

***angijō** Runic: 𐌱𐌴𐌶𐌰 | 𐌵𐌶 Pronunciation: /'aŋ.gi.joː/

noun · feminine · ō-stem

Meanings

a low-lying meadow, especially in a valley or beside a river

Etymology

Probably from Proto-Indo-European **h₂enk-yéh₂*, with Siever's Law realization **h₂enk-iyéh₂*, from root **h₂enk-*. The oxytone accent accounts for Proto-Germanic **-g-* by Verner's Law, while the **-yéh₂* formation underlies the feminine Germanic **jō*-stem, a subset of **ō*-stems. Compare Ancient Greek ἄγκος (*ánkōs*) and Sanskrit अङ्कस् (*aṅkas*), both belonging to the same PIE root family; **h₂enk-* itself is securely reconstructed with the meaning 'curve, bend' (Monier-Williams 1899: 7; Rix et al. 2001: 268). The semantic transition 'curved or hollow ground' → 'valley, lowland' → 'meadow' is strengthened by closely related Proto-Germanic **angraz*¹ < **h₂enk-ró-s* and Latin *ancrae* (Kroonen 2013: 28). Still, the deeper connection is not beyond doubt: Kluge (Kluge 1899: s.v. *Anger*) regards the further origin of the Germanic meadow words as obscure and only tentatively connects them with the notion 'curved surface'. Recent evidence is especially interesting: Aikio (2025: slide 18, "PNo **ngj* > Saami **vč*") reconstructs Proto-Norse **angjō-* (> Old Norse *eng*) as the source of Proto-Saami **āvčō*, independently confirming an old Germanic formation with **-j-*, though not its ultimate PIE derivation.

Declension

Case	Singular	Plural
Nom.	angijō	angijōz
Acc.	angijō	angijōz
Gen.	angijōz	angijō
Dat.	angijōi	angijōmaz
Inst.	angijō	angijōmiz
Voc.	angijō	angijōz

Descendants

- *eng (Old Dutch)
 - eng, enc (Middle Dutch)
 - eng, enk (Dutch)
- *eng, ing (Old English)
 - eng, enge, ynge, ing (Middle English)
 - ing (English)
 - eng (Scots)
- eng, engi (Old Norse)
 - ong (Faroese)
 - eng, engi (Icelandic)
 - eng (Norwegian Bokmål)
 - eng, enge (Norwegian Nynorsk)
- eng, engi (Old Norse)
 - æng (Old Danish)
 - eng (Danish)
 - eng (Norwegian Bokmål)
- eng, engi (Old Norse)
 - æng, ænge (Old Swedish)
 - äng (Swedish)
- *āvčō (Proto-Samic)

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Related Words

Words mentioned in this entry

*angraz¹ noun

Entries that mention this word

*angraz¹ noun