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dictionary

of the
English
Language



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graf·fi·to  (grə-fē tō)

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n.
Singular of [graffiti](#).

[Italian, diminutive of *graffio*, a scratching, scribble, probably from *graffiare*, to scratch, scribble, probably from Vulgar Latin **graphiāre*, to write with a stylus, from Latin *graphium*, stylus, from Greek *grapheion*, *graphion*, from *graphein*, to write; see **gerbh-** [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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