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cos·ta  (kŏs tə)

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n. pl. cos·tae (-tē)

Biology

A rib or a riblike part, such as the midrib of a leaf or a thickened anterior vein or margin of an insect's wing.

[Latin; see **kost-** [in the Appendix of Indo-European roots](#).]

cos tal *adj.*

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Indo-European & Semitic Roots Appendices

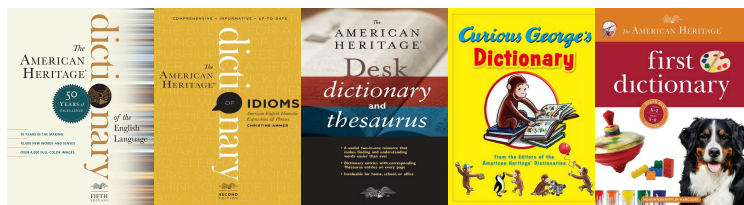
Thousands of entries in the dictionary include etymologies that trace their origins back to reconstructed proto-languages. You can obtain more information about these forms in our online appendices:

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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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