Civilization[1] is[2] the[3] progress[4] toward[5] a[6] society[7] of[8] privacy.[9] The savage's[10] whole[11] existence[12] is public,[13] ruled[14] by[15] the laws[16] of his[17] tribe.[18] Civilization is the process[19] of setting[20] man[21] free[22] from[23] men.

Howard Roark, *The Fountainhead*, AYN RAND, 1943

1   **1704**; originally law which makes a criminal process civil; sense of "civilized condition" first recorded 1772, probably from Fr. *civilisation*, to be an opposite to barbarity and a distinct word from civility.

2   **before 900**; Middle English, Old English; cognate with Dutch *is*, Old Norse *es*, *er*, German, Gothic *ist*, Latin *est*, Greek *estí*, OCS *jestǐ*, Sanskrit *asti*

3   **before 900**; Middle English, Old English, uninflected stem of the demonstrative pronoun.

4   **1400–50**; late Middle English progresse (noun); Latin *prōgressus* a going forward, equivalent to *prōgred-*, stem of *prōgredī* to advance (*prō-* *pro* + *-gredī*, combining form of *gradī* to step + *-tus* suffix of v. action

5   **before 900**; Middle English; Old English *tōweard*.

6   **Middle English**; orig. preconsonantal phonetic variant of *an*

7   **1525–35**; Middle French societe; Latin *societās*, equivalent to *soci* (*us*) partner, comrade + *-etās*, variant of *-itās* *-ity*

8   **before 900**; Middle English, Old English: of, off; cognate with German *ab*, Latin *ab*, Greek *apó*

9   **1350–1400**; Middle English; Latin *pr īvātus* private, literally, taken away (from public affairs), special use of past participle of *prīvāre* to rob

10 **1250–1300**; Middle English *savage*, *sauvage* (adj.); Middle French *sauvage*, *salvage*; Medieval Latin *salvāticus*, for Latin *silvāticus*, equivalent to *silv* (*a*) woods + *-āticus* adj. suffix

11 **before 900**; Middle English *hole*, *hool* (adj. and noun), Old English *hāl* (adj.); cognate with Dutch *heel*, German *heil*, Old Norse *heill*

12 **late 14c**; from Old French *existence*; Latin *existentem* existent, prp. of Latin *existere* stand forth, appear and, as a secondary meaning, exist; from *ex-* forth + *sistere* cause to stand

13 **1400–50**; Latin *pōblicus* (earlier *pōblicus*, *pōplicus*, akin to populus people); replacing late Middle English *publique*

14 **1325–75**; Middle English

15 **before 900**; Middle English; Old English *bē*; cognate with Dutch *bij*, Old High German *bē* (German *bei*), Gothic *bi*.

16 **before 1000**; Middle English *law*, *lagh*, Old English lagu Old Norse *lagu*, early plural of *lag layer*, stratum, a laying in order, fixed tune, (in collective sense) *law*; akin to *lay* , *lie*

17 **before 900**; Middle English, Old English, genitive of *hē*

18 **1200–50**; Middle English Latin *tribus* tribe, orig., each of the three divisions of the Roman people; often taken as derivative of *trēs* three, though formation unclear

19 **1275–1325**; Middle English *proces* (noun); Old French; Latin *prōcessus* a going forward, equivalent to *prō-* pro-1 + *ced-*, variant stem of *cēdere* to yield (see cede) + *-tus* suffix of (v.) action

20 **late 14c**; fact or action of being set or setting, from *set* (v.).Ref. to mounts for jewels, etc. is from 1815; meaning background, history, environment is attested from 1841.

21 **before 900**; (noun) Middle English; Old English man (n); cognate with German *mann*, Dutch *man*, Old Norse *mathr*, Gothic *manna*; (v.) Middle English *mannen*, Old English *mannian* to garrison

22 **before 900**; Middle English fre, Old English *frēo*; cognate with Gothic *freis*, Old High German *frī* (German *frei*), Dutch *vrij*, Sanskrit priyá- dear.

23 **before 950**; Middle English; Old English, variant of *fram* from (preposition), forward (adv.); cognate with Gothic *fram*, Old Norse *frā*