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frac-tion  (frăk shən)

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n.

1. *Mathematics* An expression that indicates the quotient of two quantities, such as $\frac{1}{3}$.
2. A disconnected piece; a fragment.
3. A small part; a bit: *moved a fraction of a step.*
4. A chemical component separated by fractionation.

[Middle English *fraccioun*, a breaking, from Anglo-Norman, from Late Latin *frāctiō*, *frāctiōn*-, from Latin *fractus*, past participle of *frangere*, to break; see **bhreg-** [in the Appendix of Indo-European roots](#).]

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