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bou·stro·phe·don  (b 'strə-fēd n, -fē dŏn')

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n.

An ancient method of writing in which the lines are inscribed alternately from right to left and from left to right.

[From Greek *boustrophēdon*, turning like an ox while plowing : *bous*, ox; see **g^wou-** [in the Appendix of Indo-European roots](#) + *strophē*, a turning (from *strephein*, to turn; see **streb(h)-** [in the Appendix of Indo-European roots](#)).]

bou·stroph'e·don *ic* (-strŏf'ī-dŏn īk) *adj.*

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Indo-European & Semitic Roots Appendices

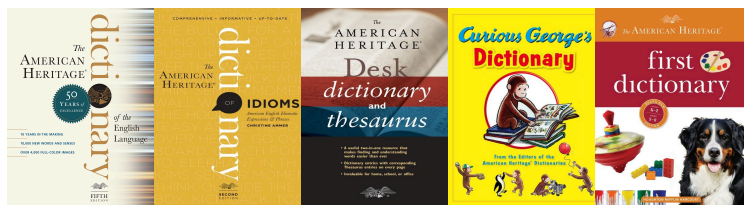
Thousands of entries in the dictionary include etymologies that trace their origins back to reconstructed proto-languages. You can obtain more information about these forms in our online appendices:

[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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