

Need another word that means the same as “antecedent”? Find 16 synonyms and 30 related words for “antecedent” in this overview.

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The synonyms of “Antecedent” are: ancestor, ascendant, ascendent, root, forerunner, precursor, predecessor, forefather, forebear, progenitor, previous, earlier, prior, foregoing, preceding, precursory

Antecedent as a Noun

Definitions of "Antecedent" as a noun

According to the [Oxford Dictionary of English](#), “antecedent” as a noun can have the following definitions:

- *The referent of an anaphor; a phrase or clause that is referred to by an anaphoric pronoun.*
- *A person's ancestors or family and social background.*
- *The statement contained in the ‘if’ clause of a conditional proposition.*
- *A preceding occurrence or cause or event.*
- *Anything that precedes something similar in time.*
- *An earlier word, phrase, or clause to which another word (especially a following relative pronoun) refers back.*
- *Someone from whom you are descended (but usually more remote than a grandparent).*
- *A thing that existed before or logically precedes another.*

Synonyms of "Antecedent" as a noun (10 Words)

ancestor	An early type of animal or plant from which others have evolved. <i>This instrument is an ancestor of the lute.</i>
ascendant	The point on the ecliptic at which it intersects the eastern horizon at a particular time, typically that of a person's birth. <i>That idea was in the ascendant.</i>
ascendent	Position or state of being dominant or in control.
forebear	An ancestor. <i>Generations of his forebears had lived in London.</i>
forefather	A member of the past generations of one's family or people; an ancestor. <i>Keep the faith of our forefathers.</i>
forerunner	A person who goes before or announces the coming of another. <i>Overcast mornings are the sure forerunners of steady rain.</i>
precursor	A substance from which another is formed, especially by metabolic reaction. <i>A three stringed precursor of the violin.</i>
predecessor	A thing that has been followed or replaced by another. <i>The new President's foreign policy is very similar to that of his predecessor.</i>
progenitor	An ancestor in the direct line. <i>His children were the progenitors of many of Scotland's noble families.</i>
root	Any plant grown for its root. <i>The root form of the word.</i>

Usage Examples of "Antecedent" as a noun

- *Phrenology was an antecedent of modern neuroscience.*
- *Her early life and antecedents have been traced.*
- *Some antecedents to the African novel might exist in Africa's oral traditions.*

Antecedent as an Adjective

Definitions of "Antecedent" as an adjective

According to the [Oxford Dictionary of English](#), "antecedent" as an adjective can have the following definitions:

- *Preceding in time or order.*
- *Denoting or counting as an antecedent.*

- *Preceding in time or order; previous or pre-existing.*

Synonyms of "Antecedent" as an adjective (6 Words)

earlier	Being or occurring at an early stage of development. <i>A fashion popular in earlier times.</i>
foregoing	Just mentioned or stated; preceding. <i>The foregoing analysis of the economic class structure.</i>
preceding	Existing or coming before. <i>A growth in sales above those of the preceding year.</i>
precursory	Preceding something in time, development, or position; preliminary. <i>Precursory seismic activity.</i>
previous	(used especially of persons) of the immediate past. <i>The boat s previous owner.</i>
prior	Earlier in time. <i>He has a prior engagement this evening.</i>

Usage Examples of "Antecedent" as an adjective

- *Antecedent events.*

Associations of "Antecedent" (30 Words)

ancestor	An early type of animal or plant from which others have evolved. <i>He could trace his ancestors back to James the First.</i>
antedate	Establish something as being earlier relative to something else. <i>There are no references to him that would antedate his birth.</i>
before	During the period of time preceding a particular event or time. <i>He called me the day before but your call had come even earlier.</i>
clan	A large family. <i>The Watts clan is one of racing s oldest families.</i>
first	The first element in a countable series. <i>Her first baby.</i>
forego	Lose (s.th.) or lose the right to (s.th.) by some error, offense, or crime.
forerunner	A sign or warning of something to come. <i>Overcast mornings are the sure forerunners of steady rain.</i>
former	Of or occurring in the past. <i>Former generations.</i>

formerly	At a previous time. <i>The building formerly housed the National Assembly.</i>
front	Stand face to face with confront. <i>He s got a bit of talent and a lot of front.</i>
harbinger	A person or thing that announces or signals the approach of another. <i>These works were not yet opera but they were the most important harbinger of opera.</i>
outdistance	Leave (a competitor or pursuer) far behind. <i>He outdistanced the other runners.</i>
outpace	Surpass in speed. <i>He outpaced all six defenders.</i>
portent	A sign of something about to happen. <i>Many birds are regarded as being portents of death.</i>
precede	Furnish with a preface or introduction. <i>A gun battle had preceded the explosions.</i>
precedent	A previous case or legal decision that may be or binding precedent must be followed in subsequent similar cases. <i>There are substantial precedents for using interactive media in training.</i>
preceding	Existing or coming before. <i>The preceding pages.</i>
precursor	Something that precedes and indicates the approach of something or someone. <i>A three stringed precursor of the violin.</i>
precursory	Preceding something in time, development, or position; preliminary. <i>Precursory seismic activity.</i>
predate	Establish something as being earlier relative to something else. <i>Here parish boundaries seem clearly to predate Roman roads.</i>
predecessor	One who precedes you in time (as in holding a position or office). <i>The chapel was built in 1864 on the site of its predecessor.</i>
preemptive	Designed or having the power to deter or prevent an anticipated situation or occurrence. <i>A preemptive business offer.</i>
prefatory	Serving as an introduction; introductory. <i>In his prefatory remarks the author claims that.</i>
prematurely	Before the end of the normal period of gestation. <i>I spoke prematurely.</i>

- prerequisite** Something that is required in advance.
*Latin was a **prerequisite** for admission.*
- preview** A trailer for a film.
*I have photos of the goods if anyone would like a **preview**.*
- previous** Previous convictions a criminal record.
*The **previous** occupant of the White House.*
- prior** The head of a religious order in an abbey the prior is next below the abbot.
*He has a **prior** engagement this evening.*
- priority** Preceding in time.
*National independence takes **priority** over class struggle.*
- progenitor** A person or thing from which a person, animal, or plant is descended or originates; an ancestor or parent.
*The **progenitor** of modern jazz.*