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a·pho·ni·a  (ā-fō nē-ə)

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n.

Loss of the voice resulting from disease, injury to the vocal cords, or various psychological causes, such as hysteria.

[New Latin *aphōnia*, from Greek *aphōniā*, speechlessness, from *aphōnos*, voiceless : *a-*, without; see [A](#)¹ + *phōnē*, voice; see [bhā](#)² [in the Appendix of Indo-European roots](#).]

a·phon ic (ā-fŏn ɪk, ā-fō nɪk) *adj.*

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Indo-European & Semitic Roots Appendices

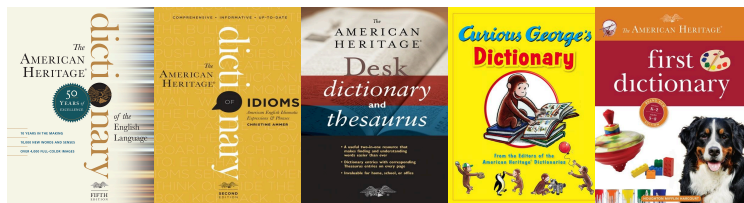
Thousands of entries in the dictionary include etymologies that trace their origins back to reconstructed proto-languages. You can obtain more information about these forms in our online appendices:

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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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