

perspicuous



perspicuous

Word of the Day - for Toastmasters everywhere
Friday 27th March 2020



perspicuous

(adjective) pur-SPIK-yu-us

Crystal clear (and accordingly easily understood), lucid.

She lifted her diffident eyelids and shot one **perspicuous**, judicial glance at Mr. Donovan, politely murmured his name, and returned to her mutton.

O. Henry, *The Count and the Wedding Guest*.

I am always willing to run some hazard of being tedious, in order to be sure that I am perspicuous; and, after taking the utmost pains that I can to be **perspicuous**, some obscurity may still appear to remain upon a subject, in its own nature extremely abstracted.

Adam Smith, *The Wealth of Nations*.

To write a genuine familiar or truly English style, is to write as anyone would speak in common conversation who had a thorough command and choice of words, or who could discourse with ease, force, and **perspicuity**, setting aside all pedantic, and oratorical flourishes.

William Hazlitt, *On Familiar Style*.

The legacy of these trans-Atlantic crossings was not only James's determination, later in life, to make his home in England, but also "the international theme," explored with such **perspicuity** in works like "Daisy Miller," "The Ambassadors" and "The Golden Bowl."

Michiko Kakutani, *The New York Times*, 1 December 1992. New York Times