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con¹  (kɒn)

Share:

adv.

In opposition or disagreement; against: *debated the issue pro and con.*

n.

1. An argument or opinion against something.
2. One who holds an opposing opinion or view.

[Short for [CONTRA](#).]

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con²  (kɒn)

Share:

tr.v. **conned**, **con·ning**, **cons**

Archaic

1. To study, peruse, or examine carefully.
2. To learn or commit to memory.

[Middle English *connen*, to know, from Old English *cunnan*; see **gnō-** [in the Appendix of Indo-European roots](#).]

con **ner** *n.*

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con³ or **conn**  (kɒn) *Nautical*

Share:

tr.v. **conned**, **con·ning**, **cons** or **conns**

To direct the steering or course of (a vessel).

n.

1. The area or structure on a vessel from which the vessel is conned.
2. The position or authority of the officer conning a vessel.

[From *cond*, from Middle English *conduen*, from Old French *conduire*, from Latin *condūcere*, to lead together; see [CONDUCE](#).]

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con⁴  (kɒn) *Informal*

Share:

tr.v. **conned**, **con·ning**, **cons**

1. To swindle (a victim) by first winning the victim's confidence; dupe: *a criminal who conned an unsuspecting tourist out of \$5,000.*

2. To cause (someone) to do something by lying, misrepresentation, or trickery: *My roommate conned me into washing the dishes.*

n.

A swindle.

adj.

Of, relating to, or involving a swindle or fraud: *a con artist; a con job.*

[Short for [CONFIDENCE](#).]

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con ⁵ 🔊 (kɒn)

Share:

n.

Slang

A convict.

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con-

Share:

pref.

Variant of [com-](#).

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con.

Share:

abbr.

1. concerto

2. *Latin* conjunx (wife)

3. consolidate

4. Con. consul

5. continued

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Indo-European & Semitic Roots Appendices

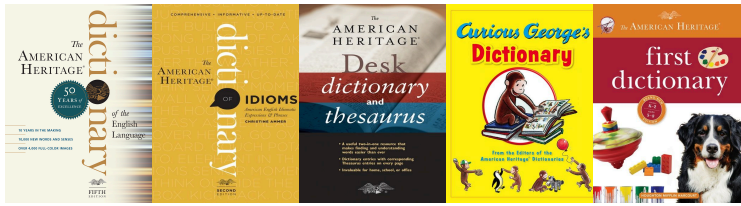
Thousands of entries in the dictionary include etymologies that trace their origins back to reconstructed proto-languages. You can obtain more information about these forms in our online appendices:

[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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