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ba·sis  (bā sīs)

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n. pl. ba·ses (-sēz')

1. A fact or circumstance on which something is established: *rumors with no basis in reality*. See Synonyms at [base](#)¹.
2. The chief constituent; the fundamental ingredient: *The basis for most liquids is water*.
3. The fundamental principle: *Objective inquiry is the basis of science*.
4.
 - a. A pattern or schedule for proceeding: *on a weekly basis*.
 - b. A condition for relating or proceeding: *a first-name basis; a friendly basis*.
5. *Archaic* A physical base on which something rests.

[Middle English, foundation upon which something rests, base, from Latin, from Greek, a stepping, that on which one stands, base; see **g^Wā-** in the Appendix of Indo-European roots.]

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Indo-European & Semitic Roots Appendices

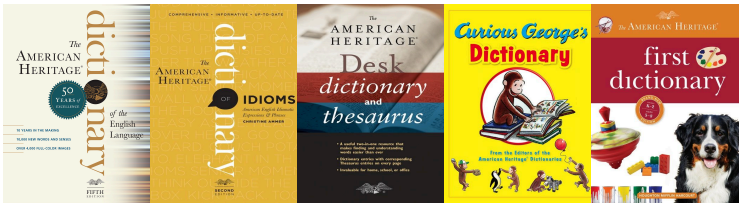
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