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AMERICAN  
HERITAGE®

dictionary

of the  
English  
Language


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gow·an  (gou ən)

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*n.*

*Scots*

A yellow or white wildflower, especially a daisy.

[Probably alteration of Middle English *gollan*, a plant with yellow flowers; akin to Old Norse *gullinn*, golden, from *gull*, gold; see **ghel-**<sup>2</sup> [in the Appendix of Indo-European roots](#).]

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## Indo-European & Semitic Roots Appendices

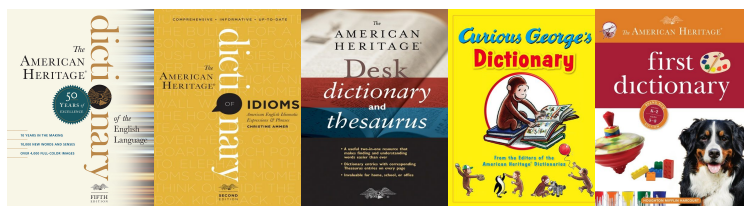
Thousands of entries in the dictionary include etymologies that trace their origins back to reconstructed proto-languages. You can obtain more information about these forms in our online appendices:

[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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