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ob·long  (ŏb lōng', -lōng')

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adj.

1. Deviating from a square, circular, or spherical form by being elongated in one direction.
2. Having the shape of or resembling a rectangle or ellipse.
3. *Botany* Having an elongated form with approximately parallel sides: *an oblong leaf*.

n.

An object or figure, such as a rectangle, with an elongated shape.

[Middle English, from Latin *oblongus* : *ob-*, intensive pref. (sense uncertain); see [OB-](#) + *longus*, long; see [del-¹](#) in the [Appendix of Indo-European roots](#).]

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Indo-European & Semitic Roots Appendices

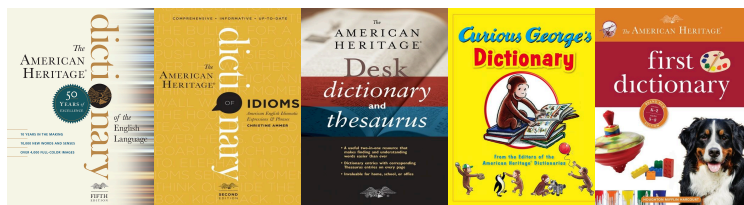
Thousands of entries in the dictionary include etymologies that trace their origins back to reconstructed proto-languages. You can obtain more information about these forms in our online appendices:

[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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