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tri·er·arch  (trī ə-rärk')

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n.

1. The captain of a Greek trireme.
2. An Athenian who outfitted and maintained a trireme as a part of his civic duties.

[Latin *triērarchus*, from Greek *triērarkhos* : *triērēs*, trireme; see **trei-** [in the Appendix of Indo-European roots](#) + *arkhos*, ruler; see [-ARCH](#).]

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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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