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ra·tio  (rā shō, rā shē-ō')

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n. pl. ra·tios

1. Relation in degree or number between two similar things.
2. The relative value of silver and gold in a currency system that is bimetallic.
3. *Mathematics* A relationship between two quantities, normally expressed as the quotient of one divided by the other; for example, the ratio of 7 to 4 can be written 7:4 or 7/4. A ratio can often also be expressed as a decimal or percentage.

[Latin *ratio*, calculation, from *ratus*, past participle of *rēri*, to reckon, consider; see **ar-** [in the Appendix of Indo-European roots](#).]

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Indo-European & Semitic Roots Appendices

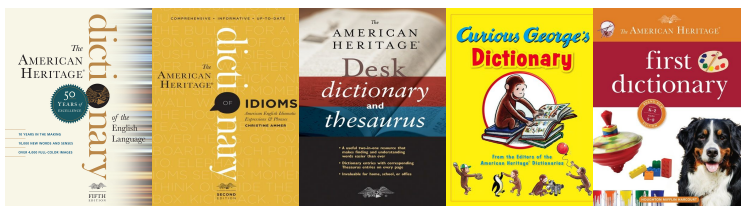
Thousands of entries in the dictionary include etymologies that trace their origins back to reconstructed proto-languages. You can obtain more information about these forms in our online appendices:

[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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