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Language



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con·tra·vene  (kŏn'trə-vēn)

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tr.v. **con·tra·vened**, **con·tra·ven·ing**, **con·tra·venes**

1. To act or be in violation of (a law, directive, or principle, for example); violate: *a sailor who contravened a direct order; a regulation that contravened the new tax policy.*
2. To be inconsistent with; be contrary to: *"Such a marriage ... contravenes much of what we know about marriages in this period" (Carol Meyers).*

[French *contrevenir*, from Medieval Latin *contrāvenīre*, to transgress, from Late Latin, to oppose : Latin *contrā*-, contra- + Latin *venīre*, to come; see **g^wā-** [in the Appendix of Indo-European roots](#).]

con'tra·ven *er n.*

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Indo-European & Semitic Roots Appendices

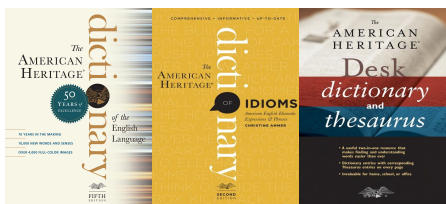
Thousands of entries in the dictionary include etymologies that trace their origins back to reconstructed proto-languages. You can obtain more information about these forms in our online appendices:

[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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