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AMERICAN
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dictionary

of the
English
Language



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yelp  (yĕlp)

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v. **yelped**, **yelp·ing**, **yelps**

v.*intr.*

To utter a short, sharp bark or cry: *excited dogs yelping; yelped in pain when the bee stung.*

v.*tr.*

To utter by yelping.

n.

A short, sharp cry or bark.

[Middle English *yelpen*, to cry aloud, from Old English *gelpan*, *gielpan*, to boast; see **ghel**-¹ [in the Appendix of Indo-European roots](#).]

yelp *er n.*

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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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