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AMERICAN
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dictionary

of the
English
Language



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pa·lav·er  (pə-lăv ər, -lə vər)

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n.

1.

a. Idle chatter.

b. Talk intended to charm or beguile.

2. A negotiation or discussion concerning matters in dispute, especially in the traditional cultures of West Africa.

v. **pa·lav·ered, pa·lav·er·ing, pa·lav·ers**

v.intr.

To talk idly or at length.

v.tr.

Archaic To flatter or cajole.

[Portuguese *palavra*, speech, alteration of Late Latin *parabola*, speech, parable; see [PARABLE](#).]

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Indo-European & Semitic Roots Appendices

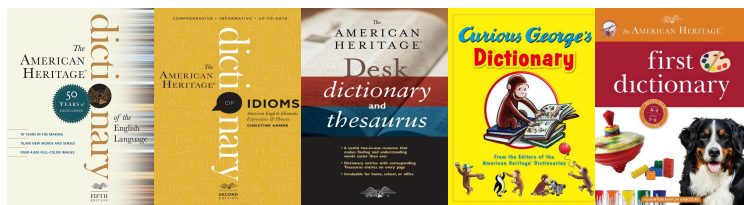
Thousands of entries in the dictionary include etymologies that trace their origins back to reconstructed proto-languages. You can obtain more information about these forms in our online appendices:

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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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