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can·ti·cle  (kăn tĭ-kəl)

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n.

1. A song or chant, especially a nonmetrical hymn with words taken from a biblical text other than from the book of Psalms.
2. **Canticles** *Bible* The Song of Songs.

[Middle English, from Latin *canticulum*, diminutive of *cantus*, song, from past participle of *canere*, to sing; see **kan-** [in the Appendix of Indo-European roots](#).]

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Indo-European & Semitic Roots Appendices

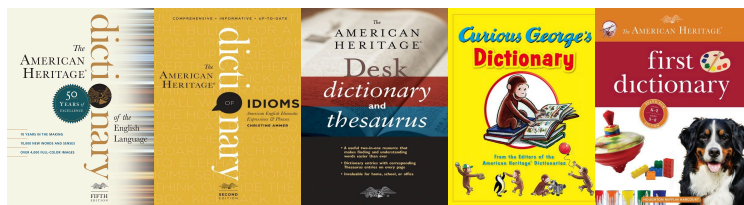
Thousands of entries in the dictionary include etymologies that trace their origins back to reconstructed proto-languages. You can obtain more information about these forms in our online appendices:

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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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