

TISSUE (Fr. *tissu*, *tissue*, participle of *tisser*, Lat. *texere*, to weave), properly the name of a fine textile fabric interwoven with gold and silver threads, hence used of any delicate or gauzy fabric (see GOLD AND SILVER THREAD). It was also early applied, as in French, to a ribbon, fillet or various forms of woven ligaments. In biology the word is of general use for an aggregate of cells forming a texture or fabric; in animal anatomy it is thus applied to the primary layers of which the parts are composed, and named by some qualifying word denoting its substance or its use (see CONNECTIVE TISSUE and EPITHELIAL, ENDOTHELIAL AND GLANDULAR TISSUE).