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unqualified, *adj.*

Pronunciation: Brit. /(ˌ)ʌnˈkwɒlɪfʌɪd/, /(ˌ)ʌŋˈkwɒlɪfʌɪd/, U.S. /ˌənˈkwɑləˌfaɪd/, /ˌənˈkwɔləˌfaɪd/

Forms: see UN- *prefix*[1] and QUA

Frequency (in current use):

Origin: Formed within English, b

Etymology: < UN- *prefix*[1] + QUAL

1.

a. Lacking the qualities, att or do something; not havin

Cross Reference

qualified, *adj.* and *n.*

Having qualities or possessing accomplishments which fit one for a certain end, office, or function; having an officially recognized qualification to practise as a member of a particular profession; fit, competent.

1556 W. LAUDER *Compend. Tractate Dewtie of Kyngis* sig. B4[v] Quhow God, sall ȝow correct Geue ȝe vnqualifeit hirds Elect.

1631 in S. R. Gardiner *Rep. Cases Star Chamber & High Comm.* (1886) 73 Allen, being a Vicar in Sudbury and beneficed and unqualifyed, accepted of another living.

1673 *S'too him Bayes* 22 The bishop would not have unqualify'd people read the scriptures.

1713 C. PLACE *Heretical Char.* ii. 185 Such babish and unqualified Christians as were not prepared worthily to apprehend and digest it [*sc.* the Lord's Supper].

*a*1780 J. HARRIS *Philol. Inq.* (1781) I. iv. 27 As Translators are infinite, and many of them (to borrow a phrase from Sportsmen) unqualified Persons.

1839 *Morning Chron.* 29 June 4/4 The unqualified lawyer tampers with property..and the unqualified cabinet-maker tampers with good mahogany; while the unqualified schoolmaster only tampers with the human mind and heart.

1891 E. KINGLAKE *Austral. at Home* 46 It is no use sueing a quack... Why did you employ him? You know he is unqualified.

1953 J. P. HARRIS *Advice & Consent of Senate* v. 70 The man previously appointed was without character and wholly unqualified.

2010 *New Yorker* 8 Nov. 32/1 They've foreclosed on homes without having the proper documentation, and relied on unqualified people to sign affidavits attesting to things they didn't know.

b. With *for*, or *to* and infinitive.

1614 T. JACKSON *Third Bk. Comm. Apostles Creede* III. viii. 173 For in men inwardly ill affected or vnqualified, for true faith, credulity comes neere the nature of vice then vertue.

1689 S. JOHNSON *Remarks Dr. Sherlock's Bk.* 41 A Person may be unqualified by Law, to execute a Commission.

1736 BP. J. BUTLER *Analogy of Relig.* I. v. 81 Capable of naturally becoming qualified for States of Life, for which they were once wholly unqualified.

1781 GIBBON *Decline & Fall* (1787) II. xviii. 109 Dominions which they were unqualified to govern.

1847 G. HARRIS *Life Ld. Hardwicke* I. 504 A minister..unqualified for his situation.

1879 *Musical Times* 1 Mar. 163/1 I think it is entirely the fault of the parents of pupils that music-masters who are totally unqualified to teach are enabled to do so.

1921 L. R. HARFORD & A. E. BELL *Hist. Women's Missionary Assoc.* 8 She felt unqualified for this work.

2012 *Sydney Morning Herald* (Nexis) 18 Dec. 3 A woman died after a police officer, unqualified to drive over the speed limit..collided with her at high speed.

†**2.** Not possessing or endowed with any specific qualities; of an undefined or indefinable nature. *Obs.*

1603 P. HOLLAND tr. Plutarch *Morals* 1108 For no man taketh or imagineth that to be..unqualified, which is participant of al qualities and uncapable of none.

1678 R. CUDWORTH *True Intellect. Syst. Universe* I. iv. 220 If he neither derived them from..*Unqualified Matter*..nor yet from..*an Irrational and Maleficent Soul.*

1700 E. HOWARD *Remarks New Philos. Des-Cartes* IV. 247 Such Chimerical Materials, or unqualified Particles of Nature, as he numbers in the actings of his devis'd Triplicity of Elements.

1791 W. ANDERSON *Philos. Anc. Greece* III. ii. 129 The theory..supposed qualities of bodies to be produced from atoms unqualified.

3. Not modified or moderated; not subject to qualification or reservation; unmitigated; (hence) absolute, thoroughgoing.

1658 W. PARKER *Revindication* 230 Paul did not account..his righteousness out of the law loss and dung through the faith of Jesus absolutely in it self, but as it was unqualified with his faith in Christ.

1739 H. COVENTRY *Lett. Philemon to Hydaspes* III. 66 An Image, which must have pleaded so strongly with our Egyptian Ruralists for a direct and unqualified Adoration of the solar Orb.

1783 T. PAINE *Let. to Earl Shelburne* 25 To say..that the sun of Great Britain will be set whenever she acknowledges the Independence of America, when the not doing it is the unqualified lie of Government, can be no other than the language of ridicule.

1836 J. GRANT *Random Recoll. House of Lords* ix. 192 He was always the unqualified denouncer of State prosecutions of the press.

1855 W. H. PRESCOTT *Hist. Reign Philip II of Spain* I. I. viii. 280 His ardor did not precipitate him into any unqualified declaration of his passion.

1878 R. B. SMITH *Carthage* 7 The unsparing and unqualified denunciations of Tyre and Sidon..in Joel and Amos.

1914 T. S. ELIOT *Let.* 14 Oct. (1988) I. 61 I suppose that everyone will want to know how I like Oxford, and of course I shall be quite unable to give an unqualified answer one way or another.

1941 *Hutchinson's Pict. Hist. War* 22 Jan. 229 Airwomen had made an unqualified success of every

trade in which they had taken the place of airmen.

2011 T. RONALD *Becoming Nancy* (2012) xv. 202 With only a few weeks to go, the show, I feel, is a complete and unqualified shambles.

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