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bur·gess  (bûr jĭs)

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n.

1. A freeman or citizen of an English borough.
2. A member of the English Parliament who once represented a town, borough, or university.
3. A member of the lower house of the legislature of colonial Virginia or Maryland.

[Middle English *burgeis*, from Old French, from Late Latin *burgēnsis*, from *burgus*, fortified town; see **bhergh-**² [in the Appendix of Indo-European roots](#).]

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Bur·gess  (bûr jĭs), **Anthony** Pen name of **John Burgess Wilson**. 1917-1993.

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British writer and critic noted for his seriocomic novels, including the futuristic classic *A Clockwork Orange* (1962).

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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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