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mal·a·dy  (măĭ ə-dē)

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n. pl. mal·a·dies

1. A disease, disorder, or ailment.
2. An unwholesome condition: *the malady of discontent*.

[Middle English *maladie*, from Old French, from *malade*, sick, from Latin *male habitus*, in poor condition : *male*, badly; see *mel*-³ [in the Appendix of Indo-European roots](#) + *habitus*, past participle of *habēre*, to hold; see *ghabh-* [in the Appendix of Indo-European roots](#).]

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Indo-European & Semitic Roots Appendices

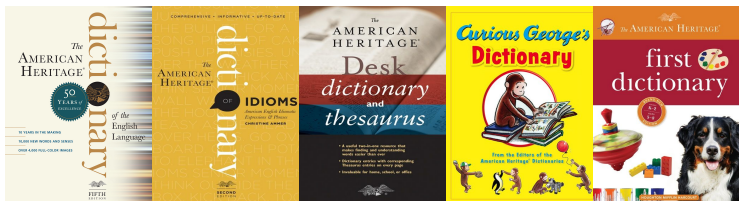
Thousands of entries in the dictionary include etymologies that trace their origins back to reconstructed proto-languages. You can obtain more information about these forms in our online appendices:

[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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