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fu·ner·al  (fy nər-əl)

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n.

1.

a. A ceremony or group of ceremonies held in connection with the burial or cremation of a dead person.

b. Archaic The eulogy delivered or the sermon preached at such a ceremony.

2. The burial procession accompanying a body to the grave.

3. An end or a cessation of existence.

4. Slang A source of concern or care: *If he doesn't meet the deadline, it's his funeral.*

adj.

Of, relating to, or resembling a funeral.

[Middle English *funerelles*, funeral rites, from Old French *funerailles*, from Medieval Latin *fūnerālia*, neuter pl. of *fūnerālis*, funereal, from Late Latin, from Latin *fūnus*, *fūner-*, death rites; see **dheuə-** [in the Appendix of Indo-European roots](#).]

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Indo-European & Semitic Roots Appendices

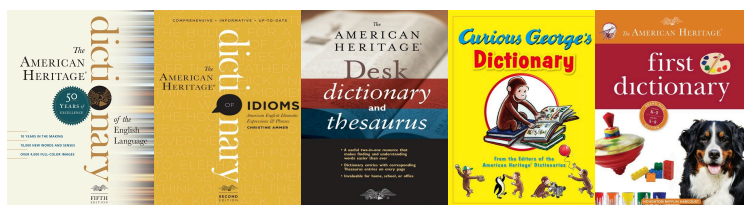
Thousands of entries in the dictionary include etymologies that trace their origins back to reconstructed proto-languages. You can obtain more information about these forms in our online appendices:

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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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