

**FUSIFORM**, *a.* [*L. fusus*, a spindle, and *form*.]  
Shaped like a spindle.

**FUSIL**, *a. s* as *z*. [*Fr. fusile*; *L. fusilis*, from *fusus*, *fundo*.]  
1. Capable of being melted or rendered fluid by heat.

2. Running; flowing, as a liquid.

**FUSIL**, *n. s* as *z*. [*Fr. from L. fusus, fundo*.]  
1. A light musket or firelock.

2. A bearing in heraldry of a rhomboidal figure, named from its shape, which resembles that of a spindle.

**FUSILEER**, *n.* [from *fusil*.] Properly, a soldier armed with a fusil; but in modern times, a soldier armed like others of the infantry, and distinguished by wearing a cap like a grenadier, but somewhat shorter.

**FUSION**, *n. s* as *z*. [*L. fusio*; *Fr. fusion*; *from L. fundo, fusum*.]  
1. The act or operation of melting or rendering fluid by heat, without the aid of a solvent; as the fusion of ice or of metals.

2. The state of being melted or dissolved by heat; a state of fluidity or flowing in consequence of heat; as metals in fusion.

*Watery fusion*, the melting of certain crystals by heat in their own water of crystallization.

**FUSS**, *n.* [allied perhaps to *Gr. φυσω*, to blow or puff].  
A tumult; a bustle; but the word is vulgar.

**FUST**, *n.* [*Fr. fust*; *It. fusta*; *L. fustis*, a staff].  
The shaft of a column.

**FUST**, *n.* [*Fr. fust*]. A strong musty smell.

**FUST**, *v. t.* To become moldy; to smell ill.

**FUSTED**, *a.* Moldy; ill smelling.

**FUSTET**, *n.* [*Fr. Sp. Port. fustete*]. The wood of the *Rhus cotinus*, which yields a fine orange color.

**FUSTIAN**, *n.* [*Fr. futaine*; *Arm. fustenn*; *Sp. fustan*, the name of a place].

1. A kind of cotton stuff, or stuff of cotton and linen.

2. An inflated style of writing; a kind of writing in which high sounding words are used, above the dignity of the thoughts or subject; a swelling style; bombast.

*Fustian* is thoughts and words ill sorted.

**FUSTIAN**, *a.* Made of fustian.

3. In style, swelling above the dignity of the thoughts or subject; too pompous; ridiculously tumid; bombastic.

**FUSTIANIST**, *n.* One who writes bombast.

**FUSTIC**, *n.* [*Sp. fuste*, wood, timber; *L. fustis*.]  
The wood of the *Morus tinctoria*, a tree growing in the West Indies, imported and used in dyeing yellow.

**FUSTIGATION**, *n.* [*L. fustigatio*, from *fustigo*, to beat with a cudgel, from *fustis*, a stick or club].

Among the ancient Romans, a punishment by beating with a stick or club, inflicted on freemen.

**FUSTINESS**, *n.* A fusty state or quality; an ill smell from moldiness, or moldiness itself.

**FUSTY**, *a.* [See *Fust*.] Moldy; musty; ill smelling; rank; rancid.

**FUTILE**, *a.* [*Fr. L. futilis*, from *futio*, to pour out; *effutio*, to prate or babble; *Heb. Ch. 22* to utter rashly or foolishly. *Class Bd. No. 2. 6. 15*.]  
1. Talkative; loquacious; tating.

2. Trifling; of no weight or importance; answering no valuable purpose; worthless.

3. Of no effect.

**FUTILITY**, *n.* Talkativeness; loquaciousness; loquacity. [In this sense, not now used.]

2. Triflingness; unimportance; want of weight or effect; as, to expose the futility of arguments.

3. The quality of producing no valuable effect, or of coming to nothing; as the futility of measures or schemes.

**FUTUOUS**, *a.* Worthless; trifling.

**FUTOCK**, *n.* [*Qu. foot-hook*.] It is more properly corrupted from *foot-lock*.

In a ship, the futlocks are the middle timbers, between the floor and the upper timbers, or the timbers raised over the keel which form the breadth of the ship.

**FUTURE**, *a.* [*L. futurus*; *Fr. futur*.] That is to be or come hereafter; that will exist at any time after the present, indefinitely.

The next moment is future to the present.

2. The future tense, in grammar, is the modification of a verb which expresses a future act or event.

**FUTURE**, *n.* Time to come; a time subsequent to the present; as, the future shall be as the present; in future; for the future.

In such phrases, time or season is implied.

**FUTURELY**, *adv.* In time to come.

**FUTURITION**, *n.* The state of being to come or exist hereafter.

**FUTURITY**, *n.* Future time; time to come.

2. Event to come.

All futurities are naked before the all-seeing eye.

3. The state of being yet to come, or to come hereafter.

**FUZZ**, *v. i.* To fly off in minute particles.

**FUZZ**, *n.* Fine, light particles; loose, volatile matter.

**FUZZBALL**, *n.* A kind of fungus or mushroom, which when pressed bursts and scatters a fine dust.

2. A puff.

**FUZZLE**, *v. t.* To intoxicate.

**FY**, *exclam.* A word which expresses blame, dislike, disapprobation, abhorrence or contempt.

*Fy, my lord, fy! a soldier, and afraid?*

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## G.

**G**, the seventh letter and the fifth articulation of the English Alphabet, is derived to us, through the Latin and Greek, from the Assyrian languages; it being found in the Chaldee, Syriac, Hebrew, Samaritan, Phœnician, Ethiopic and Arabic. In the latter language, it is called *gim* or *gamal*; but in the others, *gimel*, *gomal* or *gamal*, that is, *camel*, from its shape, which resembles the neck of that animal, at least in the Chaldee and Hebrew. It is the third letter in the Chaldee, Syriac, Hebrew, Samaritan and Greek; the fifth in the Arabic, and the twentieth in the Ethiopic. The Greek *gamma* is the Chaldean inverted. The early Latins used *C* for the Greek *gamma*, and hence *C* came to hold the third place in the order of the Alphabet; the place which *gimel* holds in the oriental languages. The

two letters are primarily palatals, and so nearly allied in sound that they are easily convertible; and they have been reciprocally used the one for the other. But in the Assyrian languages, *gimel* had two sounds; one hard or close, as we pronounce the letter in *gave*, *good*; the other soft, or rather compound, as the English *j* or as *ch* in *chase*. In the Arabic, this letter has the sound of the English *j* or *dzh*, and this sound it has in many English words, as in *genius*, *gem*, *ginger*. It retains its hard sound in all cases, before *a*, *o* and *u*; but before *e*, *i* and *y*, its sound is hard or soft, as custom has dictated, and its different sounds are not reducible to rules. It is silent in some words before *n*, as in *benign*, *condign*, *malign*, *campaign*; but it resumes its sound in *benignity* and *maliginity*. *G* is mute before *n*

in *gnash*; it is silent also in many words when united with *h*, as in *bright*, *night*, *high*, *high*. The Saxon *g* has in many words been softened or liquefied into *y* or *ow*; as *Sax. dag*, *gear*, *Eng. day*, *year*; *Sax. bugan*, *Eng. to bane*.

The Celtic nations had a peculiar manner of beginning the sound of *u* or *io* with the articulation *g*, or rather prefixing this articulation to that vowel. Thus *guard* for *ward*, *guinn* for *win*, *guerre* for *war*, *guell* for *well*. Whether this *g* has been added by the Celtic races, or whether the Teutonic nations have lost it, is a question I have not examined with particular attention.

As a numeral, *G* was anciently used to denote 400, and with a dash over it *G*, 40,000. As an abbreviation, it stands for *Gaius*, *Gellius*, &c. In music, it is the mark of