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cher·no·zem  (chěr nă-zěm', chîr'nă-zyôm)

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n.

A very black topsoil, rich in humus, typical of cool to temperate semiarid regions such as the grasslands of Ukraine and southern Russia.

[Russian *chernozëm* : *chěrnyĭ*, black + Old Russian *zemĭ*, earth; see **dhghem-** [in the Appendix of Indo-European roots](#).]

cher'nô-zem *ic adj.*

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Indo-European & Semitic Roots Appendices

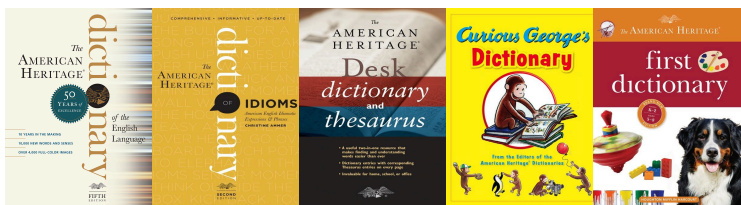
Thousands of entries in the dictionary include etymologies that trace their origins back to reconstructed proto-languages. You can obtain more information about these forms in our online appendices:

[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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