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AMERICAN
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dictionary

of the
English
Language



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cor·pus  (kôr pəs)

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n. pl. cor·po·ra (-pər-ə)

1. A large collection of writings of a specific kind or on a specific subject.
2. A collection of writings or recorded remarks used for linguistic analysis.
3. *Economics*
 - a. The capital or principal amount, as of an estate or trust.
 - b. The principal of a bond.
4. *Anatomy*
 - a. The main part of a bodily structure or organ.
 - b. A distinct bodily mass or organ having a specific function.
5. The overall length of a violin.

[Middle English, from Latin; see **k^wrep-** [in the Appendix of 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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