

F.

FAB

F, the sixth letter of the English Alphabet, is a labial articulation, formed by placing the upper teeth on the under lip, and accompanied with an emission of breath. Its kindred letter is *v*, which is chiefly distinguished from *f* by being more vocal, or accompanied with more sound, as may be perceived by pronouncing *cf. v*. This letter may be derived from the Oriental *rau*, or from *pe* or *phe*; most probably the former. The Latins received the letter from the Eolians in Greece, who wrote it in the form of a double *g*, *F*, *g*; whence it has been called most absurdly digamma. It corresponds in power to the Greek *phi*, and its proper name is *ef*.

As a Latin numeral, it signifies 40, and with a dash over the top *f*, forty thousand. In the civil law, two of these letters together *ff*, signify the pandects.

In English criminal law, this letter is branded on felons, when admitted to the benefit of clergy; by Stat. 4. H. VII. c. 13.

In medical prescriptions, *F* stands for *fiat*, let it be made; *F. S. A. fiat secundum artem*. *F* stands also for *Fellow*; *F. R. S.* Fellow of the Royal Society.

For *fa*, in music, is the fourth note rising in this order in the gamut, *ut, re, mi, fa*. It denotes also one of the Greek keys in music, destined for the base.

F in English has one uniform sound, as in *father*, *after*.

FABACEOUS, *a.* [Low *L. fabaceus*, from *faba*, a bean.]

Having the nature of a bean; like a bean. [*Little used.*]

FABIAN, *a.* Delaying; dilatory; avoiding battle, in imitation of Q. Fabius Maximus, a Roman general who conducted military operations against Hannibal, by declining to risk a battle in the open field, but harassing the enemy by marches, counter-marches and ambuscades.

FABULA, *n.* [*L. fabula*; *Fr. fable*; *It. favola*; *Ir. fabhal*; *Sp. fabula*, from the Latin, but the native Spanish word is *habla*, speech. *Qu. W. hebu*, to speak; *Gr. fabula*. The radical sense is that which is spoken or told.]

1. A feigned story or tale, intended to instruct or amuse; a fictitious narration intended to enforce some useful truth or precept.

John's *fable* of the trees is the oldest extant, and as beautiful as any made since. *Addison*.

2. Fiction in general; as, the story is all a *fable*.

3. An idle story; vicious or vulgar fictions. But refuse profane and old wives' *fables*. 1 Tim. iv.

4. The plot, or connected series of events, in an epic or dramatic poem.

The moral is the first business of the poet; this being formed, he contrives such a design or *fable* as may be most suitable to the moral. *Dryden*.

5. Falsehood; a softer term for a lie. *Addison*.

FABLE, *v. i.* To feign; to write fiction. Vain now the tales which *fabling* poets tell. *Prior*.

2. To tell falsehoods; as, he *fables* not. *Shak.*

FABLE, *v. t.* To feign; to invent; to devise and speak of, as true or real. The hell thou *fablest*. *Milton*.

FABLED, *pp.* Feigned; invented, as stories.

2. *a.* Told or celebrated in fables. Had, *fabled* groves. *Tickel*.

FABLER, *n.* A writer of fables or fictions; a dealer in feigned stories. *Johnson*.

FABLING, *pp.* Feigning; devising, as stories; writing or uttering false stories.

FABRIC, *n.* [*L. fabrica*, a frame, from *faber*, a workman; *Fr. fabrique*.]

1. The structure of any thing; the manner in which the parts of a thing are united by art and labor; workmanship; texture. This is cloth of a beautiful *fabric*.

2. The frame or structure of a building; construction. More generally, the building itself; an edifice; a house; a temple; a church; a bridge, &c. The word is usually applied to a large building.

3. Any system composed of connected parts; as the *fabric* of the universe.

4. Cloth manufactured. Silks and other fine *fabrics* of the east. *Henry*.

FABRIC, *v. t.* To frame; to build; to construct. [*Little used.*] *Philips*.

FABRICATE, *v. t.* [*L. fabrico*, to frame, from *faber*, supra.]

1. To frame; to build; to construct; to form a whole by connecting its parts; as, to *fabricate* a bridge or a ship.

2. To form by art and labor; to manufacture; as, to *fabricate* woolens.

3. To invent and form; to forge; to devise falsely; as, to *fabricate* a lie or story.

Our books were not *fabricated* with an accommodation to prevailing usages. *Paley*.

4. To coin; as, to *fabricate* money. [*Unusual.*] *Henry, Hist.*

FABRICATED, *pp.* Framed; constructed; built; manufactured; invented; devised falsely; forged.

FABRICATING, *pp.* Framing; constructing; manufacturing; devising falsely; forging.

FABRICATION, *n.* The act of framing or constructing; construction; as the *fabrication* of a bridge or of a church.

2. The act of manufacturing.

3. The act of devising falsely; forgery.

4. That which is fabricated; a falsehood. The story is doubtless a *fabrication*.

FABRICATOR, *n.* One that constructs or makes.

FAB

FAC

FABRILE, *a.* [*L. fabrilis*.] Pertaining to handicrafts. [*Not used.*]

FABULIST, *n.* [from *fable*.] The inventor or writer of fables. *Garrick*.

FABULIZE, *v. t.* To invent, compose or relate fables. *Poher*.

FABULOSITY, *n.* Fabulousness; fullness of fables. [*Little used.*] *Abbot*.

FABULOUS, *a.* Feigned, as a story; devised; fictitious; as a *fabulous* story; a *fabulous* description.

2. Related in fable; described or celebrated in fables; invented; not real; as a *fabulous* hero; the *fabulous* exploits of Hercules.

3. The *fabulous* age of Greece and Rome, was the early age of those countries, the accounts of which are mostly *fabulous*, or in which the *fabulous* achievements of their heroes were performed; called also the *heroic* age.

FABULOUSLY, *adv.* In fable or fiction; in a fabulous manner. *Brown*.

FABULOUSNESS, *n.* The quality of being fabulous or feigned.

FACADE, *n.* *fassa* de. [*Fr.*] Front. *Warton*.

FACE, *n.* [*Fr. face*; *It. faccia*; *Sp. faz*, or *haz*; *Arm. faç*; *L. facies*, from *facio*, to make.]

1. In a general sense, the surface of a thing, or the side which presents itself to the view of a spectator; as the *face* of the earth; the *face* of the waters.

2. A part of the surface of a thing; or the plane surface of a solid. Thus, a cube or die has six *faces*; an octahedron has eight *faces*.

3. The surface of the fore part of an animal's head, particularly of the human head; the visage.

In the sweat of thy *face* shalt thou eat bread. Gen. iii.

Joseph bowed himself with his *face* to the earth. Gen. xlviii.

4. Countenance; cast of features; look; air of the face.

We set the best *face* on it we could. *Dryden*.

5. The front of a thing; the forefront; the flat surface that presents itself first to view; as the *face* of a house. *Ezek. xli.*

6. Visible state; appearance. This would produce a new *face* of things in Europe. *Addison*.

7. Appearance; look. Nor heaven, nor sea, their former *face* retained. *Walter*.

His dialogue has the *face* of probability. *Baker*.

8. State of confrontation. The witnesses were presented *face* to *face*.

9. Confidence; boldness; impudence; a bold front. He has the *face* to charge others with false citations. *Tillotson*.

10. Presence; sight; as in the phrases, be-