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dictionary

of the
English
Language



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rep·re·sent  (rĕp'ri-zĕnt)

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tr.v. **rep·re·sent·ed**, **rep·re·sent·ing**, **rep·re·sents**

1.
 - a. To have as a meaning, suggestion, or association; stand for or symbolize: *The rose represents beauty. The bald eagle represents the United States.*
 - b. To indicate or communicate by signs or symbols: *Letters of the alphabet represent sounds.*
2.
 - a. To depict in art; portray: *The painting represents a woman wearing a hat.*
 - b. To describe or present in words; set forth: *The article represents the shortcomings of our school system in some detail.*
 - c. To act the part or role of: *represented the villain in the story.*
3. To present clearly to the mind: *How are sense data represented to the mind?*
4. To draw attention to by way of remonstrance or protest: *Our parents represented to us the need for greater caution.*
5. To describe or put forward (a person or thing) as an embodiment of a specified quality: *tried to represent his opponent as untrustworthy.*
6.
 - a. To serve as a delegate or agent for: *She represents a district that is very concerned about high rents.*
 - b. To act as a spokesperson for.
7. To be an example or examples of: *The museum had several paintings representing the artist's early style.*
8. To be the equivalent of; amount to: *The money in the bank represents the better part of their life savings.*

[Middle English *representen*, from Old French *representer*, from Latin *repraesentāre*, to show : *re-*, *re-* + *praesentāre*, to present; see [PRESENT](#)².]

rep'·re·sent'a·bil i·ty *n.*

rep'·re·sent a·ble *adj.*

rep'·re·sent er *n.*

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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:

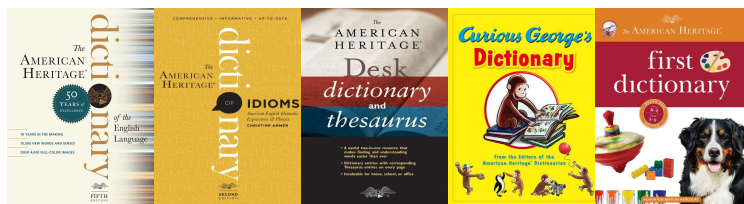
[Indo-European Roots](#)

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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

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