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English
Language



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i·den·ti·fy  (ī-dĕn tə-fī')

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v. i·den·ti·fied, i·den·ti·fy·ing, i·den·ti·fies

v. tr.

1.

a. To establish or recognize the identity of; ascertain as a certain person or thing: *Can you identify what kind of plane that is? I identified the man at the next table as a famous actor.*

b. Biology To determine the taxonomic classification of (an organism).

c. To ascertain as having a certain characteristic or feature: *job candidates who are identified as overqualified; children who have been identified with hearing loss.*

2. To consider as identical or united; equate: *The Greek god Ares is identified with the Roman god Mars.*

3. To associate or affiliate closely with: *writers who are identified with modernism.*

v. intr.

1. To consider oneself as sharing certain characteristics or attitudes as another: *She identifies strongly with her grandmother.*

2. To associate oneself with or admire something, such as a set of ideas: *a language learner who identifies with a new culture.*

3. To believe or assert that one belongs to a certain group or class: *She identifies as a libertarian. He identifies as bisexual.*

[Medieval Latin *identificāre*, to make to resemble : Late Latin *identitās*, identity; see [IDENTITY](#) + Latin *-ficāre*, -fy.]

i·den·ti·fi a·ble *adj.*

i·den·ti·fi a·bly *adv.*

i·den ti·fi·er *n.*

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Indo-European & Semitic Roots Appendices

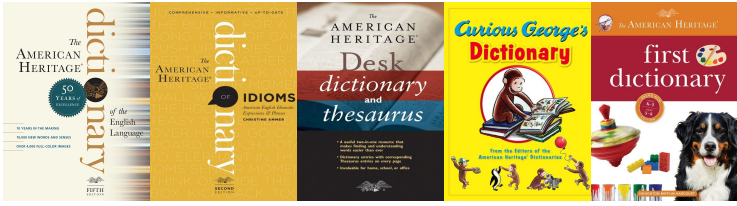
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The Indo-European appendix covers nearly half of the Indo-European roots that have left their mark on English words. A more complete treatment of Indo-European roots and the English words derived from them is available in our [Dictionary of Indo-European Roots](#).

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