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['tenjvəs] a
 1. тонкий
  tenuous thread [film] - тонкая нить [плёнка]
  tenuous web - тонкая паутина
 2. 1) бедный, скудный; незначительный неважный, несущественный
  tenuous plot - незамысловатый сюжет
  tenuous claim - пустяковое требование
  his poetry is tenuous in thought and feeling - в его поэзии мало мысли и мало чувства
 2) смутный, неясный, призрачный
  tenuous imaginings - смутные /призрачные/ грёзы
 3. 1) слабый
  tenuous budding of sociology - образн. робкие ростки /первые побеги/ социологии
 2) разрежённый (о воздухе, газе, плазме)
  tenuous evening mist - лёгкая дымка вечернего тумана
  tenuous star - разрежённая звезда
 3) разбавленный (о жидкости)
 4. шаткий, слабый (о доводе)
                                                                                       Oxford Advanced Learners Dictionary 8th Ed.
tenuous
tenu-ous BrE ['tenjuəs] *
                            NAmE ['tenjues]
                                                 adiective
 1. so weak or uncertain that it hardly exists
  · a tenuous hold on life
  · His links with the organization turned out to be, at best, tenuous.
 2. extremely thin and easily broken
  · the tenuous threads of a spider's web
    Derived Word †tenuously
    Word Origin:
    [tenuous tenuously] late 16th cent.: formed irregularly from Latin tenuis 'thin' + 1-ous.
                                                                                                   Longman DOCE 5th Ed. (En-En)
tenuous
ten u ous /'tenjuəs/ BrE
                            AmE *
                                      adjective
  [Date: 1500-1600; Language: Latin; Origin: tenuis 'thin, tenuous']
  1. a situation or relationship that is tenuous is uncertain, weak, or likely to change:
         For now, the band's travel plans are tenuous.
    tenuous link/connection etc
         The United Peace Alliance had only a tenuous connection with the organized Labour movement.
         The link between her family and the King's is rather tenuous.
  2. literary very thin and easily broken
   —tenuously adverb
                                                                                                                  Freakuency Pack
tenuous
  <sub>12500</sub>9162<sup>MCW</sup>
  150007402COCA
  RANGE: 9k TENUOUS 1402
    tenuous 1269
    tenuousness 31
    tenuously 102
  COCA 500k Unlemmatized
    <sub>1170</sub>18198<sup>1264</sup> jj
    <sub>5</sub>387676<sup>5</sup> nnu
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Apresyan (En-Ru)

tenuous