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re·but  (rĭ-bŭt)

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v. **re·but·ted**, **re·but·ting**, **re·buts**

v.tr.

1. To refute, especially by offering opposing evidence or arguments, as in a legal case: *rebut an allegation*.

2. To repel or reject: *She rebutted his advances*.

v.intr.

To present opposing evidence or arguments.

[Middle English *reboten*, *rebutte*, to rebuke, repel, from Old French *rebouter* : *re-*, *re-* + *bouter*, to push (of Germanic origin; see **bhau-** [in the Appendix of Indo-European roots](#)).]

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Indo-European & Semitic Roots Appendices

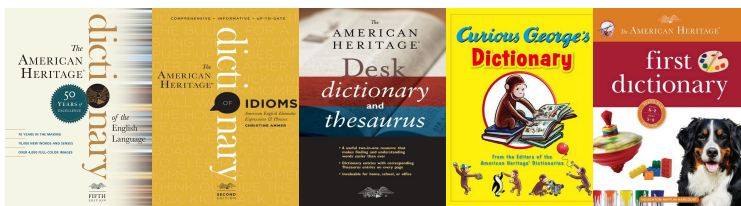
Thousands of entries in the dictionary include etymologies that trace their origins back to reconstructed proto-languages. You can obtain more information about these forms in our online appendices:

[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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