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low ¹ 🔊 (lō)

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adj. **low·er, low·est**

1.

- a. Having little relative height; not high or tall: *a low wall*.
- b. Rising only slightly above surrounding surfaces: *a low hill*.
- c. Near to the ground or the horizon: *The low clouds threaten rain. The sun is low*.
- d. Situated or placed below normal height: *a low lighting fixture*.
- e. Situated below the surrounding surfaces: *water standing in low spots*.
- f. Of less than usual or average depth; shallow: *The river is low*.
- g. Cut to show the wearer's neck and chest; décolleté: *a low neckline*.
- h. Close or closer to a reference point: *was low in the offensive zone, near the goal*.
- i. *Linguistics* Produced with part or all of the tongue depressed, as *a*, pronounced (ä), in *father*. Used of vowels.

2.

- a. Below average in degree, intensity, or amount: *a low temperature*.
- b. Below an average or a standard: *low wages; a low level of communication*.
- c. Ranked near the beginning of an ascending series or scale: *a low number; a low grade of oil*.
- d. Relating to or being latitudes nearest to the equator.
- e. Relatively small. Used of a cost, price, or other value: *a low fee; a low income*.

3.

- a. Not loud; soft: *a low murmur*.
- b. Having a pitch corresponding to a relatively small number of sound-wave cycles per second.

4.

- a. Below others in status or rank; lowly: *of low birth*.

5.

- a. Violating standards of morality or decency; base: *a low stunt to pull*. See Synonyms at [base](#)².
- b. Unrefined; coarse: *low humor*.

6.

- a. Being near depletion: *My savings account is low*.
- b. Not adequately provided or equipped; short: *low on supplies*.

7.

- a. Lacking strength or vigor; weak: *a patient whose condition is low*.
- b. Lacking liveliness or good spirits; discouraged or dejected: *feeling low after losing the game*.

8.

- a. Depreciatory; disparaging: *a low opinion of him*.

9.

- a. Of, relating to, or being the gear configuration or setting, as in an automotive transmission, that produces the least vehicular speed with respect to engine speed.

adv. **low·er, low·est**

1.

- a. In or to a low position, level, or space: *aimed low; bent low*.
- b. In or to a low condition or rank; humbly: *thought low of himself*.

2.

- a. In or to a reduced, humbled, or degraded condition: *brought low by failure*.

3.

- a. Softly; quietly: *speak low*.

4.

- a. With a deep pitch: *sang low*.

5.

- a. At a small price: *bought low and sold high*.

n.

- 1. A low level, position, or degree: *Rain collects in the lows. The stock market fell to a new low*.

2.

- a. *Meteorology* A region of atmospheric pressure that is below normal.

3. The low gear configuration of a transmission.

[Middle English *loue*, from Old Norse *lāgr*; see **leg-** [in the Appendix of Indo-European roots](#).]

low *ness* *n.*

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low ² 🗣️ (lō)

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n.
The characteristic sound uttered by cattle; a moo.
intr.v. **lowed**, **low-ing**, **lows**
To utter the sound made by cattle; moo.

[From Middle English *lowen*, to moo, from Old English *hlōwan*; see **kela-** ² [in the Appendix of Indo-European roots](#).]

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Low 🗣️ (lō), **Juliette Magill Kinzie Gordon** 1860-1927.

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American founder of the Girl Scouts (1912).



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Juliette Gordon Low

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Indo-European & Semitic Roots Appendices

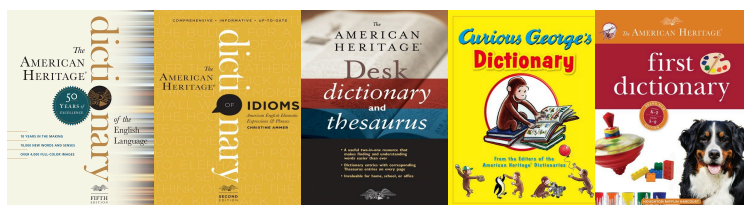
Thousands of entries in the dictionary include etymologies that trace their origins back to reconstructed proto-languages. You can obtain more information about these forms in our online appendices:

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