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dictionary

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sym·phy·sis (sĭm fĭ-sĭs)

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n. pl. sym·phy·ses (-sēz')

1.
 - a. A growing together of bones originally separate, as of the two pubic bones or the two halves of the lower jawbone.
 - b. A line or junction thus formed.
 - c. An articulation in which bones are united by cartilage without a synovial membrane.
2. The coalescence of similar parts or organs.

[Greek *sumphusis*, from *sumphuein*, to cause to grow together : *sun-*, *syn-* + *phuein*, to cause to grow; see *bheua-* [in the Appendix of Indo-European roots](#).]

sym·phy·se al (sĭm'fĭ-sē əl), **sym·phys i·al** (sĭm-fĭz'ē-əl) *adj.*

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Indo-European & Semitic Roots Appendices

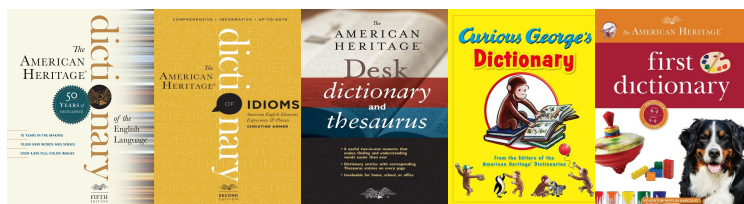
Thousands of entries in the dictionary include etymologies that trace their origins back to reconstructed proto-languages. You can obtain more information about these forms in our online appendices:

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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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