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sam·ple  (săm pəl)

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n.

1.

a. A portion, piece, or segment that is representative of a whole: *showed samples of a new stretch fabric.*

b. A specimen taken for analysis or testing: *a blood sample; a water sample.*

2. *Statistics* A set of data or elements drawn from a larger population and analyzed to estimate the characteristics of that population. Also called *sampling*.

3.

a. A usually digitized audio segment taken from an original recording and inserted, often repetitively, in a new recording.

b. One of a series of pieces of data representing a digitized approximation of an analog signal.

tr.v. **sam·pled, sam·pling, sam·ples**

1. To take a sample of, especially to test or examine by a sample: *the restaurant critic who must sample a little of everything.*

2.

a. To use or incorporate (an audio segment of an original recording) in a new recording: *a song that samples the bassline of a 1970s disco tune.*

b. To represent the value of (an analog signal) at a particular point in time by means of a piece of digital data.

adj.
Serving as a representative or example: *sample test questions; a sample piece of fabric.*

[Partly Middle English (from Anglo-Norman) and partly short for Middle English *ensample* (from Anglo-Norman), both from Latin *exemplum*; see [EXAMPLE](#).]

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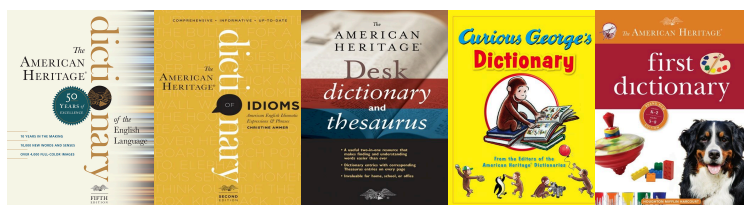
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