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con·fuse  (kən-fy z)

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v. **con·fused**, **con·fus·ing**, **con·fus·es**

v.tr.

1.

a. To cause to be unable to think with clarity or act with intelligence or understanding; bewilder or perplex.

b. *Archaic* To cause to feel embarrassment.

2.

a. To fail to differentiate (one person or thing) from another: *confused effusiveness with affection*.

b. To make more complex or difficult to understand: "*The old labels ... confuse debate instead of clarifying it*" (Christopher Lasch).

v.intr.

To make something unclear or incomprehensible: *a new tax code that only confuses*.

[Middle English *confusen*, from Old French *confus*, perplexed, from Latin *cōnfūsus*, past participle of *cōnfundere*, to mix together; see [CONFOUND](#).]

con·fus a·ble *adj.*

con·fus ing·ly *adv.*

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Indo-European & Semitic Roots Appendices

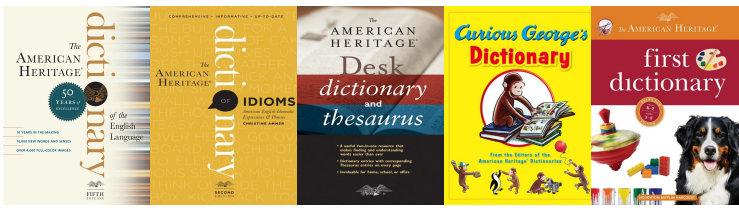
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