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gen·ius  (jēn yəs)

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n. pl. **gen·ius·es**

1.

a. Extraordinary intellectual and creative power: *artistic works of genius*.

b. A person of extraordinary intellect and talent.

c. A person who has an exceptionally high intelligence quotient, typically above 140.

2.

a. A strong natural talent, aptitude, or inclination: *has a genius for choosing the right words*.

b. One who has such a talent or inclination: *a genius at diplomacy*.

3. The prevailing spirit or distinctive character, as of a place, a person, or an era: *the genius of Elizabethan England*.

4. *pl. ge·ni·i* (jē nē-ī) *Roman Mythology* A tutelary deity or guardian spirit of a person or place.

[Middle English, guardian spirit, from Latin; see **gena-** [in the Appendix of Indo-European roots](#).]

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Indo-European & Semitic Roots Appendices

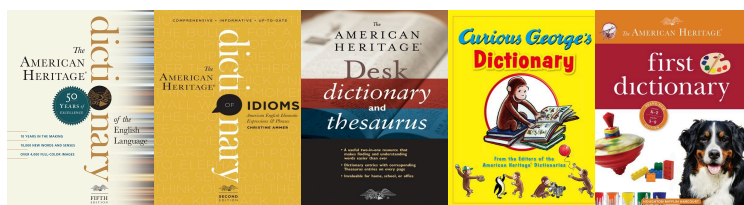
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The Indo-European appendix covers nearly half of the Indo-European roots that have left their mark on English words. A more complete treatment of Indo-European roots and the English words derived from them is available in our [Dictionary of Indo-European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

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