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dictionary

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No·ël also **No·el**  (nō-ěĭ)

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n.

1. Christmas.

2. **noël** also **noel** A Christmas carol.

[Middle English *noel*, from Old French, variant of *nael*, from Latin *nātālis (diēs)*, (day) of birth, from *nātus*, past participle of *nāscī*, to be born; see **gena-** [in the Appendix of Indo-European roots.](#)]

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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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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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