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row ¹  (rō)

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n.

1. A series of objects placed next to each other, usually in a straight line.
2. A succession without a break or gap in time: *won the title for three years in a row.*
3. A line of adjacent seats, as in a theater, auditorium, or classroom.
4. A continuous line of buildings along a street.

tr.v. **rowed**, **row-ing**, **rows**

To place in a row.

Idiom:

a tough row to hoe *Informal*

A difficult situation to endure.

[Middle English, from Old English *rāw*.]

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row ²  (rō)

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v. **rowed**, **row-ing**, **rows**

v.intr.

Nautical

To use an oar or pair of oars in propelling a boat, typically by facing the stern and pulling the oar handle toward oneself, using an oarlock as a fulcrum to push the blade backward through the water repeatedly.

v.tr.

1. *Nautical*

- a. To propel (a boat) with oars.
 - b. To carry in or on a boat propelled by oars.
 - c. To use (a specified number of oars or people deploying them).
2. To propel or convey in a manner resembling rowing of a boat.

3. *Sports*

- a. To pull (an oar) as part of a racing crew.
- b. To race against by rowing.

n.

Nautical

1.

- a. The act or an instance of rowing.
 - b. A shift at the oars of a boat.
2. A trip or an excursion in a rowboat.

[Middle English *rowen*, from Old English *rōwan*; see **erā-** [in the Appendix of Indo-European roots](#).]

row *er n.*

row³  (rou)

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n.

1. A noisy or quarrel or disturbance.

2. A loud noise.

intr.v. **rowed**, **row-ing**, **rows**

To take part in a noisy quarrel or disturbance.

[Origin unknown.]

Indo-European & Semitic Roots Appendices

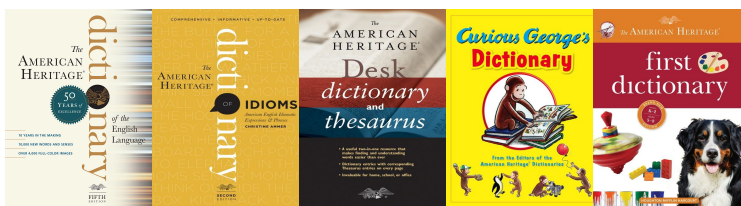
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The Indo-European appendix covers nearly half of the Indo-European roots that have left their mark on English words. A more complete treatment of Indo-European roots and the English words derived from them is available in our [Dictionary of Indo-European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

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