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mel·lif·lu·ous  (mə-līf l -əs)

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adj.

Having a pleasant and fluid sound: *"The Headmaster read a rather lengthy passage from Stephen Vincent Benet's 'The Devil and Daniel Webster' in his engaging, mellifluous voice" (John Knowles).*

[Middle English, from Late Latin *mellifluus* : Latin *mel*, *mell-*, honey; see **melit-** [in the Appendix of Indo-European roots](#) + Latin *-fluus*, flowing; see **bhleu-** [in the Appendix of Indo-European roots](#).]

mel·lif lu·ous·ly *adv.*

mel·lif lu·ous·ness *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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