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quan·ti·ty  (kwŏn tĭ-tē)

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n. pl. **quan·ti·ties**

1.
 - a. A specified or indefinite number or amount: *shipped a large quantity of books; sells quantities of paper to publishers.*
 - b. A considerable amount or number: *sells drugs wholesale and in quantity.*
 - c. An exact amount or number: *the quantity of material recycled in a month.*
2. The measurable or countable property or aspect of things: *Arithmetic deals with quantity.*
3. *Mathematics* Something that serves as the object of an operation.
4.
 - a. *Linguistics* The relative amount of time needed to pronounce a vowel, consonant, or syllable.
 - b. The duration of a syllable in quantitative verse.
5. *Logic* The exact character of a proposition in reference to its universality, singularity, or particularity.

[Middle English *quantite*, from Old French, from Latin *quantitās*, *quantitāt-*, from *quantus*, how great; see **k^wo-** [in the Appendix of Indo-European roots](#).]

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Indo-European & Semitic Roots Appendices

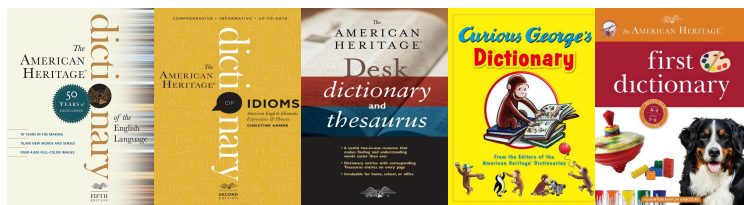
Thousands of entries in the dictionary include etymologies that trace their origins back to reconstructed proto-languages. You can obtain more information about these forms in our online appendices:

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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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