/. L. Fr. At another time; formerly; before; heretofore.

Autrefois acquit /òwtrofɔwɔ ɔkɪt/*ɔkwɪt/. Fr. Formerly acquitted. The name of a plea in bar to a criminal action, stating that the defendant has been once already indicted and tried for the same alleged offense and has been acquitted.

Autrefois attaint /òwtrofɔwɔ ɔtɛ̃/*ɔsteɪnt/. In criminal law, formerly attainted. An old English plea (now obsolete) that the defendant has already been attainted for one felony, and therefore cannot be criminally prosecuted for another.

Autrefois convict /òwtrofɔwɔ kɔnvikt/. Fr. Formerly convicted. A plea by a criminal in bar to an indictment that he has been formerly convicted of the same crime. 4 Bl.Comm. 336.

Autre vie /òwtrɔ vij/. Another’s life. A person holding an estate for or during the life of another is called a tenant “pur autre vie,” or “pur terme d’autre vie.” See Estate pur autre vie.

Auxiliary /ogzil(ɨ)əri/. Aiding; attendant on; ancillary (q.v.); as, an auxiliary bill in equity, an auxiliary receiver. Synonymous with “subsidiary.” Baker v. Fenley, 233 Mo.App. 998, 128 S.W.2d 295, 298.

Auxiliator /ogzililɛˈdər/. Lat. Helper or assistant; the word is closely related to the English word auxiliary.

Auxilium /ogzilijum/. In feudal and old English law, aid; compulsory aid, hence a tax or tribute; a kind of tribute paid by the vassal to his lord, being one of the incidents of the tenure by knight’s service.

Auxilium ad filium militem faciendum et filiam maritandum /ogzilijum əd filiəm mɪlɪtɛm ˈfɛʃɪrɛndəm et filiəm ˈmɑrɪtɛndəm/. An ancient writ which was addressed to the sheriff to levy compulsorily an aid towards the knightiing of a son and the marrying of a daughter of the tenants in capite of the crown.

Auxilium curiae /ogzilijum kʊrˈriəi/. In old English law, a precept or order of court citing and convening a party, at the suit and request of another, to warrant something.

Auxilium regis /ɔgzilijum ˈriːdʒi/. In old English law, the king’s aid or money levied for the royal use and the public service, as taxes granted by parliament. A subsidy paid to the king.

Auxilium vice comiti /ogzilijum vəˈsɪli kəmɪdi/. An ancient duty paid to sheriffs.

Available. Suitable; useable; accessible; obtainable; present or ready for immediate use. Having sufficient force or efficacy; effectual; valid.

Avail of marriage. In feudal law, the right of marriage, which the lord or guardian in chivalry had of disposing of his infant ward in matrimony. A guardian in socage had also the same right, but not attended with the same advantage. 2 Bl.Comm. 88.

Avai /əvəl/. In French law, the guaranty of a bill of exchange; so called because usually placed at the foot or bottom (avai) of the bill.

In Canadian law, the act of subscribing one’s signature at the bottom of a promissory note or of a bill of exchange; properly an act of suretyship, by the party signing, in favor of the party to whom the note or bill is given.

Avanture /əvənt(ɨ)rʊr/. L. Fr. Chance; hazard; mischance.

Avaria, avarie /əvərɪə/. Average; the loss and damage suffered in the course of a navigation. See Average.

Avarice. Excessive greed or desire for wealth or gain.

Avenage. A certain quantity of oats paid by a tenant to his landlord as rent, or in lieu of some other duties.

Aventure, or adventure /ə(d)vɛnʃə/. A mischance causing the death of a man, as where a person is suddenly drowned or killed by any accident, without felony.

Aver /əvər/. v. In pleading, to declare or assert; to set out distinctly and formally; to allege. See also Averment.

In old pleading, to avouch or verify; to make or prove true; to make good or justify a plea.

Aver /əvər/, n. In old English and French, property; substance, estate and particularly live stock or cattle; hence a working beast, a horse or bullock.

Aver corn. A rent reserved to religious houses, to be paid in corn. Corn drawn by the tenant’s cattle.

Aver land. In feudal law, land plowed by the tenant for the proper use of the lord of the soil.

Aver penny. Money paid towards the king’s averages or carriages, and so to be freed thereof.

Aver silver. A custom or rent formerly so called.

Avera /əvərə/. A day’s work of a ploughman, formerly valued at eight pence.

ordinary usage the term signifies the mean between two or more quantities, measures, or numbers. If applied to something which is incapable of expression in terms of measure or amount, it signifies that the thing or person referred to is of the ordinary or usual type.

In maritime law, loss or damage accidentally happening to a vessel or to its cargo during a voyage. Also a small duty paid to masters of ships, when goods are sent in another man's ship, for their care of the goods, over and above the freight. See subdefinitions below.

In old English law, a service by horse or carriage, anciently due by a tenant to his lord. A labor or service performed with working cattle, horses, or oxen, or with wagons and carriages.

General average. A contribution by the several interests engaged in a maritime venture to make good the loss of one of them for the voluntary sacrifice of a part of the ship or cargo to save the residue of the property and the lives of those on board, or for extraordinary expenses necessarily incurred for the common benefit and safety of all. The law of general average is part of the maritime law, and not of the municipal law, and applies to maritime adventures only. Ralli v. Troop, 157 U.S. 386, 15 S.Ct. 657, 39 L.Ed. 742.

Gross average. More commonly called "general average" (q.v.). Where loss or damage occurs to a vessel or its cargo at sea, average is the adjustment and apportionment of such loss between the owner, the freight, and the cargo, in proportion to their respective interests and losses, in order that one may not suffer the whole loss, but each contribute ratably.

Particular average is a loss happening to the ship, freight, or cargo which is not to be shared by contribution among all those interested, but must be borne by the owner of the subject to which it occurs. It is thus called in contradistinction to general average.

Petty average denotes such charges and disbursements as, according to occurrences and the custom of every place, the master necessarily furnishes for the benefit of the ship and cargo, either at the place of loading or unloading, or on the voyage; such as the hire of a pilot for conducting a vessel from one place to another, towage, light money, beaconage, anchorage, bridge toll, quarantine and such like.

Simple average is the same as "particular average" (q.v.).

Average clause. A clause providing that similar items in one location or at several locations which are covered by one insurance policy shall each be covered in the proportion that the value in each bears to the value in all.

Average daily balance. Average amount of money that a depositor keeps on deposit in a bank on any given day.

Average man test. Used to determine bias of prospective juror who asserts that he is without prejudice but who is so connected with case that ordinary man under circumstances would be biased without recognition of his prejudice. U. S. v. Haynes, C.A.Conn., 398 F.2d 980, 984.

Averaging up or down. Practice of purchasing the same security at different price levels, thus realizing a higher or lower average cost than the first purchase.

A verbis legis non est recendendum /ey várvis lỳijn nón est rásèndéndam/. The words of a statute must not be departed from. A court is not at liberty to disregard the letter of a statute, in favor of a supposed intention.

Averis captis in withernam /avirīyas képtas in wîr̩n̩am/. In old English pleading, a writ granted to one whose cattle were unlawfully distained by another and driven out of the county in which they were taken, so that they could not be reprieved by the sheriff.


Averment /avør̩mant/. In pleading, to allege or assert positively. All averments in pleadings are required to be simple, concise, and direct. Fed.R. Civ. P. 8(e).

In old pleading, an offer to prove a plea, or pleading. The concluding part of a plea, replication, or other pleading, containing new affirmative matter, by which the party offers or declares himself "ready to verify."

Averrare /avərər̩ry/. In feudal law, a duty required from some customary tenants, to carry goods in a wagon or upon loaded horses.

Aversio /avər̩z(h)ə'iʊ lows/. In the civil law, an averting or turning away. A term applied to a species of sale in gross or bulk.

Letting a house altogether, instead of in chambers.

Averum /avir̩um/. Goods, property, substance; a beast of burden.

Avia /éviy̩a/. In the civil law, a grandmother.

Aviaticus /éviy̩i̩t̩os̩/. In the civil law, a grandson.

Aviation Act. Federal law that created Federal Aviation Agency (FAA) which is responsible for regulation of aviation including aircraft safety, aircraft marking, etc. and which continues Civil Aeronautics Board (CAB) as an arm of the federal government.

A vinculo matrimonii /ey vînk̩yl̩ow mačərmən̩yiay/. Lat. From the bond of matrimony. A term descriptive of a kind of divorce, which affects a complete dissolution of the marriage contract. See Divorce.

Avocat. Fr. An advocate; a barrister.

Avocation /avək̩y̩shən/. A calling away, a diversion; suggesting idea of smaller affairs of life, or subordinate or occasional employments, or hobbies, as distinguished from one's ordinary or principal occupation.

Avoid. To annul; cancel; make void; to destroy the efficacy of anything. To evade; escape.

Avoidable consequences, doctrine of. Doctrine imposes duty on person injured to minimize damages. Baglio v. N. Y. Central R. Co., 344 Mass. 14, 180 N.E.2d 798. The general rule relating to duty of party who has
been wronged by breach of contract to mitigate damages; *i.e.* to not sit idly by and allow damages to accumulate. Restatement of Contracts, § 336(i). See also Mitigation of damages.

**Avoidance.** A making void, useless, empty, or of no effect; annulling, cancelling; escaping or evading. See also Evasion.

In pleading, the allegation or statement of new matter, in opposition to a former pleading, which, admitting the facts alleged in such former pleading, shows cause why they should not have their ordinary legal effect. Fed.R. Civil P. 8(c). See also Affirmative defense; Confession and avoidance.

Avoidrupois /əˈvɔːrd(y)uwpɔɪz/. The name of a system of weights (sixteen ounces to the pound) used in weighing articles other than medicines, metals, and precious stones; so named in distinction from the Troy weight.

Avoucher /əˈvʌwɔr/. The calling upon a warrant of lands to fulfill his undertaking. See Voucher.

Avoué /əˈvʊwɛ/. In French and Canadian law, a barrister, advocate, solicitor, or attorney. An officer charged with representing and defending parties before the tribunal to which he is attached.

Avow /əˈvɔː/. In pleading, to acknowledge and justify an act done. To make an avowry. See Avowal; Avowry; Justification.

Avowal /əˈvɔːwəl/. An open declaration. Purpose is to enable the court to know what the witness would have stated in answer to the question propounded, and to inform the court what the interrogator would prove contrary to the testimony given at the trial. See Offer of proof.

Avowant. One who makes an avowry.

Avowry /əˈvɔːrɪ/. A common law pleading in the action of replevin, by which the defendant avows, that is, acknowledges and justifies the taking of the distress or property complained of, where he took it in his own right, and sets forth the reason of it; as for rent in arrear, damage done, etc.

Avowterer /əˈvɔːtwərər/. In English law, an adulterer with whom a married woman continues in adultery.

Avowtry. In old English law, adultery.

Avulsion /əˈvəlsʃən/. A sudden and perceptible loss or addition to land by the action of water, or a sudden change in the bed or course of a stream. Valder v. Wallis, 196 Neb. 222, 242 N.W.2d 112, 114. The removal of a considerable quantity of soil from the land of one man, and its deposit upon or annexation to the land of another, suddenly and by the perceptible action of water.

Where running streams are the boundaries between states, the same rule applies as between private proprieters, and, if the stream from any cause, natural or artificial, suddenly leaves its old bed and forms a new one by the process known as "avulsion," the resulting change of channel works no change of boundary, which remains in the middle of the old channel though no water may be flowing in it and irrespective of subsequent changes in the new channel. State of Arkansas v. State of Tennessee, 246 U.S. 158, 38 S.Ct. 301, 304, 62 L.Ed. 638; Stull v. U. S., C.C.A.Neb., 61 F.2d 826, 830.

To constitute "avulsion," rather than "accretion," so as to preclude change in boundary between riparian owners, it is not necessary that soil washed away be identifiable; it being sufficient that change is so sudden that owner of land washed away is able to point out approximately as much land added to opposite bank as he had washed away. Goins v. Merryman, 183 Okl. 155, 80 P.2d 268.

See Accretion; Alluvion; Reliction.


Avus /əˈvəs/eyvəs/. In the civil law, a grandfather.

Await. Used in old statutes to signify a lying in wait, or waylaying.

Award, v. To grant, concede, or adjudge to. To give or assign by sentence or judicial determination or after careful weighing of evidence. Thus, a jury awards damages; the court awards an injunction; one awards a contract to a bidder. To confer as being deserved or merited.

Award, n. The decision or determination rendered by arbitrators or commissioners, or other private or extrajudicial deciders, upon a controversy submitted to them; also the writing or document embodying such decision. See also Final award; Prize.

Away-going crop. A crop sown before the expiration of a tenancy, which cannot ripen until after its expiration to which, however, the tenant is entitled. Broom, Max. 412; Miller v. Gray, Tex.Civ.App., 108 S.W.2d 265, 267, 268.

A.W.W. Abbreviation for "average weekly wage". Term used in worker's compensation computations.

Ayant cause. In French law, and also in Louisiana, this term signifies one to whom a right has been assigned, either by will, gift, sale, exchange, or the like; an assignee. An *ayant cause* differs from an heir who acquires the right by inheritance.
Baby Act. A plea of infancy, interposed for the purpose of defeating an action upon a contract made while the person was a minor, is vulgarly called "pleading the baby act". By extension, the term is applied to a plea of the statute of limitations.

Bachelor. One who has taken the first undergraduate degree (baccalaureate) in a college or university.

An unmarried man. A kind of inferior knight; an esquire.

Back, v. To indorse; to sign on the back; to sign generally by way of acceptance or approval; to substantiate; to countersign; to assume financial responsibility for. In old English law where a warrant issued in one county was presented to a magistrate of another county and he signed it for the purpose of making it executory in his county, he was said to "back" it.

Back, adv. To the rear; backward; in a reverse direction. Also, in arrear.

Backadation. See Backwardation.

Backberend (also Backberende) /bækerend/. Sax. Bearing upon the back or about the person. Applied to a thief taken with the stolen property in his immediate possession. Used with handhabend, having in the hand.

Backbond. A bond of indemnification given to a surety.

Back carry. In forest law, the crime of having, on the back, game unlawfully killed. See Backberend.

Backdating. Predating a document prior to the date it was actually drawn. The negotiability of an instrument is not affected by the fact that it is backdated. U.C.C. § 3-114.

Backhaul. In freight transportation, to carry a shipment back over a segment of a route already covered.

Backlog. Accumulation of unfilled orders.

Back pay award. Difference between wages already paid an employee and higher wages granted retroactively. A determination by a judicial or quasi judicial body that an employee is entitled to accrued but uncollected salary or wages. Such may be awarded in employment discrimination cases.

Back-seat driver. A highly nervous passenger whether sitting in rear or by driver, who by unwarranted advice and warnings interferes in careful operation of automobile.

Backside. In English law, a term formerly used in conveyances and also in pleading; it imports a yard at the back part of or behind a house, and belonging thereto.

Backspread. Less than normal price difference in arbitrage.

Back taxes. Those assessed for a previous year or years and remaining due and unpaid from the original tax debtor.

Back to work agreement. Agreement between union and employer covering terms and conditions upon which employees will return to work following settlement of strike.

Backwardation (also called Backadation) /bækwardæʃən/. In the language of the stock exchange, this term signifies a consideration paid for delay in the delivery of stock contracted for, when the price is lower for time than for cash.

Backwards. In a policy of marine insurance, the phrase "forwards and backwards at sea" means from port to port in the course of the voyage, and not merely from one terminus to the other and back.

Backwater. Water in a stream which, in consequence of some dam or obstruction below, is detained or checked in its course, or flows back.

Bacon-Davis Act. Federal law (1931) granting Secretary of Labor power to set wage rates on public construction work to meet wages in private sector.

Baculus /bæk(y)ələs/. A rod, staff, or wand, used in old English practice in making livery of seisin where no building stood on the land. A stick or wand, by the erection of which on the land involved in a real action the defendant was summoned to put in his appearance; this was called "baculus nuntiatorius." 3 Bl. Comm. 279.