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af·fla·tus  (ə-flā tās)

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n.

A strong creative impulse, especially as a result of divine inspiration.

[Latin *afflātus*, from past participle of *afflāre*, to breathe on : *ad-*, *ad-* + *flāre*, to blow; see **bhlē-** [in the Appendix of Indo-European roots](#).]

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Indo-European & Semitic Roots Appendices

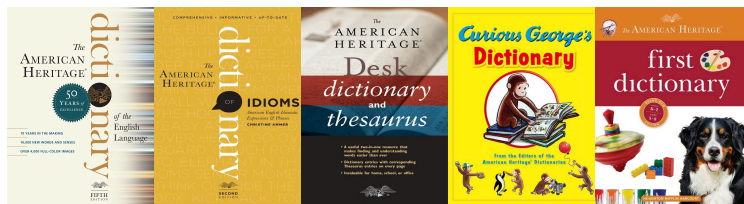
Thousands of entries in the dictionary include etymologies that trace their origins back to reconstructed proto-languages. You can obtain more information about these forms in our online appendices:

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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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