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hag ¹ (hăg)

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n.

1. *Offensive* An old woman considered to be ugly or frightening.

2.

a. A witch; a sorceress.

b. *Obsolete* A female demon.

3. A hagfish.

[Middle English *hagge*, perhaps short for Old English *hægtesse*, witch.]

hag **gish** *adj.*

hag **gish·ly** *adv.*

hag **gish·ness** *n.*

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hag ² (hăg)

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n.

Chiefly British

1. A boggy area; a quagmire.

2. A spot in boggy land that is softer or more solid than the surrounding area.

3. A cutting in a peat bog.

[Middle English, gap, chasm, of Scandinavian origin; akin to Old Norse *högg*; see **kau-** [in the Appendix of Indo-European roots](#).]

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Hag.

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Haggai

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Indo-European & Semitic Roots Appendices

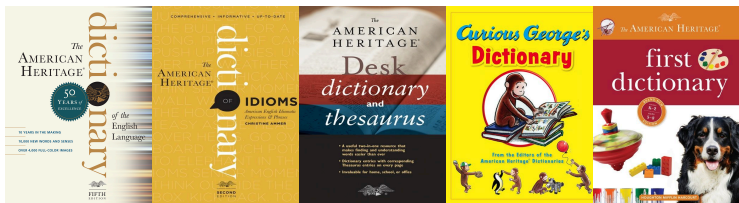
Thousands of entries in the dictionary include etymologies that trace their origins back to reconstructed proto-languages. You can obtain more information about these forms in our online appendices:

Indo-European Roots

Semitic Roots

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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