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dictionary

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English
Language



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grat·i·fy  (grăt ə-fī')

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tr.v. **grat·i·fied**, **grat·i·fy·ing**, **grat·i·fies**

1. To please or satisfy: *My good grades gratify my parents.* See Synonyms at [please](#).
2. To give in to (a desire); indulge: *He gratified his curiosity by going to the exhibit.*
3. *Archaic* To reward.

[Middle English *gratifier*, to favor, from Latin *grātificārī*: *grātus*, pleasing; see **g^werə-²** [in the Appendix of Indo-European roots](#) + *-ficārī*, -fy.]

grat·i·fi·ca·tion (-fī-kā shən) *n.*

grat i·fi·er *n.*

grat i·fy·ing *adj.*

grat i·fy·ing·ly *adv.*

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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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