**A fork:**

* Grabs items by piercing
* Has the ability to be held in the hand

I have included purposely few definitions in order to maintain as broad a definition as possible.

In order to validate my definition, I looked up existing items people consider forks and I decided whether my definition fit what other people considered to be forks. I used Wikipedia to study what items people consider to be forks because Wikipedia has been built by many people, using a consensus approach.

I found that my definition worked for all of the items presented on Wikipedia as “forks.”

In order to further refine my definition, I could find items that fit my definition, but are not considered by others to be forks. I could then make new tests which these non-fork items would fail, but all forks could pass.

