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glance¹  (gläns)

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v. **glanced**, **glanc·ing**, **glanc·es**

v.intr.

1.

a. To direct the eyes at or toward something briefly: *glanced in the rearview mirror.*

b. To read quickly or in cursory fashion: *glanced at the menu.*

2.

a. To strike a surface at such an angle as to be deflected: *A pebble glanced off the windshield.*

b. To shine over or through something at an angle: *The sun glanced through the leaves.*

c. To be reflected, especially in flashes: *sunlight glanced off the water.*

3. To make a passing reference; touch briefly: *a history course that only glanced at the Korean conflict.*

v.tr.

1. To strike (a surface) at an angle; graze: *The arrow glanced the target but didn't stick.* See Synonyms at [brush](#)¹.

2. To cause to strike a surface at an angle: *glanced a stone off the wall.*

n.

1. A brief or cursory look: *gave the paper a glance before breakfast.*

2. A quick flash of light; a gleam.

3. An oblique movement following impact; a deflection: *The car struck the barrier and went off at a glance.*

Idiom:

at first glance

On initial consideration: *At first glance the plan seemed unworkable.*

[Middle English *glauncen*, alteration (influenced by *glenten*, to shine) of *glacen*, from Old French *glacer*, to slide; see [GLACIS](#).]

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glance²  (gläns)

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n.

Any of various minerals that have a brilliant luster: *silver glance.*

[German *Glanz*, from Middle High German *glanz*, from Old High German, bright; see **ghel**-² [in the Appendix of Indo-European roots](#).]

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Indo-European & Semitic Roots Appendices

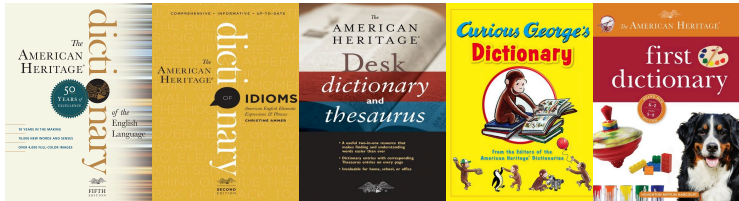
Thousands of entries in the dictionary include etymologies that trace their origins back to reconstructed proto-languages. You can obtain more information about these forms in our online appendices:

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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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