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dictionary

of the  
English  
Language


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**fraise**  (frāz)

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*n.*

1. A defensive barrier of pointed inclined stakes or barbed wire.
2. A ruff for the neck worn in the 1500s.

[French, from Middle French, from Old French, mesentery of a calf or lamb eaten as food (a ruff being so called in reference to the pleated folds of the mesentery), from *fraiser*, *fraser*, to mash, smash with the palm of the hand (in order to remove the tough outer membrane from a fava bean, the mesentery being called *fraise* in Old French because of its resemblance to the membrane removed in this way), from Vulgar Latin *\*frēsāre*, to mash, from Latin *frēsa*, crushed, mashed (as in *faba frēsa*, mashed fava bean), from feminine of *frēsus*, past participle of *frendere*, to crush; see [FRENUM](#).]

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## Indo-European & Semitic Roots Appendices

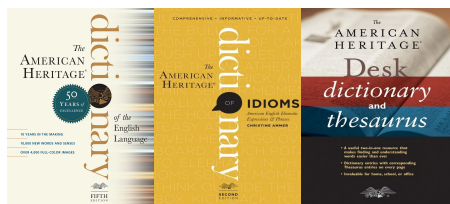
Thousands of entries in the dictionary include etymologies that trace their origins back to reconstructed proto-languages. You can obtain more information about these forms in our online appendices:

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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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