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AMERICAN  
HERITAGE®

dictionary

of the  
English  
Language


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**trai·tor**  (trā tər)

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*n.*  
One who betrays one's country, a cause, or a trust, especially one who commits treason.

[Middle English, from Old French, from Latin *trāditor*, from *trādītus*, past participle of *trādere*, to betray; see [TRADITION](#).]

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## Indo-European & Semitic Roots Appendices

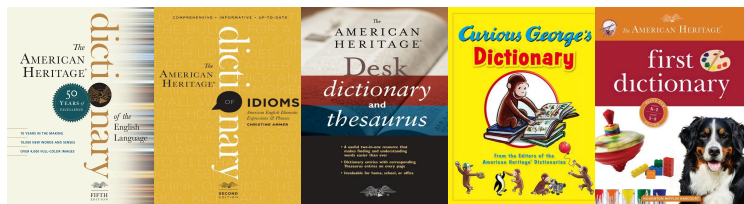
Thousands of entries in the dictionary include etymologies that trace their origins back to reconstructed proto-languages. You can obtain more information about these forms in our online appendices:

[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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