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dictionary

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Language



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par·a·graph  (păṛ ə-grăf')

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n.

1. A distinct division of written or printed matter that begins on a new, usually indented line, consists of one or more sentences, and typically deals with a single thought or topic or quotes one speaker's continuous words.
2. A mark (¶) used to indicate where a new paragraph should begin or to serve as a reference mark.
3. A brief article, notice, or announcement, as in a newspaper.

tr.v. **par·a·graphed**, **par·a·graph-ing**, **par·a·graphs**

To divide or arrange into paragraphs.

[Middle English *paragraf*, from Old French *paragrafe*, from Medieval Latin *paragraphus*, from Greek *paragraphos*, line showing a break in sense or a change of speakers in a dialogue, from *paragraphein*, to write beside : *para-*, beside; see [PARA-](#)¹ + *graphein*, to write; see [gerbh-](#) [in the Appendix of Indo-European roots](#).]

par'a-graph *ic*, **par'a-graph** *i-cal* *adj.*

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Indo-European & Semitic Roots Appendices

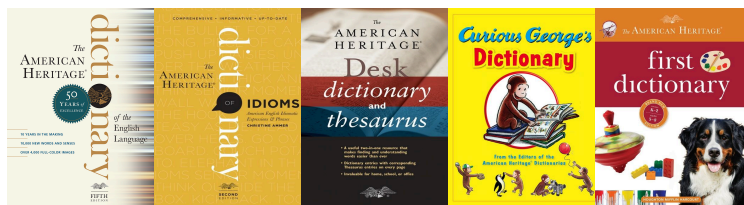
Thousands of entries in the dictionary include etymologies that trace their origins back to reconstructed proto-languages. You can obtain more information about these forms in our online appendices:

[Indo-European Roots](#)

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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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