



The  
AMERICAN  
HERITAGE®

dictionary

of the  
English  
Language


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To look up an entry in *The American Heritage Dictionary of the English Language*, use the search window above. For best results, after typing in the word, click on the “Search” button instead of using the “enter” key.

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[guide to the dictionary](#)



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**con·fer**  (kən-fûr )

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v. **con·ferred**, **con·fer·ring**, **con·fers**

v.tr.

1. To bestow (an honor, for example): *conferred a medal on the hero.*

2. To invest with (a characteristic, for example): *a carefully worded statement that conferred an aura of credibility.*

v.intr.

To meet in order to deliberate together or compare views; consult: *conferred with her attorney.*

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[Latin *cōnferre* : *com-*, *com-* + *ferre*, to bring; see **bher-**<sup>1</sup> [in the Appendix of Indo-European roots.](#)]

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**con·fer ment**, **con·fer ral** *n.*

**con·fer ra·ble** *adj.*

**con·fer rer** *n.*

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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:

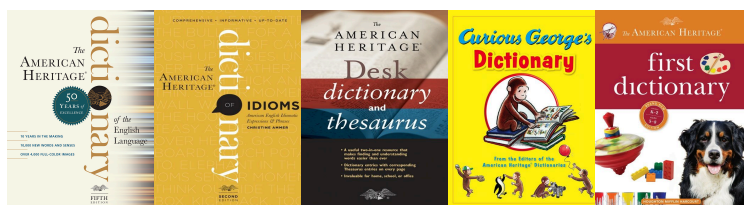
[Indo-European Roots](#)

[Semitic Roots](#)

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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