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Language



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graph·ite  (grăf īt')

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n.

A soft crystalline allotrope of carbon, composed of graphene layers, having a steel-gray to black metallic luster and a greasy feel, used in lead pencils, lubricants, paints and coatings, and fabricated into a variety of forms such as molds, bricks, electrodes, crucibles, and rocket nozzles. Also called *black lead*, *plumbago*.

[Greek *graphein*, to write; see **gerbh-**[in the Appendix of Indo-European roots](#) + [-ITE](#)¹.]

gra·phit ic (gră-fīt īk) *adj.*

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Indo-European & Semitic Roots Appendices

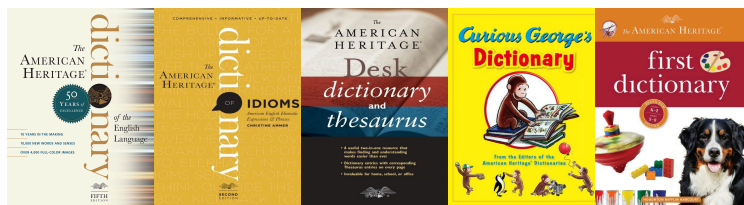
Thousands of entries in the dictionary include etymologies that trace their origins back to reconstructed proto-languages. You can obtain more information about these forms in our online appendices:

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