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dictionary

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crit·ic  (krīt ĭk)

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n.

1. A person who forms and expresses judgments of the merits, faults, value, or truth of a matter.
2. A person who analyzes, evaluates, and reports on creative works, especially as a profession: *a film critic; a food critic.*
3. A person who tends to make harsh or carping judgments; a faultfinder.

[Latin *criticus*, from Greek *kritikos*, able to discern, from *kritēs*, judge, from *krīnein*, to separate, judge; see **krei-** in the Appendix of Indo-European roots.]

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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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