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po·lyg·o·num  (pə-līg ə-nəm)

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n.

Any of numerous plants of the genus *Polygonum* and several closely related genera of the family Polygonaceae, characterized by stems with knotlike joints and sheathing stipules.

[New Latin *Polygonum*, genus name, from Greek *polugonon*, knotgrass : *polu-*, poly- + *gonu*, knee; see **genu**-¹ [in the Appendix of Indo-European roots](#).]

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Indo-European & Semitic Roots Appendices

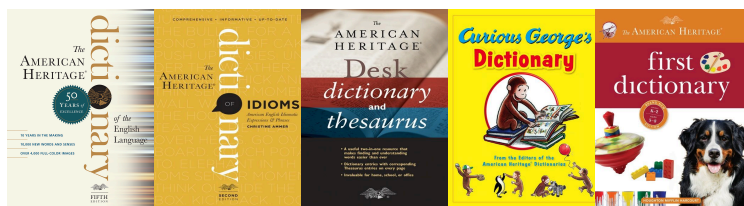
Thousands of entries in the dictionary include etymologies that trace their origins back to reconstructed proto-languages. You can obtain more information about these forms in our online appendices:

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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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