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HERITAGE®

dictionary

of the  
English  
Language

  


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**ab·es·sive**  (ăb'ēs īv)

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*adj.*

Of, relating to, or being the grammatical case indicating absence, as Finnish *puhumatta* "without speaking."

*n.*

1. The abessive case.
2. A word in the abessive case.

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[From Latin *abesse*, to be absent, away; see [ABSENT](#).]

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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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