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Language



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in·cen·di·ar·y  (ĭn-sĕn dē-ĕr'ē)

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adj.

1.
 - a. Causing or designed to cause fires: *an incendiary device*.
 - b. Of or containing chemicals that produce intensely hot fire when exploded: *an incendiary bomb*.
 - c. Intentionally started or set: *an incendiary fire*.
2. Tending to arouse strong emotion or conflict; inflammatory: *an incendiary speech*.
3. Causing a strong burning sensation in the mouth; very hot: *incendiary wasabi*.

n. pl. in·cen·di·ar·ies

1. An incendiary bomb, bullet, or device.
2. A person who intentionally starts a fire with the purpose of causing damage or injury.
3. One who creates or stirs up conflict; an agitator.

[Middle English, from Latin *incendiārius*, from *incendium*, fire, from *incendere*, to set on fire; see [INCENSE](#)¹.]

in·cen di·ar·ism (-ə-rĭz'əm) *n.*

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Indo-European & Semitic Roots Appendices

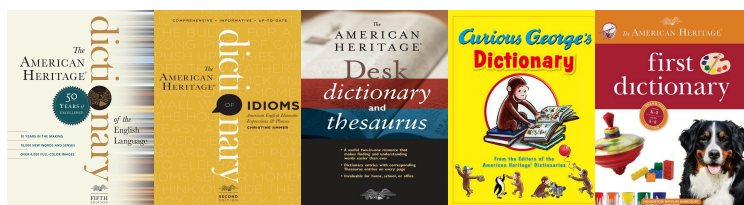
Thousands of entries in the dictionary include etymologies that trace their origins back to reconstructed proto-languages. You can obtain more information about these forms in our online appendices:

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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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