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tor·ti·col·lis  (tôr'tī-kōl ǐs)

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n.

A contracted state of the neck muscles that causes the neck to rotate and tilt sideways, forwards, or backwards. Also called *wryneck*.

[New Latin : Latin *tortus*, twisted, past participle of *torquēre*, to twist; see **terk^w**- [in the Appendix of Indo-European roots](#) + *collum*, neck; see **k^wel¹** [in the Appendix of Indo-European roots](#).]

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Indo-European & Semitic Roots Appendices

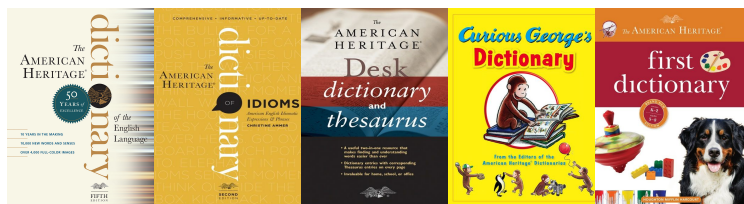
Thousands of entries in the dictionary include etymologies that trace their origins back to reconstructed proto-languages. You can obtain more information about these forms in our online appendices:

[Indo-European Roots](#)

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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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