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dictionary

of the
English
Language



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counter-

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pref.

1. Contrary; opposite; opposing: *counterclaim*.
2. Corresponding; complementary: *counterfoil*.

[Middle English *countre-*, from Old French *contre-*, from Latin *contrā*; see **kom** [in the Appendix of Indo-European roots](#).]

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Indo-European & Semitic Roots Appendices

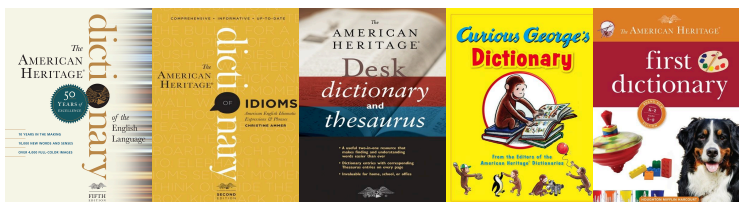
Thousands of entries in the dictionary include etymologies that trace their origins back to reconstructed proto-languages. You can obtain more information about these forms in our online appendices:

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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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