

**FEUDATORY**, *n.* [*Sp. feudatorio*; *Port. feudatario*.] A tenant or vassal who holds his lands of a superior, on condition of military service: the tenant of a feud or fief.

*Blackstone. Encyc.*

**FEUDIST**, *n.* A writer on feuds.

*Spelman.*

**FEUILLAGE**, *n.* [*Fr. foliage*.] A bunch or row of leaves.

*Jervas.*

**FEUILLE-MORT**, *n.* [*Fr. dead leaf*.] The color of a faded leaf.

**FEUTER**, *v. t.* To make ready. [*Not in use.*]

*Spenser.*

**FEUTERER**, *n.* A dog keeper. [*Not used.*]

*Massenger.*

**FEVER**, *n.* [*Fr. fièvre*; *Sp. fiebre*; *It. febbre*; *L. febris*, supposed to be so written by transposition for *ferbis*, or *fervis*, from

*ferbo*, *ferveo*, to be hot, *Ar. فَرَس* Class Br. No. 30.]

1. A disease, characterized by an accelerated pulse, with increase of heat, impaired functions, diminished strength, and often with preternatural thirst. This order of diseases is called by Cullen *pyrexia*, *Gr. πυρεξια*. Fevers are often or generally preceded by chills or rigors, called the cold stage of the disease. Fevers are of various kinds; but the principal division of fevers is into *remittent* fevers, which subside or abate at intervals; *intermittent* fevers, which intermit or entirely cease at intervals; and *continued* or *continual* fevers, which neither remit nor intermit.

2. Heat; agitation; excitement by any thing that strongly affects the passions. This news has given me a fever. This quarrel has set my blood in a fever.

**FEVER**, *v. t.* To put in a fever. *Dryden.*

**FEVER-COOLING**, *a.* Allaying febrile heat. *Thomson.*

**FEVERET**, *n.* A slight fever. [*Not used.*]

*Lyttle.*

**FEVERFEW**, *n.* [*Sax. feferfuge*; *L. febris and fugo*.]

A plant, or rather a genus of plants, the *Matricaria*, so named from supposed febrifuge qualities. The common feverfew grows to the height of two or three feet, with compound leaves and compound radiated white flowers, with a yellow disk.

**FEVERISH**, *a.* Having a slight fever; as the patient is *feverish*.

2. Diseased with fever or heat; as *feverish nature*. *Creech.*

3. Uncertain; inconstant; fickle; now hot, now cold.

We toss and turn about our *feverish* will.

*Dryden.*

4. Hot; sultry; burning; as the *feverish north*. *Dryden.*

**FEVERISHNESS**, *n.* The state of being feverish; a slight febrile affection.

**FEVEROUS**, *a.* Affected with fever or ague. *Shak.*

2. Having the nature of fever. [*All februous kinds.*]

*Milton.*

3. Having a tendency to produce fever; as a *feverous disposition of the year*. [*This word is little used.*]

*Bacon.*

**FEVER-ROOT**, *n.* A plant of the genus *Triosteum*.

**FEVER-SICK**, *a.* [*Sax. fefer-secc*.] Diseased with fever. *Peele.*

**FEVER-WEAKENED**, *a.* Debilitated by fever.

**FEVER-WEED**, *n.* A plant of the genus *Eryngium*.

**FEVER-WORT**, *n.* [*See Fever-root*.]

**FEVERY**, *a.* Affected with fever.

*B. Jonson.*

**FEW**, *a.* [*Sax. fea*, or *fewa*; *Dan. fage*; *Fr. peu*; *Sp. and It. poco*; *L. pauci*.] The senses of *few* and *small* are often united. Class Bg.]

Not many; small in number. Party is the madness of many for the gain of a few; but few men, in times of party, regard the maxim.

**FEWEL**, *n.* Combustible matter. [*See Fuel*.]

**FEWNESS**, *n.* Smallness of number; paucity. *Dryden.*

2. Paucity of words; brevity. [*Not used.*]

*Shak.*

**FIANCE**, *v. t.* To betroth. [*See Alliance*.]

**FIAT**, [*L. from fio*.] Let it be done; a decree; a command to do something.

**FIB**, *n.* [*See Fable. Ir. meabhra*.] A lie or falsehood; a word used among children and the vulgar, as a softer expression than *lie*.

**FIB**, *v. i.* To lie; to speak falsely.

**FIBBER**, *n.* One who tells lies or fibs.

**FIBBING**, *ppr.* Telling fibs; as a noun, the telling of fibs.

**FIBER**, *n.* [*Fr. fibre*; *L. fibra*; *Sp. hebra, fibra*; *It. fibra*.]

A thread; a fine, slender body which constitutes a part of the frame of animals. Of fibers, some are soft and flexible; others more hard and elastic. Those that are soft are hollow, or spongy and full of little cells, as the nervous and fleshy. Some are so small as scarcely to be visible; others are larger and appear to be composed of still smaller fibers. These fibers constitute the substance of the bones, cartilages, ligaments, membranes, nerves, veins, arteries, and muscles.

*Quincy.*

2. A filament or slender thread in plants or minerals; the small slender root of a plant.

3. Any fine, slender thread.

**FIBRIL**, *n.* [*Fr. fibrille*.] A small fiber: the branch of a fiber; a very slender thread. *Cheyne.*

**FIBRIN**, *n.* [*See Fiber*.] A peculiar organic compound substance found in animals and vegetables. It is a soft solid, of a greasy appearance, which softens in air, becoming viscid, brown and semi-transparent, but is insoluble in water. It is the chief constituent of muscular fibre.

*Ure.*

**FIBROLITE**, *n.* [*from L. fibra, and Gr. λίθος*.] A mineral that occurs with corundum, of a white or gray color, composed of minute fibres, some of which appear to be rhomboidal prisms. *Clearland.*

**FIBROUS**, *a.* Composed or consisting of fibers; as a *fibrous* body or substance.

2. Containing fibers. In mineralogy, a *fibrous* fracture, is that which presents fine threads or slender lines, either straight or curved, parallel, diverging, or stellated, like the rays of a star. *Kirwan.*

**FIBULA**, *n.* [*L.*] The outer and lesser bone of the leg, much smaller than the tibia. *Quincy.*

2. A clasp or buckle.

**FICKLE**, *a.* [*Sax. ficol*; but it seems to be connected with *weclan*, *Sw. wackla*, to waver, from the root of *wag*; *L. vacillo*; *Gr. ραίσσας*; *Heb. Ch. שׁוּב* to fail, or rather *Heb. שׁוּב*, to stagger. Class Bg. No. 44, 60.]

1. Wavering; inconstant; unstable; of a changeable mind; irresolute; not firm in opinion or purpose; capricious.

They know how *fickle* common lovers are. *Dryden.*

2. Not fixed or firm; liable to change or vicissitude; as a *fickle* state. *Milton.*

**FICKLENESS**, *n.* A wavering; wavering disposition; inconstancy; instability; unsteadiness in opinion or purpose; as the *fickleness* of lovers.

2. Instability; changeableness; as the *fickleness* of fortune.

**FICKLY**, *adv.* Without firmness or steadiness. *Southern.*

**FICCO**, *n.* [*It. a figg*.] An act of contempt done with the fingers, expressing a *fig* for you. *Carew.*

**FICTILE**, *a.* [*L. fictilis*, from *fictus*, *figo*, to feign.]

Molded into form by art; manufactured by the potter.

*Fictile* earth is more fragile than crude earth. *Bacon.*

**FICTIOUS**, [*L. fictio*, from *figo*, to feign.]

1. The act of feigning, inventing or imagining; as, by the mere *fiction* of the mind. *Stillingfleet.*

2. That which is feigned, invented or imagined. The story is a *fiction*.

So also was the *fiction* of those golden apples kept by a dragon, taken from the serpent which tempted Eve. *Raleigh.*

**FICTITIOUS**, for *fictitious*, not used.

**FICTITIOUS**, *a.* [*L. fictitius*, from *figo*, to feign.]

1. Feigned; imaginary; not real.

The human persons are as *fictitious* as the airy ones. *Pope.*

2. Counterfeit; false; not genuine; as *fictitious* fame. *Dryden.*

**FICTITIOUSLY**, *adv.* By fiction; falsely; counterfeitedly.

**FICTITIOUSNESS**, *n.* Feigned representation. *Brown.*

**FICTIVE**, *a.* Feigned. [*Not used.*]

**FID**, *n.* A square bar of wood or iron, with a shoulder at one end, used to support the top-mast, when erected at the head of the lower mast. *Mar. Dict.*

2. A pin of hard wood or iron, tapering to a point, used to open the strands of a rope in splicing. *Mar. Dict.*

**FIDDLE**, *n.* [*G. fidel*; *D. vedel*; *L. fides, fidelitas*.] A stringed instrument of music; a violin.

**FIDDLE**, *v. i.* To play on a fiddle or violin.

Themistocles said he could not *fiddle*, but he could make a small town a great city. *Bacon.*

It is said that Nero *fiddled*, when Rome was in flames. *History.*

2. To trifle; to shift the hands often and do nothing, like a fellow that plays on a fiddle.