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Cen·o·zo·ic  (sĕn'ə-zō ĭk, sĕ'nə-)

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adj.

Of, relating to, or being the most recent era of geologic time, from about 66 million years ago to the present. The Cenozoic Era includes the Tertiary Period and the Quaternary Period and is characterized by the formation of modern continents, glaciation, and the diversification of mammals, birds, and plants. See Table at [geologic time](#).

n.

The Cenozoic Era.

[Greek *kainos*, new; see **ken-** [in the Appendix of Indo-European roots](#) + [-ZOIC](#).]

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Indo-European & Semitic Roots Appendices

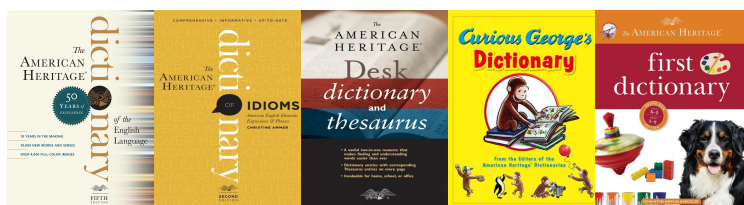
Thousands of entries in the dictionary include etymologies that trace their origins back to reconstructed proto-languages. You can obtain more information about these forms in our online appendices:

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