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Cursive Spelling Book

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Nouns of Four Syllables, Explained, A to D

Nouns of four syllables, explained, from Daniel Fenning, The Universal Spelling-Book (London, 1798),

Part III, Table VII: his old words kept, in today's spelling; their syllables on the right.

Each word is given once with its meaning as a model: copy it on the line below.

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Part III, Table VII. Nouns Substantive of four Syllables, accented and explained, A to D.

abintestate  *an heir to* **ab-in-tes-tate**
one dying without will

abolishment  *a* **a-bo-lish-ment**
destroying

accessary  *a helper or* **ac-ces-sa-ry**
adviser

accomplishment ➡ *a* **ac-com-plish-ment**
fulfilling

accurateness ➡ *exactness* **ac-cu-rate-ness**

acidity ➡ *sharpness* **a-ci-di-ty**

acknowledgment ➡ *confession* **ac-know-ledg-ment**

acrimony ➡ *tartness* **a-cri-mo-ny**

addition ➤ *an adding* ad-di-ti-on

admission ➤ *entrance* ad-mis-si-on

upon

adolescence ➤ *youthfulness* ad-o-les-cence

adoption ➤ *an adopting* a-dop-ti-on

adversity ➤ *affliction* ad-ver-si-ty

advertency ➤ *carefulness* ad-ver-ten-cy

advertisement ➤ *intelligence* ad-ver-tise-ment

affidavit ➤ *witness* af-fi-da-vit
upon oath

affinity ➤ *relation* af-fi-ni-ty

alabaster ➤ *a sort of* **a-la-bas-ter**

marble

alacrity ➤ *cheerfulness* **a-la-cri-ty**

allegiance ➤ *obedience* **al-le-gi-ance**

allegory ➤ *a figure in* **al-le-go-ry**

rhetoric

allusion ➞ *a hint, an* al-lu-si-on

implication

ambition ➞ *a thirst after* am-bi-ti-on

greatness

analysis ➞ *resolution,* a-na-ly-sis

an unfolding

anathema  *a solemn* **a-na-the-ma**

curse

anatomy  *a dissection* **a-na-to-my**

annuity  *a yearly* **an-nu-i-ty**

rent

antagonist  *an* **an-ta-go-nist**

adversary

antipathy  *natural* **an-ti-pa-thy**

aversion

antiquity  *oldness* **an-ti-qui-ty**

anxiety ➞ *trouble of* **anx-i-e-ty**

mind

apology ➞ *an excuse* **a-po-lo-gy**

apostasy ➞ *a falling* **a-pos-ta-sy**
from religion

apostrophe ➞ *a mark,* **a-pos-tro-phe**

or comma

architecture ➞ *art of* **ar-chi-tec-ture**

building

arithmetic ➞ *science of* **a-rith-me-tic**

numbers

artillery ➡ *great guns*

ar-til-le-ry

ascension ➡ *an*

as-cen-si-on

ascending

asperity ➡ *roughness*

as-pe-ri-ty

aspersion ➡ *a slander*

as-per-si-on

astrology  *prediction* **as-tro-lo-gy**
from the stars

astronomy  *knowledge* **as-tro-no-my**
of the heavenly bodies

auditory  *an assembly* **au-di-to-ry**
of hearers

authority  *rule or* **au-tho-ri-ty**

power

barbarians  *barbarous* **bar-ba-ri-ans**

people

barometer  *a weather* **ba-ro-me-ter**

glass

battalion ➤ *a large body* bat-ta-li-on
of men

benefactor ➤ *who* be-ne-fac-tor
bestows a benefit

beneficence ➤ *kindness* be-ne-fi-cence

benevolence ➞ *good* be-ne-vo-lence

will

benignity ➞ *goodness* be-nig-ni-ty

bisection ➞ *the cutting in* bi-sec-ti-on

two

breviary ➞ *a mass book* bre-vi-a-ry

Britannia  *Great*
Britain

Bri-tan-ni-a

brutality  *beastliness*

bru-ta-li-ty

burgomaster  *a*
magistrate

bur-go-mas-ter

calamity  *misfortune*

ca-la-mi-ty

calidity ➡ *heat*

ca-li-di-ty

captivity ➡ *slavery*

cap-ti-vi-ty

carnation ➡ *a flower*

car-na-ti-on

casualty ➡ *chance*

ca-su-al-ty

celerity ➡ *swiftness*

ce-le-ri-ty

celibacy ➡ *single life*

ce-li-ba-cy

centurion ➤ *captain of* **cen-tu-ri-on**

soldiers

ceremony ➤ *formality* **ce-re-mo-ny**

certificate ➤ *a written* **cer-ti-fi-cate**

testimony

cessation ➤ *a ceasing* **ces-sa-ti-on**

chronology ➞ *history of* chro-no-lo-gy
time

circumference ➞ *the* cir-cum-fe-rence
circuit

citation ➞ *a summons,* ci-ta-ti-on
quoting an author

civility ➞ *courtesy*

ci-vi-li-ty

coaction ➞ *compulsion*

co-ac-ti-on

coadjutor ➞ *a*

co-ad-ju-tor

fellow-helper

coalescence ➞ *a*

co-a-les-cence

growing together

cognition ➤ *a judging* cog-ni-ti-on

coherency ➤ *agreement* co-he-ren-cy

cohesion ➤ *a sticking together* co-he-si-on

collation ➤ *an entertainment* col-la-ti-on

collection  a

col-lec-ti-on

gathering

collegiate  a fellow
student

col-le-gi-ate

collision  a dashing of
bodies

col-li-si-on

collusion  *deceit*

col-lu-si-on

combustion  *an*

com-bus-ti-on

uproar

comedian  *a stage*

co-me-di-an

player

commentary  *an* com-men-ta-ry

interpretation

commissary  *a church* com-mis-sa-ry

officer

commission  *a trust* com-mis-si-on

commodity  *goods* com-mo-di-ty

commonalty  *common* com-mon-al-ty

people

commotion  *a* com-mo-ti-on

disturbance

community  *a society* com-mu-ni-ty

compendium  *an* com-pen-di-um

abridgment

competency  *sufficiency* com-pe-ten-cy

complacency  *civility* com-pla-cen-cy

complexion  *colour of* com-plex-i-on
the face

completion  a **com-ple-ti-on**

fulfilling

compression  a **com-pres-si-on**

pressing together

compulsion  *constraint* **com-pul-si-on**

compunction  *remorse* **com-punc-ti-on**

concauity  *inside* **con-ca-vi-ty**

hallowness

conception  *a* **con-cep-ti-on**

conceiving

concession  *a* **con-ces-si-on**

granting

concinnity  *aptness* con-cin-ni-ty

conclusion  *the end* con-clu-si-on

concaction  *digestion* con-coc-ti-on

condensity  *thickness* con-den-si-ty

conformity  *compliance* con-for-mi-ty

congruity  *agreeableness* con-gru-i-ty

conjunction  *union* con-junc-ti-on

with

connection  *relation to* con-nec-ti-on

consecratory  *a* con-sec-ta-ry

consequence

conservator  *a keeper* con-ser-va-tor

contagion ➤ *infection* con-ta-gi-on

contention ➤ *strife* con-ten-ti-on

contingency ➤ *an*
accident con-tin-gen-cy

contraction ➤ *a*
drawing together con-trac-ti-on

contrition ➤ *unfeigned* con-tri-ti-on

sorrow

contumacy ➤ *stubbornness* con-tu-ma-cy

contumely ➤ *reproach* con-tu-me-ly

contusion ➤ *a bruise* con-tu-si-on

convention  *an*

con-ven-ti-on

assembly

convexity  *outside*

con-vex-i-ty

roundness

corollary  *a*

cor-ol-la-ry

consequence

carpulency  *grassness* **cor-pu-len-cy**
of body

carrasian  *a* **cor-ro-si-on**
gnawing

corruption  *rottenness* **cor-rup-ti-on**

credentials → *letters of* **cre-den-ti-als**

credit

credulity → *readiness to* **cre-du-li-ty**

believe

damnation ➤ *the* **dam-na-ti-on**

punishment of hell
tortments

deception ➤ *a deceiving* **de-cep-ti-on**

decision ➤ *a determining* **de-ci-si-on**

declension ➤ *a decaying* **de-clen-si-on**

declivity ➞ *steepness*

de-cli-vi-ty

decoction ➞ *a seething*

de-coc-ti-on

decursion ➞ *a running*

de-cur-si-on

down

decussion ➞ *a shaking*

de-cus-si-on

down

deduction  *a taking* de-duc-ti-on

from

defluxion  *a flowing* de-flux-i-on

down

deformity  *ugliness* de-for-mi-ty

dejection ➤ *a casting*

de-jec-ti-on

down

delicacy ➤ *niceness,*

de-li-ca-cy

tenderness

democracy ➤ *government*

de-mo-cra-cy

by the people

demoniac  *one* de-mo-ni-ac

possessed by the devil

depression  *a* de-pres-si-on

pressing down

derision  *a mocking* de-ri-si-on

descension  *a* de-scen-si-on

descending

desertion  *a* *forsaking* de-ser-ti-on

desperado  *a* *desperate* des-pe-ra-do

fellow

despondency  a

de-spon-den-cy

despairing

detrusion  a *thrusting*

de-tru-si-on

down

dexterity  *readiness,*

dex-te-ri-ty

skill

diagonal  *a slant line*

di-a-go-nal

digestion  *concoction*

di-ges-ti-on

dimension  *the just*

di-men-si-on

measure

directory  *that which*

di-rec-to-ry

directs

disagreement ✎ *discard* dis-a-gree-ment

discomfiture ✎ *overthrow* dis-com-fi-ture

discretion ✎ *wisdom* dis-cre-ti-on

discussion ✎ *an* dis-cus-si-on

examination

disjunction  *a*

dis-junc-ti-on

disjoining

disloyalty  *unfaithfulness*

dis-loy-al-ty

dismissal  *a sending*

dis-mis-si-on

away

disparity  *unlikeness*

dis-pa-ri-ty

dispersion  a **dis-per-si-on**

spreading, etc.

dissension  *strife* **dis-sen-si-on**

dissuasion  a **dis-sua-si-on**

persuading against

disunion  *division* **dis-u-ni-on**

diversity ➞ *variety* di-ver-si-ty

docility ➞ *teachableness* do-ci-li-ty

donation ➞ *a grant* do-na-ti-on

doxology ➞ *a divine*
hymn dox-o-lo-gy

duration ➞ *continuance* du-ra-ti-on