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tran·si·tive  (trăn sĭ-tĭv, -zĭ-)

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adj.

1. *Abbr. trans. or tr. or t. Grammar* Expressing an action carried from the subject to the object; requiring a direct object to complete meaning. Used of a verb or verb construction.

2. Characterized by or involving transition.

3. *Logic & Mathematics* Of or relating to a binary relation such that, whenever one element is related to a second element and the second element is related to a third element, then the first element is also related to the third element. Examples of transitive relations are "less than" for real numbers ($a < b$ and $b < c$ implies $a < c$) and divisibility for integers (a divides b and b divides c mean that a divides c).

n.

Grammar

A transitive verb.

[Late Latin *trānsitīvus*, passing over (translation of Greek *diabibastikos*), from *trānsitus*, past participle of *trānsīre*, to go over; see [TRANSIENT](#).]

tran si·tive·ly *adv.*

tran si·tive·ness, **tran'si·tiv i·ty** *n.*

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Indo-European & Semitic Roots Appendices

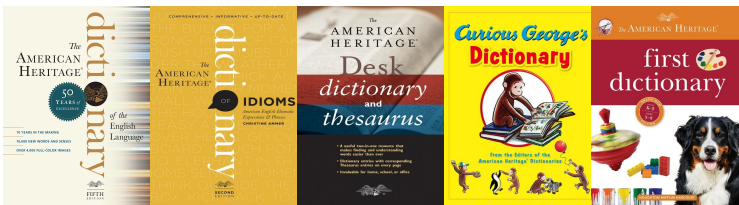
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The Indo-European appendix covers nearly half of the Indo-European roots that have left their mark on English words. A more complete treatment of Indo-European roots and the English words derived from them is available in our [Dictionary of Indo-European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

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