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dictionary

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Language



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ge·nus  (jē nəs)

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n. pl. **gen·er·a**(jĕn ər-ə) also **ge·nus·es**

1. *Biology* A taxonomic category ranking below a family and above a species and designating a group of species that are presumed to be closely related and usually exhibit similar characteristics. In a scientific name, the genus name is capitalized and italicized, for example, *Ovis* for sheep and related animals.
2. *Logic* A class of objects divided into subordinate species having certain common attributes.
3. A class, group, or kind with common attributes.

[Latin, kind; see **gena-** in the Appendix of Indo-European roots.]

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Indo-European & Semitic Roots Appendices

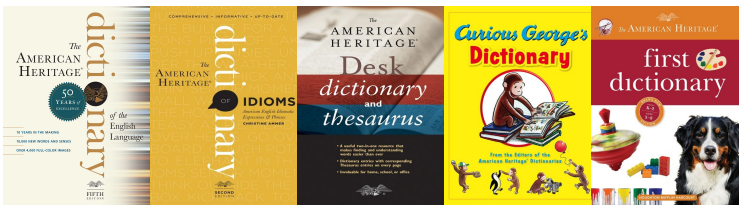
Thousands of entries in the dictionary include etymologies that trace their origins back to reconstructed proto-languages. You can obtain more information about these forms in our online appendices:

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