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Language



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fac·to·ry  (făk tə-rē)

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n. pl. fac·to·ries

1.

a. A building or group of buildings in which goods are manufactured; a plant.

b. See [factory ship](#).

2. A business establishment for commercial agents or factors in a foreign country.

3. The source of prolific production: *a rock group that was a hit-tune factory; a motel that served as an illegal drug factory.*

[Late Latin *factōria*, oil press, mill, and Medieval Latin *factōria*, establishment for factors, both from Latin *factor*, factor; see [FACTOR](#).]

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Indo-European & Semitic Roots Appendices

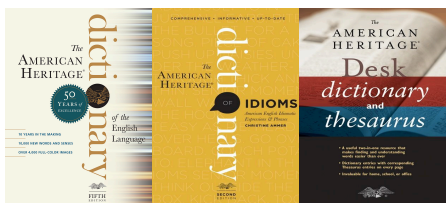
Thousands of entries in the dictionary include etymologies that trace their origins back to reconstructed proto-languages. You can obtain more information about these forms in our online appendices:

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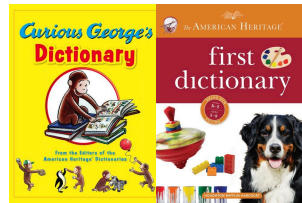
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The Indo-European appendix covers nearly half of the Indo-European roots that have left their mark on English words. A more complete treatment of Indo-European roots and the English words derived from them is available in our [Dictionary of Indo-European Roots](#).

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