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dif·fer  (dĭf ər)

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intr.v. **dif·fered, dif·fer·ing, dif·fers**

1. To be dissimilar or unlike in nature, quality, amount, or form: *Ambition differs from greed.*
2. To be of a different opinion; disagree: *The experts differ on what should be done to fix the economy.*
3. *Obsolete* To quarrel; dispute.

[Middle English *differren*, from Old French *differer*, from Latin *differre*, to differ, delay : *dis-*, apart; see [DIS-](#) + *ferre*, to carry; see [bher-](#)¹ [in the Appendix of Indo-European roots](#).]

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Indo-European & Semitic Roots Appendices

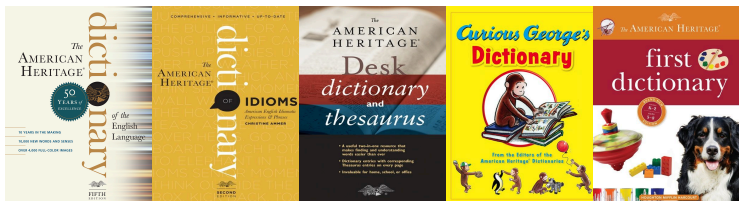
Thousands of entries in the dictionary include etymologies that trace their origins back to reconstructed proto-languages. You can obtain more information about these forms in our online appendices:

[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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