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ex·or·di·um  (ĭg-zôr dē-əm, ĭk-sôr -)

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n. pl. ex·or·di·ums or ex·or·di·a (-dē-ə)

A beginning or introductory part, especially of a speech or treatise.

[Latin, from *exōrdīrī*, to begin : *ex-*, intensive pref.; see [EX-](#) + *ōrdīrī*, to begin; see [ar-](#) [in the Appendix of Indo-European roots](#).]

ex·or di·al *adj.*

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Indo-European & Semitic Roots Appendices

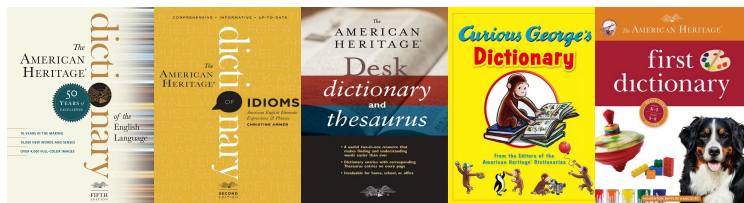
Thousands of entries in the dictionary include etymologies that trace their origins back to reconstructed proto-languages. You can obtain more information about these forms in our online appendices:

[Indo-European Roots](#)

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The Indo-European appendix covers nearly half of the Indo-European roots that have left their mark on English words. A more complete treatment of Indo-European roots and the English words derived from them is available in our [Dictionary of Indo-European Roots](#).

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