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temporary fortification thrown lone in the field (as by students) edge through firsthand observa- or sociological data through subjects in the field — **field-**

to OHG *fiant* enemy, Skt *piyati* VJL 1 b: DEMON c: a person 2: a person extremely devoted ~ 3: ADDICT 1 (a dope ~)

erversely diabolical (took a ~ nely cruel or wicked 3: excess- ~ weather) — **fiend-ish-ly** adv

3 *fiers*, fr. AF *fer. fiers*, fr. L d animal (14c) 1 a: violently b: given to fighting or killing trained zeal or vehemence (a ~ disappointment, or intense ~ ed (make a ~ effort) 4: wild less n

1 SAVAGE, CRUEL mean showing FIERCE applies to humans and their wild and menacing aspect TOCIOUS implies extreme fierce- rality (a ferocious dog), BARS- ness regarded as worthy (of t. prisoners), SAVAGE implies civilized people filled with rage, criminal), CRUEL implies ind- pleasure in inflicting it (the cru-

reheant manner (~ competi- expensive) ~ cause (it to be done) (15c) a tification of a judgment in debt s of the defendant

1 *E. fr. fire, fier fire* (13c) 1 a (~ crash) c: using or care or explode: FLAMMABLE (a ~ being in an inflamed state or nd flushed (a ~ forehead) 3 > 4 a: full of or exuding emo- provoked: IRRITABLE (a ~ eri-ness ~fi-ré-nas~ n ~ fiery

ore at FEAST (1844): FESTIVAL: n and Latin America with pro-

5/5a, fr. VL *pipa pipe — more le with six to eight finger holes

last near the deck to which rig-

adj., fr. OE *fifene*, fr. *ff* five + FIVE, TEN (bef. 12c) 1 — see d by a side in a game of tennis

15 *pron. pl in constr — fif-*

ths, 'fif(ths), 'fif(ths) [ME *fifte*, 1 — see NUMBER table 2 a liatic degrees b: a tone at the harmonic combination of measure for liquor equal to one : the Fifth Amendment of the ded by the Fifth Amendment to used in the phrase *take the Fifth*

ymphatizers in Madrid in 1936 ng on the city (1936): a group an enemy that engage in espi- r national borders — **fifth col-** r col-um-nist ~ (n)ist~ n the fifth of five exanthematous f its description (ca. 1941): an a parvovirus species (B19) virus rized by fever, malaise, and e reads to the extremities tal wheel or segment of a wheel ch other above the fore axle of vent tipping b: a similar cou- mitrailler 2: one that is super-

adj., fr. OE *fifig*, fr. *fifig*, n., r: akin to *fien ten* (bef. 12c) 1 rs 50 to 59: *specif*: the years 50

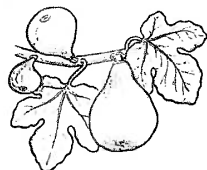


fig 1

cultivated tree (*F. carica*) that produces edible figs 2: a worthless tri- file: the least bit (doesn't care a ~)

2 *fig n* [fig, vb, to adorn] (1835): DRESS, ARRAY (a young woman in daz- zling royal full ~ — Mollie Panter-Downes)

3 *fig abbr* figurative; figuratively; figure

1 *fight* [fht] vb fought [fht] fight-ling [ME, fr. OE *feohtan*; akin to OHG *fehtan* to fight and perh. to *L. pectere* to comb — more at PECTINATE] vi (bef. 12c) 1 a: to contend in battle or physical combat; esp: to strive to overcome a person by blows or weapons b: to engage in boxing 2 : to put forth a determined effort ~ vi 1 a (1): to contend against in or as if in battle or physical combat (2): to box against in the ring b (1): to attempt to prevent the success or effectiveness of (the company fought the takeover attempt) (2): to oppose the passage or develop- ment of (~ a bill in Congress) 2 a: WAGE, CARRY ON (~ a battle) b: to take part in (as a boxing match) 3: to struggle to endure or sur- mount (~ a cold) 4 a: to gain by struggle (~ his way through) b : to resolve by struggle (fought out their differences in court) 5 a: to manage (a ship) in a battle or storm b: to cause to struggle or cont- tend c: to manage in an unnecessarily rough or awkward manner — **fight shy of**: to avoid facing or meeting

2 *fight n* (bef. 12c) 1 a: a hostile encounter: BATTLE, COMBAT b: a boxing match c: a verbal disagreement: ARGUMENT 2 a struggle for a goal or an objective (a ~ for justice) b: strength or disposition for fighting: PUGNACITY (still full of ~)

3 *fight-er* [fht-er] n (13c) one that fights: a (1): WARRIOR, SOLDIER (2): a pugnacious or game individual (3): BOXER 1 b: an airplane of high speed and maneuverability with armament designed to destroy enemy aircraft

4 *fight-er-bomb-er* [fht-er-bom-er] n (1936): a fighter aircraft fitted to carry bombs and rockets in addition to its normal armament

5 *fighting chair* n (1950): a chair from which a salt-water angler plays a hooked fish

6 *fighting chance* n (1889): a chance that may be realized by a struggle (the patient had a fighting chance to live)

7 *fighting word* n (1917): a word likely to provoke a fight

8 *fight-or-flight* adj (1973): relating to, being, or causing physiological changes in the body (as an increase in heart rate or dilation of bronchi) in response to stress (epinephrine is a ~ hormone) (a ~ reaction)

9 *fight song* n (1954): a song used to inspire enthusiasm usu. during an athletic competition

10 *fig leaf* n (14c) 1: the leaf of a fig tree 2 [fr. the use by Adam and Eve of fig leaves to cover their nakedness after eating the forbidden fruit (Gen. 3:7)]: something that conceals or camouflages usu. inade- quately or dishonestly

11 *fig-ment* [fig-mant] n [ME, fr. L *figmentum*, fr. *figere* to shape — more at DOUGH] (15c): something made up or contrived

12 *fig-ur-al* [fig-yu-ral] adj (15c) 1: FIGURATIVE 2a: 2: of relating to, or consisting of human or animal figures (a ~ composition)

13 *fig-u-ra-tion* [fig-yu-ral-shun] n (14c) 1: FORM, OUTLINE 2: the act or process of creating or providing a figure 3: an act or instance of representation in figures and shapes (cubism was explained as a syn- thesis of colored ~s of objects — Janet Flanner) 4: ornamentation of a musical passage by using decorative and usu. repetitive figures

14 *fig-u-ra-tive* [fig-yu-ral-iv] adj (14c) 1 a: representing by a figure or resemblance: EMBLEMATIC b: of or relating to representation of form or figure in art (~ sculpture) 2 a: expressing one thing in terms normally denoting another with which it may be regarded as analogous: METAPHORICAL (~ language) b: characterized by fig- ures of speech (a ~ description) — **fig-u-ra-tive-ly** adv — **fig-u-ra-tive-ness** n

15 *figure* [fī-gyər, Brit & often US 'fi-gər] n [ME, fr. AF, fr. L *figura*, fr. *figere*] (13c) 1 a: a number symbol: NUMERAL, DIGIT b pl: arith- metical calculations (good at ~s) c: a written or printed character d: value esp. as expressed in SUM, PRICE sold at a low ~ e pl: digits representing an amount (as of money earned or points scored) (made six ~s last year) (a score in double ~s) 2 a: a geo- metric form (as a line, triangle, or sphere) when considered as a set of geometric elements (as points) in space of a given number of dimen- sions (a square is a plane ~) b: bodily shape or form esp. of a per- son (a slender ~) c: an object noticeable only as a shape or form (~s moving in the dusk) 3 a: the graphic representation of a form esp. of a person or geometric entity b: a diagram or pictorial illustra- tion of textual matter 4: a person, thing, or action representative of another 5 a: FIGURE OF SPEECH b: an intentional deviation from the ordinary form or syntactical relation of words 6: the form of a syllogism with respect to the relative position of the middle term 7 : an often repetitive pattern or design in a manufactured article (as cloth) or natural product (as wood) (a polka-dot ~) 8: appearance made: impression produced (the couple cut quite a ~) 9 a: a series of movements in a dance b: an outline representation of a form traced by a series of evolutions (as with skates on an ice surface or by an airplane in the air) 10: a prominent personality: PERSONAGE (great ~s of history) 11: a short coherent group of notes or chords that may constitute part of a phrase, theme, or composition

2 *figure* vb *fig-ured*; *fig-ur-ing* [fī-gy-iz-ŋ, 'fi-g-iz-ŋ] v (14c) 1: to represent by or as if by a figure or outline 2: to decorate with a pat- tern; also: to write figures over or under (the bass) in order to indicate the accompanying chords 3: to indicate or represent by numerals 4 a: CALCULATE b: CONCLUDE, DECIDE (figured there was no use in further effort); also: ASSUME (~ it will rain) c: REGARD, CONSIDER d: to appear likely (~s to win) ~ vi 1 a: to be or appear important or conspicuous b: to be involved or implicated (figured in a robbery) 2: to perform a figure in dancing 3: COMPUTE, CALCULATE 4: to seem rational, normal, or expected that (~s) 5: to make sense of something — used interjectionally in the phrase *go figure* to suggest that something is surprising or perplexing (why do they think women will buy this lie? Go ~ — Ellen Bravo) — **fig-ur-er** [fī-gy-ur-er] n — **figure on** 1: to take into consideration (figuring on the extra in- come) 2: to rely on 3: PLAN (figuring on going into town)

4 *figured adj* [fī-ŋ] 1: adorned with, formed into, or decorated with a fig- ure (~ muslin) (~ wood) 2: being represented: PORTRAYED 3 : indicated by figures

5 *figured bass* n (1801): CONTINUO

figure eight n (1748): something resembling the Arabic numeral eight in form or shape: as a: a small knot — see KNOT illustration b: an embroidery stitch c: a dance pattern d: a skater's figure — called also *figure-of-eight*

figure-head [fī-gy-ur-hed] n (1765) 1: the figure on a ship's bow 2: a head or chief in name only

figure in v (ca. 1934): to include esp. in a reckoning

figure of merit (ca. 1865): a numerical quantity based on one or more characteristics of a system or device that represents a measure of effi- ciency or effectiveness

figure of speech (1751): a form of expression (as a simile or meta- phor) used to convey meaning or heighten effect often by comparing or identifying one thing with another that has a meaning or connota- tion familiar to the reader or listener

figure out v (1600) 1: DISCOVER, DETERMINE (try to figure out a way to do it) 2: SOLVE, FATHOM (figure out a problem)

figure skating n (1852): skating characterized by the performance of various jumps, spins, and dance movements and formerly by the trac- ing of prescribed figures — **figure skater** n

fig-u-rine [fī-gy-ur-ēn] n [F, fr. It *figurina*, dim. of *figura* figure, fr. L — more at FIGURE] (1854): a small carved or molded figure: STATU- ETTE

fig wasp n (1883): a minute wasp (*Blastophaga psenes* of the family Agaonidae) that breeds in the caprifig and is the agent of caprification; broadly: any wasp of the same family

fig-wort [fig-wort, -wört] n (1548): any of a genus (*Scrophularia*) of chiefly herbaceous often fetid plants of the snapdragon family with ter- minal cymes of small purple, yellow, or greenish flowers

Fi-jian [fī-jē-an, fī-ʌn] (1809) 1: a member of a Melanesian people of Fiji 2: the Austronesian language of the Fijians — **Fijian** adj

fil-a-ment [fī-lə-mənt] n [MF, fr. ML *filamentum*, fr. LL *filare* to spin — more at FILE] (1594): a single thread or a thin flexible threadlike object, process, or appendage: as a: a tenuous conductor (as of car- bon or metal) made incandescent by the passage of an electric current; specif: a cathode in the form of a metal wire in an electron tube b (1): a thin and fine elongated constituent part of a gill (2): an elongated thin series of cells attached one to another or a very long thin cylindri- cal single cell (as of some algae, fungi, or bacteria) c: the anther- bearing stalk of a stamen — see FLOWER illustration — **fil-a-men- ta-ry** [fī-lə-men-t(ə)-rē] adj — **fil-a-men-tous** [fī-lə-men-təs] adj

fil-er [fī-lər] adj [L *filum* thread] (ca. 1859): of or relating to a thread or line: esp: having threads across the field of view (a ~ eyepiece)

fil-er-in [fī-lər-ē-n] n, pl -er-ē-n, -ē-ŋ [NL, genus name, fr. L *filum*] (1833): any of numerous slender filamentous nematodes (*Filaria* and related genera) that as adults are parasites in the blood or tissues of mammals and as larvae usu. develop in biting insects — **fil-er-i-al** [fī-l-ər-i-əl] adj — **fil-er-i-ol** [fī-l-ər-i-ol] adj or n

fil-a-ri-a-sis [fī-lə-rī-ə-səs] n, pl -a-ses [fī-səs] [NL] (1879): infestation with or disease caused by filariae

fil-a-ture [fī-lə-čūr, -čur, -t(y)ūr] n [F, fr. LL *filatus*, pp. of *filare*] (1759): a factory where silk is reeled

fil-ber-t [fīl-bert] n [ME, fr. AF *philbert*, fr. St. Philibert †684 Frankish abbot whose feast day falls in the nutting season (14c) 1: either of two Eurasian hazels (*Corylus avellana* and *C. maxima*) 2: the sweet thick-shelled nut of the filbert; broadly: HAZELNUT

filch [filch] v [ME] (1561): to appropriate furtively or casually (~ a cookie) SYN see STEAL

1 *file* [fī(-l)] n [ME, fr. OE *fēol*; akin to OHG *fila* file] (bef. 12c) 1: a tool usu. of hardened steel with cutting ridges for forming or smooth- ing surfaces esp. of metal 2: a shrewd or crafty person

2 *file v* [fīl]; *fil-ing* [fīl-ŋ] (13c): to rub, smooth, or cut away with or as if with a file

3 *file v* [fīl]; *fil-ing* [ME, fr. OE *fylan*, fr. *fāl* foul] (bef. 12c) chiefly dial : DEFILE, CORRUPT

4 *file* vb *filed*; *fil-ing* [ME, fr. ML *filare* to string documents on a string or wire, fr. *filum* file of documents, lit., thread, fr. L; akin to Arm *fīl* sin- ew] vi (15c) 1: to arrange in order for preservation and reference (~ letters) 2 a: to place among official records as prescribed by law (~ a mortgage) b: to send (copy) to a newspaper (filed a story) c: to return to the office of the clerk of a court without action on the merits 3: to initiate (as a legal action) through proper formal procedure (threatened to ~ charges) ~ vi 1: to register as a candidate esp. in a primary election 2: to place items in a file 3: to submit documents necessary to initiate a legal proceeding (~ for bankruptcy) — **fil-er** [fī-lər] n

5 *file* n (1525) 1: a device (as a folder, case, or cabinet) by means of which papers are kept in order 2 a *archaic*: ROLL, LIST b: a col- lection of papers or publications usu. arranged or classified c (1): a col- lection of related data records (as for a computer) (2): a complete collection of data (as text or a program) treated by a computer as a unit esp. for purposes of input and output — **on file**: in or as if in a file for ready reference

6 *file* n [MF, fr. *filer* to spin, draw out, fr. LL *filare*, fr. L *filum*] (1598) 1 : SINGLE FILE 2: any of the rows of squares that extend across a chessboard from one player's side to the other player's side

7 *file* v [fīl]; *fil-ing* (1614): to march or proceed in single file

8 *file* also *file* [fī-lā, (fī)-lā, fī(-lā)] n [Laf, fr. F, pp. of *filer* to twist, spin] (1806): powdered young leaves of sassafras used to thicken soups or stews

9 *file clerk* n (1919): a clerk who works on files

10 *file-fish* [fī(-l)-fīsh] n (1681): any of various small-mouthed bony fishes (family Monacanthidae, esp. genera *Aluterus*, *Cantherhines*, and *Monacanthus*) with rough granular leathery skin

11 *filet* [fī-lā] n [F, lit., net] (1838): a lace with a square mesh and geo- metric designs

\ə about \ə kitten, F table \ər further \ə ash \ə ace \ə mop, mar \ə out \ch chin \ə bet \ə easy \ə go \ə hit \ə ice \ə job \ə sing \ə go \ə law \ə boy \th thin \th the \ū loot \ū foot \y yet \zh vision, beige \k, p, ce, ue, \ see Guide to Pronunciation