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dean  (dēn)

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n.

1.

a. An administrative officer in charge of a college, faculty, or division in a university.

b. An officer of a college or high school who counsels students and supervises the enforcement of rules.

2. *Ecclesiastical* The head of the chapter of canons governing a cathedral or collegiate church.

3. *Roman Catholic Church* A priest appointed to oversee a group of parishes within a diocese.

4. The senior member of a body or group: *the dean of the Washington diplomatic corps.*

[Middle English *deen*, from Old French *deien*, from Late Latin *decānus*, chief of ten, from *decem*, ten, or from Greek *dekānos*, chief of ten (from *deka*, ten); see **dek** [in the Appendix of Indo-European roots](#).]

dean *ship' n.*

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Dean, Jay Hanna Known as "Dizzy." 1911?-1974.

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American baseball player. A pitcher for the St. Louis Cardinals (1930-1937), he is best remembered for his 1934 season, in which he won 30 regular-season games, led the league in strikeouts, and won two World Series games.

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Dean  (dēn), **James Byron** 1931-1955.

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American actor remembered for his moody, rebellious persona in films such as *East of Eden* and *Rebel Without a Cause* (both 1955).



(click for a larger image)

James Dean

photographed in 1955

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Indo-European & Semitic Roots Appendices

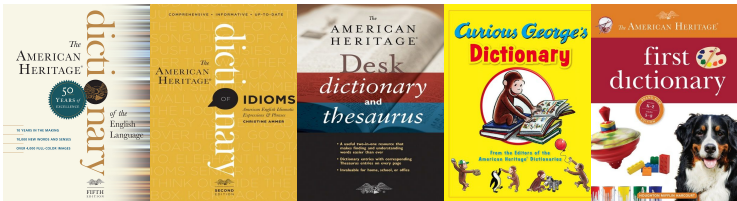
Thousands of entries in the dictionary include etymologies that trace their origins back to reconstructed proto-languages. You can obtain more information about these forms in our online appendices:

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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