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coun·ty  (koun tē)

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n. pl. coun·ties

1. The largest administrative division of most states in the United States.
2.
 - a. A territorial division exercising administrative, judicial, and political functions in Great Britain and Ireland.
 - b. The territory under the jurisdiction of a count or earl.
3. The people living in a county.

[Middle English *counte*, territorial division, from Old French *conte*, the territory of a count, from Medieval Latin *comitātus*, from Late Latin, the office of count, from Latin, retinue, from *comes*, *comit-*, companion; see **ei-** [in the Appendix of Indo-European roots](#).]

coun ty *adj.*

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Indo-European & Semitic Roots Appendices

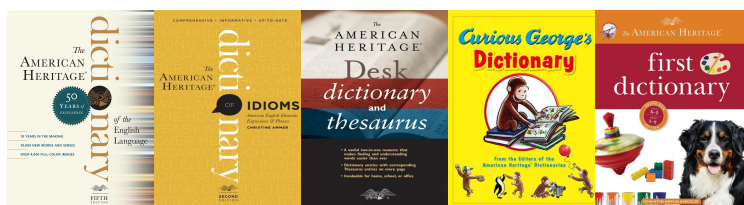
Thousands of entries in the dictionary include etymologies that trace their origins back to reconstructed proto-languages. You can obtain more information about these forms in our online appendices:

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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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