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facial (fā'shəl) *adj.* Of or concerning the face: *facial hair*.
n. A treatment for the face, usu. consisting of a massage and the application of cosmetic creams. — **facial·ly** *adv.*
facial index *n.* The ratio of facial length to facial width multiplied by 100.
facial nerve *n.* Either of the seventh pair of cranial nerves that control facial muscles and relay sensation from the taste buds of the front part of the tongue.
facient *adj.* 1. Causing; bringing about: *somnifacient*.
adv. 2. Something that causes or brings about: *abortifacient*. [*< Lat. faciō, faciēs, pr.part. of facere, to do. See dhē-**.]
facies (fā'shē-ēz', -shēz) *n., pl. facies*. 1. *Biol.* The general aspect or outward appearance, as of a given growth of flora.
2. *Medic.* The appearance or expression of the face, esp. when typical of a disorder or disease. 3. *Geol.* A rock or stratified body distinguished from others by its appearance or composition. [*Lat. faciēs*. See **dhē-***.]
facile (fās'əl) *adj.* 1. Done or achieved with little effort or difficulty: easy. See **Syns at easy**. 2. Working, acting, or speaking with effortless ease and fluency. 3. Arrived at without due care, effort, or examination; superficial. 4. Readily manifested, together with an aura of insincerity and lack of depth: *a facile slogan*. 5. *Archaic.* Pleasingly mild, as in disposition or manner. [*ME < OFr. < Lat. facilis*. See **dhē-***.]
facile·ly *adv.* — **facile·ness** *n.*
facilitate (fā-sil'i-tāt') *tr.v.* -**tat·ed**, -**tat·ing**, -**tates**. To make easy or easier. [*< Fr. faciliter < OFr. < Ital. facilitare < facile, facile < Lat. facilis*. See **facile**.] — **facilitator** *n.*
facilitation (fā-sil'i-tā'shən) *n.* 1. *a.* The act of making easy or easier. *b.* The state of being made easy or easier. 2. *Physiol.* The lowering of the threshold for propagation of an action potential of a neuron.
facility (fā-sil'i-tē) *n., pl. -ties*. 1. Ease in moving, acting, or doing; aptitude. 2. Readiness to be persuaded; pliability. 3. Something that facilitates an action or a process. Often used in the plural. 4. Something created to serve a particular function: *health care facilities*.
facings (fā'sing) *n.* 1. A piece of material sewn to the edge of a garment, such as a dress or coat, as lining or decoration. 2. An outer layer or coating applied to a surface for protection or decoration.
facsimile (fāk-sim'ə-lē) *n.* 1. An exact copy or reproduction, as of a document. 2. *a.* A method of transmitting images or printed matter by electronic means. *b.* An image so transmitted. — *adj.* 1. Of or used to produce exact reproductions, as of documents. 2. Exactly reproduced; duplicate. [*Lat. fac simile, make similar: fac, imper. of facere, to make; see dhē-** + *simile, neut. of similis, similar; see similar*.]
fact (fākt) *n.* 1. Information presented as objectively real. 2. A real occurrence; an event: *the facts of the accident*. 3. *a.* Something having real, demonstrable existence. *b.* The quality of being real or actual. 4. A thing that has been done, esp. a crime: *an accessory before the fact*. 5. *Law.* The aspect of a case at law comprising events determined by evidence. — *idiom.* in (point of) **fact**. In reality or in truth; actually. [*Lat. factum, deed < neut. p.part. of facere, to do. See dhē-**.]
Usage Note: *Fact* has a long history of usage in the sense "allegation of fact," as in "This tract was distributed to thousands of American teachers, but the facts and the reasoning are wrong" (Albert Shanker). This practice has led inevitably to the introduction of the phrases *true facts* and *real facts*, as in *The true facts of the case may never be known*. These phrases may occasion qualms among critics who hold that facts cannot be other than true, but they are often useful.
fact·find·ing (fākt'fin'ing) *n.* Discovery or determination of facts or accurate information. — *adj.* Of, relating to, or used in the discovery or determination of facts. — **fact·find·er** *n.*
facticity (fākt'is'i-tē) *n.* The quality or condition of being a fact: *historical facticity*.
faction (fākt'ʃən) *n.* 1. A group of persons forming a cohesive, usu. contentious minority within a larger group. 2. Conflict within an organization or nation; internal dissension. [*Fr. < Lat. factiō, factiōn- < factus, p.part. of facere, to do. See dhē-**.] — **fac·tion·al** *adj.* — **fac·tion·al·ism** *n.* — **fac·tion·al·ly** *adv.*
faction? (fākt'ʃən) *n.* A form of fiction incorporating real people or events as essential elements. [Blend of **fact** and **fiction**.]
fac·tion·al·ize (fākt'ʃə-nə-līz') *tr.v.* -**ized**, -**iz·ing**, -**izes**. To split a group, for example) into disputatious factions.
fac·tious (fākt'ʃəs) *adj.* 1. Of, relating to, produced by, or characterized by internal dissension. 2. Given to or promoting internal dissension. — **fac·tious·ly** *adv.* — **fac·tious·ness** *n.*
fac·tious·ly (fākt'ʃəs) *adj.* 1. Produced artificially rather than by a natural process. 2. Lacking authenticity or genu-

fac·ti·tive (fāk'tī-tiv) *adj.* Of or constituting a transitive verb, such as *elect*, that in some constructions takes an objective complement to modify its direct object. [*NLat. factitivus < Lat. factitāre, to do, practice, freq. of facere, to do. See dhē-**.] — **fac·ti·tive·ly** *adv.*
fact of life *n., pl. facts of life*. 1. Something unavoidable that must be faced or dealt with. 2. **facts of life**. The basic physiological functions involved in sex and reproduction.
fac·toid (fāk'toid) *n.* 1. A piece of inaccurate or false information that is accepted as true because of repetition in the media. 2. A brief, usu. unimportant fact. — **fac·toid·al** *adj.*
fac·tor (fāk'tər) *n.* 1. One that actively contributes to an accomplishment, a result, or a process. See **Syns at element**. 2. *a.* One who acts for someone else; an agent. *b.* A person or firm that accepts accounts receivable as security for short-term loans. 3. *Math.* One of two or more quantities that divides a given quantity without a remainder: *2 and 3 are factors of 6*. 4. A quantity by which a stated quantity is multiplied or divided, so as to indicate an increase or decrease in a measurement. 5. A gene. No longer in technical usage. 6. *Physiol.* A substance that functions in a specific biochemical reaction or bodily process, such as blood coagulation. — *tr.v.* -**tored**, -**tor·ing**, -**tors**. To determine or indicate explicitly the factors of. — **phrasal verb.** **factor in**. To figure in. [*ME factour, perpetrator, agent < OFr. facteur < Lat. factor, maker < facere, to make. See dhē-**.] — **fac·tor·a·ble** *adj.* — **fac·tor·ship** *n.*
factor VIII *n.* See **antihemophilic factor**.
factor IX *n.* A protein substance in blood plasma that participates in and is essential for the blood-clotting process.
fac·tor·age (fāk'tər-ij) *n.* 1. The business of a factor. 2. The commission or fee paid to a factor.
fac·to·ri·al (fāk-tōr'ē-əl, -tōr'-) *n.* The product of all the positive integers from 1 to a given number. For example, 4 factorial, usu. written 4!, is equal to 24 (1 × 2 × 3 × 4 = 24). — *adj.* Of or relating to a factor or factorial.
fac·tor·ize (fāk'tə-rīz') *tr.v.* -**ized**, -**iz·ing**, -**izes**. *Math.* To factor. — **fac·tor·i·za·tion** (-tər-i-zā'shən) *n.*
fac·to·ry (fāk'tə-rē) *n., pl. -ries*. 1. *a.* A building or group of buildings in which goods are manufactured; a plant. *b.* A vessel in which newly caught seafood is prepared for shipment and sale. 2. A business establishment for commercial agents or factors in a foreign country. 3. The source of prolific production. [*LLat. factōria, mill, and Med.Lat. factōria, establishment for factors, both < Lat. factor, factor. See factor*.]
fac·to·tum (fāk-tō'təm) *n.* An employee or assistant who serves in a wide range of capacities. [*Med.Lat. factōtum: Lat. fac, imper. of facere, to do; see dhē-** + *Lat. tōtum, everything < neut. of tōtus, all; see teutā-**.]
fac·tu·al (fāk'chō-əl) *adj.* 1. Of the nature of fact; real. 2. Of or containing facts. — **fac·tu·al·i·ty** (-āl'i-tē) *n.* — **fac·tu·al·ly** *adv.* — **fac·tu·al·ness** *n.*
fac·tu·al·ism (fāk'chō-ə-līz'əm) *n.* Devotion or adherence to fact. — **fac·tu·al·ist** *n.*
fac·u·la (fāk'yə-lə) *n., pl. -lae* (-lē'). Any of various large bright spots or veined patches on the sun's photosphere, usu. near sunspots. [*Lat., small torch, dim. of fax, fac-, torch*.]
fac·ul·ta·tive (fāk'əl-tā'tiv) *adj.* 1. Of or relating to a mental faculty. 2. *a.* Capable of occurring or not occurring; contingent. *b.* Not required or compulsory; optional. 3. Granting permission or authority. 4. *Biol.* Capable of functioning under varying environmental conditions. — **fac·ul·ta·tive·ly** *adv.*
fac·ul·ty (fāk'əl-tē) *n., pl. -ties*. 1. An inherent power or ability. 2. Any of the powers or capacities possessed by the human mind. 3. The ability to perform or act. 4. *a.* Any of the divisions or comprehensive branches of learning at a college or university. *b.* The teachers and instructors within such a division. *c.* A body of teachers. 5. All of the members of a learned profession. 6. Authorization granted by authority; conferred power. 7. *Archaic.* An occupation; a trade. [*ME faculte < OFr. < Lat. facultās, power, ability < facilis, easy. See dhē-**.]
fad (fād) *n.* A fashion taken up enthusiastically for a brief period of time; a craze. [*Poss. < fadfad, fussy person, fussy < FIDDLE-FADDE*.] — **fad·dism** *n.* — **fad·dist** *n.* — **fad·dy** *adj.*
fad·dish (fād'ish) *adj.* 1. Having the nature of a fad. 2. Given to fads. — **fad·dish·ly** *adv.* — **fad·dish·ness** *n.*
fade (fād) *v.* **fad·ed**, **fad·ing**, **fa·des**. — *intr.* 1. To lose brightness, loudness, or brilliance gradually; dim. 2. To lose freshness, wither. 3. To lose strength or vitality; wane. 4. To disappear gradually; vanish. See **Syns at disappear**. — *tr.* 1. To appear gradually; vanish. See **Syns at disappear**. 2. *Football.* To cause to lose brightness, freshness, or strength. 3. *Football.* To move back from the scrimmage line. Used of a quarterback. 3. *Games.* To meet the bet of (an opposing player) in dice. — *n.* 1. A gradual diminution in the brightness of an image in cinema or television. 2. A periodic reduction in the received strength of a radio transmission. — **phrasal verbs.** **fade in**. To appear gradually. 2. To cause to appear or be heard gradually. **fade out**. To disappear or cause to disappear gradually. [*ME faden < OFr. fader < fade, faded, prob. < VLat.*

ā pat	oi boy
ā pay	ou out
ār care	ōō took
ā father	ōō boot
ē pet	ū cut
ē be	ūr urge
ī pit	th thin
ī pie	th this
īr pier	hw which
ō pot	zh vision
ō toe	ə about
ō paw	item

Stress marks:
' (primary);
' (secondary), as in

with feathers. **2.** To fit (an arrow) with a feather. **3.a.** To thin, reduce, or fringe the edge of by cutting, shaving, or wearing away. **b.** To shorten and taper (hair) by cutting and thinning. **4.** To connect with a tongue-and-groove joint. **5.** To turn (an oar blade) almost horizontal as it is carried back after each stroke. **6.a.** To alter the pitch of (a propeller) so that the chords of the blades are parallel with the line of flight. **b.** To alter the pitch of (the rotor of a helicopter) while in forward flight. **7.** To turn off (an aircraft engine) while in flight. — *intr.* **1.** To grow feathers or become feathered. **2.** To move, spread, or grow in a manner suggestive of feathers. **3.** To feather an oar. **4.** To feather a propeller. — *idioms.* **feather in (one's) cap.** An act or deed to one's credit; a distinctive achievement. **feather (one's) nest.** To grow wealthy by taking advantage of one's position or property left in one's trust. **In fine (or good or high) feather.** In excellent form, health, or humor. [ME *fecher* < OE. See *pet*.*]

feather bed *n.* **1.** A mattress stuffed with feathers. **2.** A bed having a feather mattress.

feath·er·bed·ding (*fēth'ər-béd'ing*) *n.* The practice of requiring an employer to hire superfluous workers or limit their production in keeping with a safety regulation or union rule. — *feath'er·bed'* *adj.* & *v.*

feath·er·brain (*fēth'ər-brān'*) *n.* A silly, flighty, or empty-headed person. — *feath'er·brained'* *adj.*

feath·ered (*fēth'ərd*) *adj.* **1.** Covered, provided, or adorned with feathers. **2.** Moving swiftly: *feathered feet*. **3.** Having the chords of propeller blades parallel to the line of flight.

feath·er·edge (*fēth'ər-ēj'*) *n.* **1.** A thin fragile edge, esp. a tapering edge of a board. **2.** See *deckle edge*.

feath·er·head (*fēth'ər-hēd'*) *n.* A featherbrain. — *feath'er·head'ed* *adj.*

feath·er·ing (*fēth'ər-ing*) *n.* **1.** Plumage. **2.** The feathers fitted to an arrow. **3.** A fringe of hair on an animal's coat.

feather star *n.* Any of numerous crinoids of the genus *Antedon* and related genera, having a free-swimming stalkless adult stage with branched feathery arms.

feath·er·stitch (*fēth'ər-stich'*) *n.* An embroidery stitch that produces a decorative zigzag line. — *feath'er·stitch'* *v.*

feath·er·weight (*fēth'ər-wāt'*) *n.* **1.** *Sports.* **a.** A professional boxer weighing more than 118 and not more than 126 pounds (approx. 53.5–57 kilograms), heavier than a bantam-weight and lighter than a lightweight. **b.** A contestant in various other sports in a similar weight class. **2.** A person or thing of little weight or size. **3.** An insignificant person. — *feath'er·weight* *adj.*

feath·er·y (*fēth'ər-ē*) *adj.* **1.** Covered with or consisting of feathers. **2.** Resembling or suggestive of a feather, as in form or lightness. — *feath'er·i·ness* *n.*

fea·ture (*fē'chər*) *n.* **1.a.** Any of the distinct parts of the face, as the eyes, nose, or mouth. **b.** The overall appearance of the face. Often used in the plural. **2.** A distinctive quality or characteristic. **3.a.** The main film presentation at a theater. **b.** A special attraction at an entertainment. **4.** A special article, story, or department in a newspaper or periodical. **5.** An item advertised or offered as particularly attractive. **6.** *Archaic.* **a.** Outward appearance; form or shape. **b.** Physical beauty. — *tr.v.* **-tured, -tur·ing, -tures.** **1.** To give special attention to; make prominent. **2.** To have or include as a prominent part or characteristic. **3.** To depict or outline the features of. **4.** *Informal.* To picture mentally; imagine. [ME *feture* < OFr. *facture* < Lat. *factūra*, a working or making < *factus*, p.part. of *facere*, to make, do. See *dhē*.*]

fea·tured (*fē'chərd*) *adj.* **1.** Given special prominence, attention, or publicity: *a featured actor*. **2.** Having a specified kind of facial features. Often used in combination: *plam-featured*.

fea·ture·less (*fē'chər-lis*) *adj.* Lacking distinguishing characteristics or features: *the featureless landscape of the steppe*.

Feb. also **Feb** *abbr.* February.

fe·bric·i·ty (*fī-bris'i-tē*) *n.* The condition of having a fever. [Med.Lat. *febricitās* < Lat. *febricitāre*, to have a fever < *febris*, fever.]

fe·brif·ic (*fī-brif'ik*) *adj.* **1.** Producing fever. **2.** Having a fever; feverish. [Lat. *febris*, fever + *-ic*.]

feb·ri·fuge (*fēb'ri-fyooj'*) *n.* An agent that reduces a fever; an antipyretic. [Lat. *febris*, fever + *-fuge*.]

feb·rile (*fēb'riəl, fē'brəl*) *adj.* Of, relating to, or characterized by fever; feverish. [Lat. *febrilis* < Lat. *febris*, fever.]

Feb·ru·ar·y (*fēb'rō-ər'ē, fēb'yoo-*) *n., pl. -ies.* The second month of the year in the Gregorian calendar. [ME *Februarie* < *Februārus* (*mēnsis*), (month) of purification < *februa*, expiatory offerings, poss. of Sabine orig.]

fec. *abbr.* Lat. *Fecit* (he or she made or did it).

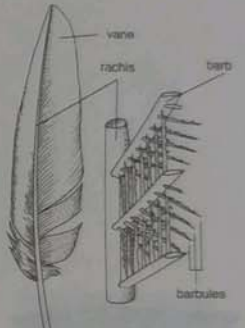
fe·cal (*fē'kəl*) *adj.* Of, relating to, or composed of feces.

fe·ces (*fē'sēz*) *pl.n.* Waste matter eliminated from the bowels; excrement. [ME < Lat. *faeces*, pl. of *faex*, dregs.]

feck·less (*fēk'lis*) *adj.* **1.** Feeble or ineffective. **2.** Careless and irresponsible. [See *feck*, effect (alteration of *EFFECT*) + *-less*.]



Faust



feather



featherstitch

ā pat	oi boy
ā pay	ou out
ār care	ōō took
ā father	ōō boot
ē pet	ū cut
ē be	ūr urge
ī pit	th thin
ī pie	th this
īr pier	hw which
ō pot	zh vision
ō toe	ə about,
ō paw	item

Stress marks:

Federal Communications Commission. See *bass clef*.

fatal (*fē'təl*) *n.* **1.** Fatal dose. **2.** Fire department. **3.** Focal distance.

fidei defensor (*fī-dēi-dē-fen-sōr*) *n.* **1.** Fidei Defensor (Defender of the Faith).

Food and Drug Administration.

Food Deposit Insurance Corporation.

for the element iron 1. [Lat. *ferum*, iron.]

fealty (*fē'lti*) *n., pl. -ties.* **1.a.** The fidelity owed by a vassal to his feudal lord. **b.** The oath of such fidelity. **2.** Faithfulness; allegiance. [ME *fealtye* < OFr. *fealte* < Lat. *fidēlitās*, fidelity < *fidēs*, faithful < *fidēs*, faith. See *bheidh*.*]

fear (*fīr*) *n.* **1.a.** A feeling of agitation and anxiety caused by present or imminent danger. **b.** A state marked by this feeling. **2.** A feeling of disquiet or apprehension: *a fear of looking*. **3.** Extreme reverence or awe, as toward a deity. **4.** A reason for dread or apprehension. — *v.* **feared, fear·ing, fears.** — *tr.* **1.** To be afraid or frightened of. **2.** To be uneasy or apprehensive about. **3.** To be in awe of; revere. **4.** To consider probable; expect: *I fear you are wrong*. **5.** *Archaic.* To be afraid within (oneself). — *intr.* **1.** To be afraid. **2.** To be uneasy or apprehensive. [ME *fer* < OE *fār*, danger, sudden calamity. See *per*.*] — *fear'er* *n.*

Syns: *fear, fright, dread, terror, horror, panic, alarm, dismay, consternation, trepidation.* These nouns all denote the agitation and anxiety caused by the presence or imminence of danger. *Fear* is the most general term: "*Fear is the parent of all other emotions.*" (J.A. Froude). *Fright* is sudden, usually momentary. *Dread* is the fear of what one is powerless to avoid: *He looked forward with dread to the surgery.* *Terror* is intense overpowering fear: *The child froze in terror at the sight.* *Horror* is a combination of fear and aversion or repugnance: *Murder arouses widespread horror.* *Panic* is sudden frantic fear, often groundless: *The fire caused a panic.* *Alarm* is fright aroused by the first realization of danger: *I watched with alarm as the boat began to sink.* *Dismay* robs one of courage or the power to act effectively: *The probability of war caused dismay.* *Consternation* is often paralyzing, characterized by confusion and helplessness: *consternation caused by the coup.* *Trepidation* is dread characteristically marked by trembling or hesitancy: "*They were . . . full of trepidation about things that were never likely to happen*" (John Morley).

Cape. A promontory on Smith I. off the coast of SE Antarctica at the mouth of the Cape Fear R.

fear·ful (*fīr'fəl*) *adj.* **1.** Causing or capable of causing fear; frightening. **2.** Experiencing fear; frightened. See *Syns at frighten*. **3.** Feeling or inclined to feel anxiety or apprehension; timid. **4.** Indicating anxiety, fear, or terror. **5.** Feeling reverence, dread, or awe. **6.** Extreme, as in degree or extent; dreadful. — *fear'ful·ly* *adv.* — *fear'ful·ness* *n.*

fear·less (*fīr'lis*) *adj.* Without fear; brave. See *Syns at brave*. — *fear'less·ly* *adv.* — *fear'less·ness* *n.*

fear·some (*fīr'səm*) *adj.* **1.** Causing or capable of causing fear. **2.** Fearful; timid. — *fear'some·ly* *adv.* — *fear'some·ness* *n.*

feasible (*fē'zə-bəl*) *adj.* **1.** Capable of being accomplished or brought about; possible. **2.** Used or dealt with successfully; practicable. **3.** Logical; likely. [ME *fesable* < OFr. *faisable* < Lat. *facere*, to do < Lat. *facere*. See *dhē*.*] — *fea'si·bil'it·y, fea'si·ble·ness* *n.* — *fea'si·bly* *adv.*

feast (*fēst*) *n.* **1.a.** A large elaborate meal, usu. for many persons; a banquet. **b.** A meal that is well prepared and abundantly enjoyed. **2.** A periodic religious festival. **3.** Something giving great pleasure or satisfaction. — *v.* **feast·ed, feast·ing, feasts.** — *tr.* To give a feast for; entertain or feed sumptuously. — *intr.* **1.** To partake of a feast; eat heartily. **2.** To experience something with gratification or delight. — *idiom.* **feast (one's) eyes on.** To be delighted or gratified by the sight of. [ME *feste* < OFr. < VLat. **festa* < Lat., pl. of *festum* < *festus*, festive. See *dhēs*.*] — *feast'er* *n.*

Feast of Dedication (*fēst*) *n.* Judaism. See *Hanukkah*.

Feast of Lights *n.* Judaism. See *Hanukkah*.

feat (*fēt*) *n.* **1.** A notable act or deed, esp. an act of courage; an exploit. **2.** An act of skill, endurance, imagination, or strength; an achievement. **3.** *Obsolete.* A specialized skill; a trick. [ME *fet* < AN < Lat. *factum* < neut. p.part. of *facere*, to make, do. See *dhē*.*]

feat (*fēt*) *adj.* **feat·er, feat·est.** *Archaic.* **1.** Adroit; dexterous. **2.** Neat; trim. [ME *fet*, suitable < OFr. *fait* < Lat. *factus*, done, made. See *FEATURE*.] — *feat'ly* *adv.*

feath·er (*fēth'ər*) *n.* **1.** One of the light flat growths forming the plumage of birds, consisting of slender parallel barbs branching from a vane on either side of a horny, partly hollow shaft. **2.** *Synonym for feather.* **3.** *Synonym for feather.* **4.** A feathery tuft or fringe of hair. **5.** Character, kind, or nature. **6.** Something small, trivial, or inconsequential. **7.a.** A strip, flap, or flange used as a strengthening part. **b.** A wedge or