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dictionary

of the
English
Language



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du·al  (d əl, dy -)

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adj.

1. Composed of two usually like or complementary parts; double: *dual controls for pilot and copilot; a car with dual exhaust pipes.*
2. Having a double character or purpose: *a belief in the dual nature of reality.*
3. *Grammar* Of, relating to, or being a number category that indicates two persons or things, as in Greek, Sanskrit, and Old English.

n.

Grammar

1. The dual number.
2. An inflected form of a noun, adjective, pronoun, or verb used with two items or people.

[Latin *duālis*, from *duo*, two; see **dwo-** [in the Appendix of Indo-European roots.](#)]

du al·ly *adv.*

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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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