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Language



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dun·geon  (dŭn jən)

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n.

1. A dark, often underground chamber used to confine prisoners.
2. A donjon.

[Middle English *donjon*, castle keep, dungeon, from Old French, keep, probably from Medieval Latin *domniō*, *domniōn*-, the lord's tower, from Latin *dominus*, master; see **dem-** [in the Appendix of Indo-European roots](#).]

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Indo-European & Semitic Roots Appendices

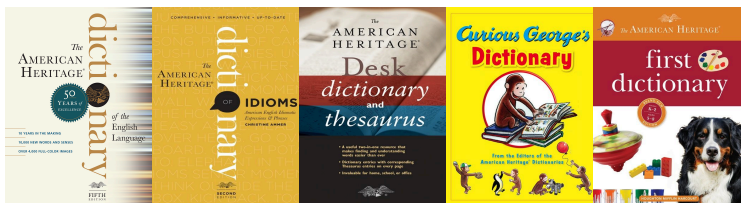
Thousands of entries in the dictionary include etymologies that trace their origins back to reconstructed proto-languages. You can obtain more information about these forms in our online appendices:

[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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