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dys·en·ter·y  (dĭs ˌən-tĕr'ē)

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n.

Any of several inflammatory disorders of the intestines, especially the colon, characterized by abdominal pain, fever, and severe diarrhea often with blood and mucus in the stool, usually caused by infection with bacteria or parasitic protozoans.

[Middle English *dissenterie*, from Old French, from Latin *dysenteria*, from Greek *dusenteriā* : *dus-*, *dys-* + *enteron*, intestine; see **en** [in the Appendix of Indo-European roots](#).]

dys'en-ter *ic adj.*

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Indo-European & Semitic Roots Appendices

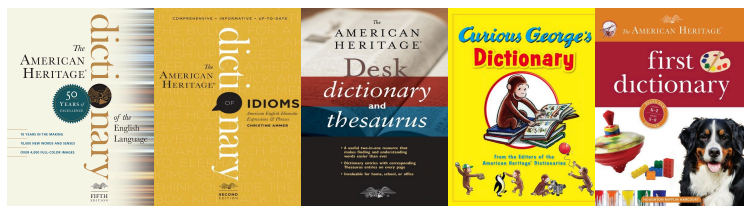
Thousands of entries in the dictionary include etymologies that trace their origins back to reconstructed proto-languages. You can obtain more information about these forms in our online appendices:

[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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