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dictionary

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chres·tom·a·thy  (krě-stōm ə-thē)

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n. pl. **chres·tom·a·thies**

1. A selection of literary passages, usually by one author.
2. An anthology used in studying a language.

[Greek *khrestomatheia* : *khrestos*, useful (from *khresthai*, to use; see **gher-**² [in the Appendix of Indo-European roots](#)) + *-matheia*, body of learning (from *manthanein*, *math-*, to learn; see **mendh-** [in the Appendix of Indo-European roots](#)).]

chres'to·math ic (krēs'tə-măth ĭk) *adj.*

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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:

[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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