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sub·sume  (səb-s m)

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tr.v. **sub·sumed**, **sub·sum·ing**, **sub·sumes**

1. To classify or include in a more comprehensive category or under a general principle: "*When late eighteenth-century Americans spoke of politics, they referred to a broad set of principles that they subsumed under the heading of republicanism*" ([Eric Foner](#)).
2. To absorb (something) into or cause (something) to be overshadowed by something else: "*The moment's regret was subsumed in the needs of the next moment*" (*Diana Gabaldon*).

[Medieval Latin *subsūmere* : Latin *sub-*, *sub-* + Latin *sūmere*, to take; see **em-** [in the Appendix of Indo-European roots](#).]

sub·sum **a·ble** *adj.*

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Indo-European & Semitic Roots Appendices

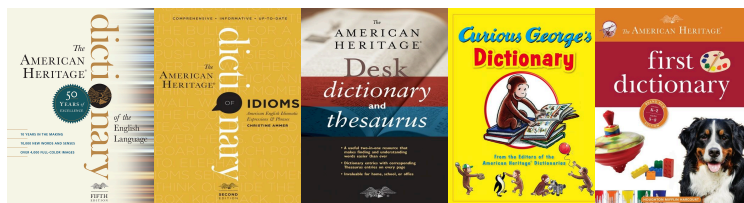
Thousands of entries in the dictionary include etymologies that trace their origins back to reconstructed proto-languages. You can obtain more information about these forms in our online appendices:

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