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dictionary

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Language



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sym·bi·o·sis  (sĭm'bē-ō sĭs, -bī-)

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n. pl. **sym·bi·o·ses** (-sēz)

1. *Biology* A close, prolonged association between two or more different organisms of different species that may, but does not necessarily, benefit each member.
2. A relationship of mutual benefit or dependence.

[Greek *sumbiōsis*, companionship, from *sumbioun*, to live together, from *sumbios*, living together : *sun-*, *syn-* + *bios*, life; see **g^wei-** [in the Appendix of Indo-European roots.](#)]

sym'bi-ot ic (-ōt ĭk), **sym'bi-ot i-cal** (-ĭ-kəl) *adj.*

sym'bi-ot i-cal-ly *adv.*

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Indo-European & Semitic Roots Appendices

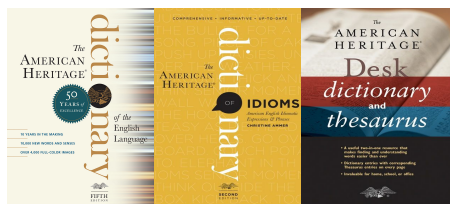
Thousands of entries in the dictionary include etymologies that trace their origins back to reconstructed proto-languages. You can obtain more information about these forms in our online appendices:

[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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