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deu·ter·ag·o·nist (d 'tə-răg ə-nĭst, dy -)

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n.

The character second in importance to the protagonist in classical Greek drama. See Usage Note at [protagonist](#).

[Greek *deuteragōnistēs*, second actor, an actor taking the secondary role (as opposed to the main role) : *deuteros*, second; see **deu**⁻¹ in the Appendix of Indo-European roots + *agōnistēs*, actor; see [PROTAGONIST](#).]

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Indo-European & Semitic Roots Appendices

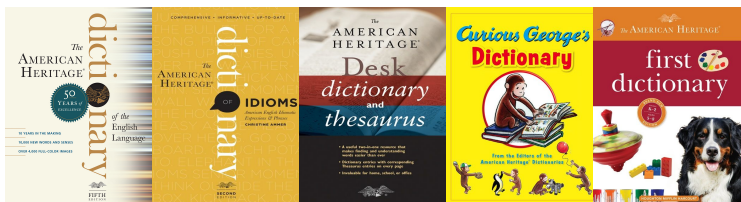
Thousands of entries in the dictionary include etymologies that trace their origins back to reconstructed proto-languages. You can obtain more information about these forms in our online appendices:

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