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dom·i·nate  (dŏm ə-nāt')

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v. **dom·i·nat·ed**, **dom·i·nat·ing**, **dom·i·nates**

v.tr.

1. To control, govern, or rule by superior authority or power: *Successful leaders dominate events rather than react to them.*

2. To exert a supreme, guiding influence on or over: *Ambition dominated their lives.*

3.

a. To enjoy a commanding, controlling position in: *a drug company that dominates the tranquilizer market.*

b. To be the most abundant in: *Grasses dominate most salt marshes.*

4. To overlook from a height: *a view from the cliffside chalet that dominates the valley.*

v.intr.

1. To have or exert strong authority or mastery.

2. To be situated in or occupy a position that is more elevated or decidedly superior to others.

3. To be predominant in an ecosystem.

[Latin *dominārī*, *domināt-*, to rule, from *dominus*, lord; see **dem-** [in the Appendix of Indo-European roots](#).]

dom i·na'tive *adj.*

dom i·na'tor *n.*

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Indo-European & Semitic Roots Appendices

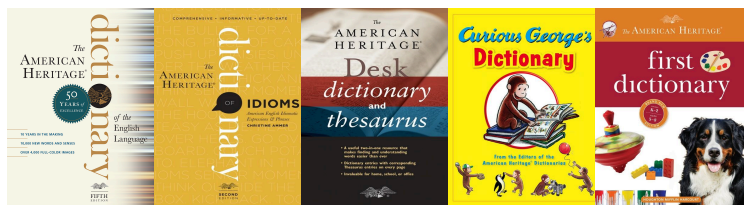
Thousands of entries in the dictionary include etymologies that trace their origins back to reconstructed proto-languages. You can obtain more information about these forms in our online appendices:

[Indo-European Roots](#)

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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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