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fa·ci·es  (fā shē-ēz', -shēz)

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n. pl. facies

1. *Biology* The general aspect or outward appearance, as of a given growth of flora.
2. *Medicine* The appearance or expression of the face, especially when typical of a certain disorder or disease.
3. *Geology* A rock or stratified body distinguished from others by its appearance or composition.

[Latin *faciēs*; see **dhē-** [in the Appendix of Indo-European roots](#).]

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Thousands of entries in the dictionary include etymologies that trace their origins back to reconstructed proto-languages. You can obtain more information about these forms in our online appendices:

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