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AMERICAN
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dictionary

of the
English
Language



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Some compound words (like *bus rapid transit*, *dog whistle*, or *identity theft*) don’t appear on the drop-down list when you type them in the search bar. For best results with compound words, place a quotation mark before the compound word in the search window.

[guide to the dictionary](#)



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pre·dict  (prĭ-dĭkt)

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v. pre·dict·ed, pre·dict·ing, pre·dicts

v.tr.

To state, tell about, or make known in advance, especially on the basis of special knowledge: *predicted an active hurricane season because of warmer ocean-surface temperatures.*

v.intr.

To foretell something.

[Latin *praedĭcere*, *praedict-*: *prae-*, pre- + *dĭcere*, to say; see **deik-** [in the Appendix of Indo-European roots](#).]

pre·dict'a·bil i·ty *n.*

pre·dict a·ble *adj.*

pre·dict a·bly *adv.*

pre·dic tive *adj.*

pre·dic tive·ly *adv.*

pre·dic tor *n.*

Synonyms: predict, call, forecast, foretell, prognosticate

These verbs mean to tell about something in advance of its occurrence by means of special knowledge or inference: *predict an eclipse; couldn't call the outcome of the game; forecasting the weather; foretold events that would happen; prognosticating a rebellion.*

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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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