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pred·a·to·ry  (prĕd ə-tôr'ē)

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adj.

1. Living or characterized by preying on other animals: *a predatory insect; predatory instincts.*
2.
 - a. Living or characterized by plundering, pillaging, or marauding.
 - b. Living or characterized by the exploitation of others for personal gain: *predatory business practices.*

[Latin *praedātōrius*, plundering, from *praedārī*, to plunder, from *praeda*, booty; see **ghend-** [in the Appendix of Indo-European roots](#).]

pred'a-to ri·ly *adv.*

pred a-to'ri-ness *n.*

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Indo-European & Semitic Roots Appendices

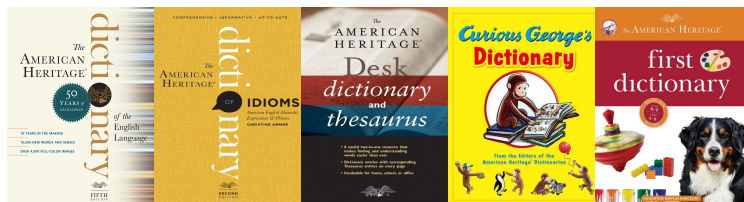
Thousands of entries in the dictionary include etymologies that trace their origins back to reconstructed proto-languages. You can obtain more information about these forms in our online appendices:

[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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