

From Fell to Fever

fell, fells, felling, felled

- 1 past tense of fall.
- 2 (verb) to fell a tree means to cut it down.
[Sense 2: Old English *fellan* = to cause to fall]

fellow, fellows

- 1 (noun; rather old-fashioned; informal) a man, e.g. *My dear fellow, I really am sorry!*
- 2 (adjective) You use fellow to describe people who have something in common with you, e.g. *Be kind to your fellow men.*
[Old Norse *felagi* — partner or associate]

felt

- 1 past tense and past participle of feel.
- 2 (noun) thick cloth made from woollen fibres matted closely together.

female, females

- 1 (noun) a person or animal that belongs to the sex that can have babies or young.
- 2 (adjective) relating to females.
[Latin *femina* — woman]

feminine

- 1 (adjective) relating to women.
- 2 belonging to a particular class of nouns in some languages, such as French, German and Latin, e.g. 'La porte' is a feminine noun.
femininity (noun)
[Latin *femina* = woman]

feminist

- (noun) someone who believes that women should have the same rights, power and opportunities as men.
feminism (noun) feminist (adjective)

fence, fences, fencing, fenced

- 1 (noun) a wooden or wire barrier between two areas of land, or for horses to jump.
- 2 (verb) to do sword fencing.

fencing

- (noun) a sport in which two people fight using special, thin swords called foils.

fend, fends, fending, fenced

- 1 (phrase) If you have to **fend for yourself**, you have to look after yourself.
- 2 (verb) If you fend off an attack or unwanted questions or attention, you defend yourself.

ferment, ferments, fermenting, fermented

- (verb) When wine, beer or fruit ferments, the sugar in it is converted to alcohol and carbon dioxide.
fermentation (noun)
[Latin *fermentant* — yeast]

fern, ferns

- (noun) a plant with long feathery leaves, which has no flowers and reproduces by spores.

ferocious (adjective) violent and fierce

ferocious

- (adjective) violent and fierce
ferociously (adverb) ferocity (noun)
[Latin *ferox* — like a wild animal]

ferrous

- (adjective) containing or relating to iron, e.g. *ferrous metals*.
[Latin *ferum* — iron]

ferry, ferries, ferrying, ferried

- 1 (noun) a boat that carries people and vehicles across short stretches of water.
- 2 (verb) to transport people or goods backwards and forwards, e.g. *They ferried groups to and from the station in the minibus.*

fertile

- (adjective) capable of producing strong, healthy plants, e.g. *fertile land*.
fertility (noun)
(Latin *fertilis* — fruitful)

fertilize, fertilizes, fertilizing, fertilized; also spelled fertilise

- 1 (verb) When an egg, plant or female is fertilized, the process of reproduction begins by sperm joining with the egg, or by pollen touching the reproductive part of a plant.
- 2 to put manure or chemicals onto land to feed plants, crops, etc.

fertilizer, fertilizers; also spelled fertiliser

- (noun) a substance put onto soil to improve plant growth.

festival, festivals

- 1 (noun) an organized series of events and performances, e.g. *the Knebworth pop festival*.
- 2 a day or period of religious celebration.
[Latin *festum* — festival]

Similar words: fiesta, carnival, celebration

festive

- (adjective) full of happiness and celebration, e.g. *at Christmas or other festive occasions*.
[Latin *festum* — festival]

festivity, festivities

- (noun) celebration and happiness, e.g. *He enjoyed the wedding festivities*.

fetch, fetches, fetching, fetched

- 1 (verb) If you fetch something, you go to where it is and bring it back.
- 2 If something fetches a particular sum of money, it is sold for that amount, e.g. *Her paintings always fetch high prices*.

fête, fêtes (rhymes with date)

- (noun) an outdoor event with competitions, displays and goods for sale, usually to raise money for charity.
[French *fête* — festival]

fetlock, fetlocks

- (noun) the back part of a horse's leg, just above the hoof.

fettle

- (phrase) Someone who is in **fine fettle** is in good health.

feud, feuds (pronounced fyood)

- (noun) a long-lasting and very bitter quarrel, especially between families.

fever, fevers

- (noun) a condition in which a sick person has a very high temperature.

Name: Class: Date:

1 Why would you use a page like this?

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2 How are the entries on the page organised?

.....

3 “**felt**

1 past tense and past participle of feel.

2 (noun) thick cloth made from woollen fibres matted closely together.”

The word in bold in this entry is called the headword. What are the first and last headwords shown on the page?

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4 What is the entry before “*festival*” and what is the entry after “*festival*”?

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5 What type of word is “*festivity*”?

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6 After the entry for “*festival*”, there is a list of three similar words. What are they?

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7 How many definitions does the entry for “*fend*” have?

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8 How does the explanation in brackets after the word “*fête*” help you to say it?

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9 At the end of the entry for “*ferocious*”, there is some information in square brackets. What does it tell you?

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10 At the end of the entry for “*ferry*”, there is a sentence written in italics. What is the purpose of this sentence?

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