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rec·og·nize (rĕk əg·nīz')

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tr.v. **rec·og·nized, rec·og·niz·ing, rec·og·niz·es**

1. To know to be something that has been perceived before: *recognize a face.*
2. To know or identify from past experience or knowledge: *recognize hostility.*
3. To perceive or show acceptance of the validity or reality of: *recognizes the concerns of the tenants.*
4. To permit to address a meeting: *The club's president recognized the new member.*
5. To accept officially the national status of as a new government.
6. To show awareness of; approve of or appreciate: *recognize services rendered.*
7. To admit the acquaintance of, as by salutation: *recognize an old friend with a cheerful greeting.*
8. *Law* To enter into a recognizance.
9. *Biology* To exhibit recognition for (an antigen or a substrate, for example).

[Middle English *recognisen*, to resume possession of land, alteration (influenced by Medieval Latin *recognizāre*, to recognize) of Old French *reconoistre*, *reconoiss-*, to know again, from Latin *recognōscere* : *re-*, *re-* + *cognōscere*, to get to know; see **gnō-** [in the Appendix of Indo-European roots](#).]

rec og·niz'a·ble *adj.*

rec og·niz'a·bly *adv.*

rec og·niz'er *n.*

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Indo-European & Semitic Roots Appendices

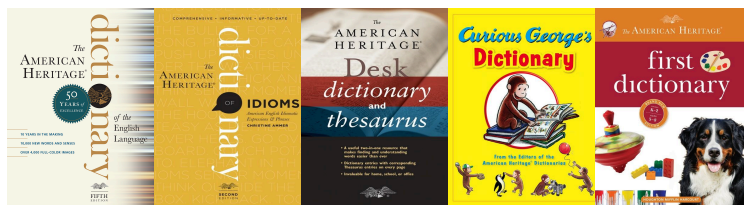
Thousands of entries in the dictionary include etymologies that trace their origins back to reconstructed proto-languages. You can obtain more information about these forms in our online appendices:

[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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