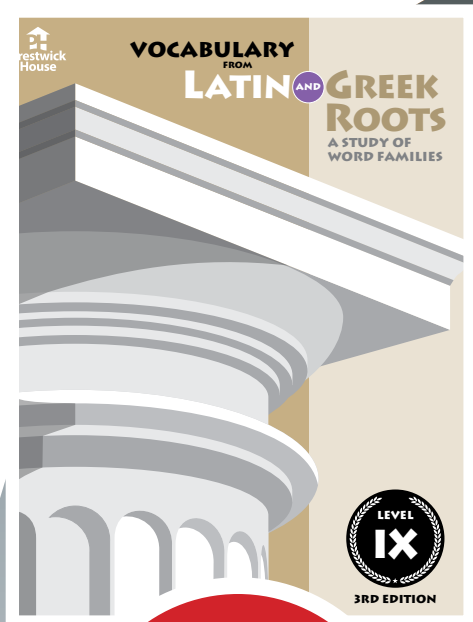




Vocabulary from Latin and Greek Roots Sample



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3RD EDITION

VOCABULARY
FROM
LATIN AND GREEK ROOTS
A STUDY OF WORD FAMILIES

By: Elizabeth Osborne

Edited by Paul Moliken

Illustrated by Larry Knox

Prestwick House wishes to extend its gratitude to the many contributors whose assistance, comments, and expertise were essential in completing this book.



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1.800.932.4593 • www.prestwickhouse.com

ISBN: 978-1-58049-202-7

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3rd Edition 2017



INTRODUCTION

Prestwick House developed *Vocabulary from Latin and Greek Roots* in response to numerous requests for a solid etymology-based vocabulary program. Because the aim of the program is to increase retention of new words as well as to expand students' vocabulary, we chose to organize the Units by meaning rather than alphabetically. A student who associates a root with an idea will be more likely to correctly assess the definition of that root's English derivative.

Each Unit contains at least three Latin and/or Greek roots; one or more English vocabulary words are provided for each root. Unit Five of this book, for example, includes four roots having to do with driving, pushing, and sending forward. When a student reads through the Unit, he or she will see the key letters that signal the presence of each root in an English word. The letters in the third root of Unit Five form the stems PULS, PEL. Beneath the key letters is the root word from which the English is derived: PELLERE, PULSUM. Students will notice that there are sometimes two forms of the root, and sometimes one. The inclusion of two forms indicates a Latin verb from which English has taken two different forms. PELLERE, for instance, gives us the word *propeller*, meaning "a device with rotating blades move a boat or plane forward," while PULSUM gives us words like *pulse*, meaning "an even, steady beat" and *impulse*, meaning "a motivation or incentive." When a root comes from a Latin adjective or noun, only one form will generally be included. Greek roots also appear in only one form.

Beneath the definition of the root, the student will find the word, its pronunciation, part of speech, and English definition. In cases in which an English word has multiple meanings, we have chosen to include only the meaning appropriate to the grade level for which the book is intended. The word *prospect* in this book, then, is a noun meaning "that which is expected," rather than the more familiar verb meaning "to explore looking for minerals, etc."; also in this book, *pedestrian* means "lacking excitement; ordinary and dull," rather than "a traveler on foot." In some instances, students may find it useful to review meanings that do not appear and discuss how they are related to the meaning presented.

If the word has a prefix, or if it is especially difficult to reconcile with its root, the entry will contain an analysis of the parts of the word, followed by a literal definition. *Repulsion* in Unit Five of this book, is explained as *re*, meaning "back," + *pulsum*; the literal meaning is "a pushing back."

Finally, each entry provides a sentence using the word and, when appropriate, introduces pertinent synonyms and/or antonyms. For added visual reinforcement of this understanding, mnemonic cartoons appear in each Unit.

Six different kinds of exercise follow the Unit entries. They include three kinds of practice using words in context, one test of a student's ability to infer information based on a word's meaning, one reading comprehension exercise, and one activity in which a student must deduce the meaning of an unfamiliar word based on knowledge of the word's root. By the end of the exercises in each Unit, students will have had thorough practice using the word in context and will be prepared to make the word part of their working vocabulary.

Note: We have changed the form of some vocabulary words to make the sentences and exercises more interesting, eliminate awkward phrasing, and avoid excessive repetition. For example, a noun (*marvel*) may be changed to an adjective (*marvelous*) or a verb (*marveled*).

WORD LIST FOR LEVEL IX

UNIT 1

circumspect
elucidate
improvise
invidious
lucid
phosphorescent
photogenic
phototropic
prospect
providential
specter
translucent

UNIT 4

adept
aptitude
disposition
effigy
figment
formative
impose
inept
misinformation
posit
prefigure
reform

UNIT 7

amiable
amicable
antagonist
antagonize
antebellum
bellicose
belligerence
bibliophile
enamored
philanthropy
philosophical
protagonist

UNIT 10

accord
animosity
benefactor
benevolent
benign
cordial
discord
dismal
equanimity
magnanimous
malevolent
malicious

UNIT 2

affable
dictum
edict
enunciate
indict
ineffable
infantile
invoke
pronouncement
provocative
renounce
revoke

UNIT 5

agenda
delegate
dilate
dispel
exacting
legacy
proactive
propel
relative
repulsion
superlative

UNIT 8

corporeal
corpulent
divest
expedient
impediment
incorporate
pedagogue
pedant
pedestrian
travesty
vested
vestment

UNIT 11

abjure
aristocracy
bureaucrat
conjure
domineering
indomitable
legislative
legitimize
perjury
predominant
privileged
theocracy

UNIT 3

abstain
confound
deplete
implement
infuse
inhibit
prohibit
replete
retinue
suffuse
sustain
tenacious

UNIT 6

analogous
assonance
audit
auditory
dialogue
disenchanted
dissonance
inaudible
incantation
prologue
recant
resonant

UNIT 9

equilibrium
equitable
homogenized
homonym
iniquity
monogamy
monolithic
monologue
monopolize
unanimous
uniform
unison

UNIT 12

cadence
casualty
decadent
herbivorous
omnivorous
perceptible
precept
rapacious
rapt
surreptitious
susceptible
voracious

UNIT 13

affluent
alleviate
cede
collapse
concession
elapse
leaven
levity
mellifluous
recede
relapse
superfluous

UNIT 14

amble
ambulatory
consecutive
courier
digress
execution
gradualism
inconsequential
incur
preamble
recurrent
regress

UNIT 15

enjoin
impart
impartial
incision
inclusive
inconclusive
indecisive
injunction
partisan
precise
preclude
rejoinder

UNIT 16

alias
alienate
alteration
altercation
alternate
dissemble
inalienable
metabolism
metamorphosis
metaphorical
semblance
simulate

UNIT 17

antibiotic
biodegradable
immortalize
morbid
moribund
mortify
noxious
pernicious
revival
symbiotic
vivacious
vivid

UNIT 18

anonymous
antonym
cognitive
cognizant
denomination
incognito
nomenclature
nominal
sophisticate
sophistry
sophomoric
synonymous

UNIT 19

affiliate
expatriate
filial
genealogy
maternal
matriculate
matron
paternal
patricide
patronize
progenitor
progeny

UNIT 20

diminish
magnate
magnitude
maxim
megalomaniac
megalopolis
microcosm
microscopic
minuscule
minute

UNIT ONE

PHOT, PHOS

Greek PHOS, PHOTOS, “light”

PHOTOTROPIC (fō tə trōˈ pik) *adj.* tending to grow or move toward light
G. *photos* + *tropein*, “to turn” = *to turn toward the light*
Because they are *phototropic*, daisies always grow toward the sun.

PHOSPHORESCENT (fos fə resˈ ənt) *adj.* giving off light without heat
G. *phos* + *phorein*, “to bear” = *light-bearing*
Harvey stuck *phosphorescent* stars on his ceiling so that it would resemble the nighttime sky.

PHOTOGENIC (fō tə jenˈ ik) *adj.* attractive in pictures or photographs
G. *photos* + *genic*, “suitable for” = *suitable for photographs*
Lucy was so *photogenic* that total strangers often asked to take her picture.

LUC

Latin LUX, LUCIS, “light”

LUCID (lōōˈ sid) *adj.* easy to understand; clear
Sophie’s explanation of quantum physics was so *lucid* that I understood everything.
syn: comprehensible *ant: confusing*

ELUCIDATE (ē lōōˈ si dāt) *v.* to make clear by explaining
L. *e*, “from” + *lucis* = *to bring light from*
The attorney asked the witness to further *elucidate* the information he had.
syn: clarify *ant: confuse*

TRANSLUCENT (trāns lōōˈ sənt) *adj.* allowing light to pass through
L. *trans*, “through” + *lucis* = *light passing through*
Through a *translucent* blue cloth draped over the window, we could see the sun.
syn: semi-transparent

III At night in tropical seas, various small organisms seem to glow if they break the surface of the water. This is known as phosphorescence. In the deep part of the ocean, where there is no visible light, however, many creatures, fish, invertebrates, and crabs emit a glow from different parts of their bodies to attract food or for mating. This process is known as “bioluminescence.” Since both processes involve giving off light, what might be the difference?

III The official motto of Yale University is “Lux et Veritas”—“Light and Truth.”

SPEC, SPECT

Latin SPECERE, SPECTUM, “to look at”

CIRCUMSPECT (sûr' kəm spekt) *adj.* careful; mindful of rules and consequences

L. *circum*, “around” + *spectum* = *looking around*

The marchers in the protest rally tried to be *circumspect* and not break any laws.

syn: prudent *ant:* reckless

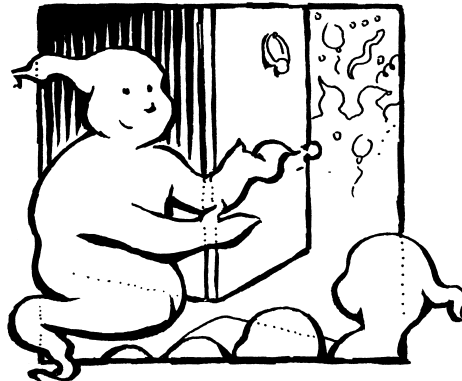
PROSPECT (pros' pekt) *n.* that which is expected

L. *pro*, “forward” + *spectum* = *looked forward to*

The *prospect* of a trip to the dentist with my bratty kid brother was hardly thrilling.

SPECTER (spek' tər) *n.* a ghost or phantom

Hattie seemed to see a *specter* in every corner of the dark house.



HECTOR the SPECTER was host of the ghost party.

III The word specter, in addition to describing the kind of ghost that haunts a place, can describe anything that haunts or preoccupies someone. For example, the specter of war might haunt an uneasy world.

VID, VIS

Latin VIDERE, VISUM, “to see, to look”

INVIDIOUS (in vid' ē əs) *adj.* hateful or spiteful

L. *in*, “against” + *videre* = *to look against*

One candidate made an *invidious* speech against his opponent.

syn: defamatory *ant:* pleasant

PROVIDENTIAL (prâ və den' shəl) *adj.* happening by good fortune

L. *pro*, “forward” + *videre* = *to look forward*

Through a *providential* series of events, Nigel found himself manager of the company.

syn: fortunate *ant:* unlucky

IMPROVISE (im' prə vīz) *v.* to create without any forethought or preparation

L. *in*, “not” + *pro*, “forward” + *visum* = *not seen in advance*

When Carl lost the cards with his speech on them, he was forced to *improvise*.

ant: plan

III Providence is literally the ability to see in advance, so the word is sometimes used as a synonym for “God.” Prudence is a related word that means “carefulness.”

EXERCISES - UNIT ONE

Exercise I. Complete the sentence in a way that shows you understand the meaning of the italicized vocabulary word.

1. When Roger thought he saw a *specter* lurking in the corner, he reacted by...
2. I found Charlie a rather *invidious* character because he was always...
3. The actor had to *improvise* his lines because he...
4. I like to say jokingly that my cat is *phototropic* because she always...
5. Nina tried to *elucidate* the meaning of the poem by...
6. Buck savored the *prospect* of the nature walk because...
7. Because he was not considered very *photogenic*, Sven...
8. The headdress was woven of a beautiful *translucent* silk that...
9. Unless something extraordinarily *providential* happens before the swim meet, we...
10. Tom thinks the reason Gerald's explanations are so *lucid* is...
11. Carl was usually *circumspect* when choosing stocks and bonds because...
12. One of the *phosphorescent* gemstones can be identified by...

Exercise II. Fill in the blank with the best word from the choices below. One word will not be used.

providential circumspect photogenic translucent improvise

1. The delicate, _____ ribbons in the girl's hair seemed to glow.
2. When my first strategy didn't work, I had to _____ a new one.
3. Even the most _____ people don't look attractive in overdeveloped pictures.
4. The one _____ occurrence in Ralph's life was his discovery of the ancient tomb in his back yard.

Fill in the blank with the best word from the choices below. One word will not be used.

providential invidious phototropic specter phosphorescent

5. Scientists were amazed to discover that the plant was not _____ at all and could grow in total darkness.
6. Dawn can be quite _____ at times; she has started several nasty rumors.
7. The _____ wandered the halls of the aged mansion in search of a resident to frighten.
8. The _____ fish emitted a faint glow even at the bottom of the dark sea.

Fill in the blank with the best word from the choices below. One word will not be used.

lucid prospect invidious elucidate circumspect

9. If you are more _____ about your finances, you won't be out of money at the end of the month.
10. Nick can discuss and analyze history in a clear and _____ manner.
11. While trying to _____ the book's theme, I made some interesting discoveries.
12. The _____ of spending the winter on a tropical island was thrilling to Rebecca.

Exercise III. Choose the set of words that best completes the sentence.

1. After George _____ his plan, the _____ of climbing the mountain became more understandable to me.
A. elucidated; specter
B. elucidated; prospect
C. improvised; prospect
D. improvised; specter
2. Daria was upset that she could not provide a(n) _____ explanation of her discussion with the _____ in her nightmare.
A. providential; prospect
B. phototropic; specter
C. lucid; specter
D. invidious; prospect
3. The _____ discovery of a new _____ organism helped researchers, who were doing work on light and biology, make a long-desired breakthrough.
A. photogenic; circumspect
B. invidious; photogenic
C. providential; phototropic
D. translucent; lucid

4. Although the actor thought he did an excellent job _____ his lines, he received several _____ reviews the next day.
- elucidating; lucid
 - improvising; providential
 - elucidating; translucent
 - improvising; invidious
5. Even my modest, _____ grandmother became as excited as a child when she saw the _____ white silk with which we would make the dress.
- photogenic; providential
 - lucid; phosphorescent
 - circumspect; translucent
 - invidious; phototropic

Exercise IV. Complete the sentence by inferring information about the italicized word from its context.

- If your neighbor becomes *invidious*, you may conclude that...
- When a substitute teacher *improvises* a schedule, we can assume...
- When buying a new car, it's best to be *circumspect* because...

Exercise V. Fill in each blank with the word from the Unit that best completes the sentence, using the root we supply as a clue. Then, answer the questions that follow the paragraphs.

For nearly two centuries, a man's appearance had no effect on his candidacy for president of the United States. George Washington, the father of our country, had wooden teeth and rarely smiled. Because of a severe visual disability, James Buchanan tended to lean his head to the side. Abraham Lincoln, although known for his height, did not have the sort of _____ (PHOT) face that would attract interest on television. William Howard Taft was a Supreme Court justice, as well as president, but he also weighed over 325 pounds. Franklin Delano Roosevelt could not walk, but his confinement to a wheelchair remained unknown to the public because he communicated with the nation primarily through radio addresses.

All of this changed with the 1960 presidential election, a tight contest between Vice President Richard Nixon and Senator John F. Kennedy of Massachusetts. The tradition of debate between candidates is a rich one in American history, but never before had one of these debates appeared on television. According to reports of the time, Senator Kennedy appeared much more at ease than his rival did. Kennedy used cosmetics to emphasize his suntan, and his

confidence and bright smile clearly impressed the television audience. His ability to _____ (VIS) in the middle of this heated debate made him seem collected and relaxed. Vice President Nixon, on the other hand, did not fare well with his makeup. His pale complexion was not suited to television lights, his need for a shave showed through the makeup, and, as the debate went on, he began to sweat. His forced smile and nervous movements also made him appear defensive and confused.

After the debate, two separate polls were taken, one of radio audiences and the other of television viewers. Both asked the same question: Which candidate do you think won the debate? The results were striking. The radio audience thought that Vice President Nixon had won the debate, while the television viewers thought that Senator Kennedy had won. This difference _____ (LUC) an important point about human nature: What we see, more than any other sense, greatly influences our opinions of other people. Clearly, a visual impression of a leader also affects the choice we make at the polls.

1. 1. Which of the following is a synonym of confinement as it is used in the first paragraph?
 - A. preference
 - B. restriction
 - C. insanity
 - D. disability

2. Which of the following best summarizes the main idea of this essay?
 - A. Tall presidents tend to seem more presidential than short ones do.
 - B. Physical appearance does not accurately indicate presidential performance.
 - C. The visual sense seems to dominate the others in creating ideas about a public figure.
 - D. The television age has made people more superficial in their judgments.

3. Why did the television audience think that Kennedy had won the debate?
 - A. Kennedy had a more confident voice than Nixon did on the radio.
 - B. Nixon seemed to dislike speaking on the radio more than on television.
 - C. Nixon appeared less confident on television than Kennedy did.
 - D. Both Kennedy and Nixon showed excellent debating skills.

Exercise VI. Drawing on your knowledge of roots and words in context, read the following selection and define the italicized words. If you cannot figure out the meaning of the words on your own, look them up in a dictionary.

When she sat on the photographer's stool, the entire class was silenced. Lucinda was the most photogenic girl in her school; the camera seemed to adore her. In every portrait, her *visage* was as bright and clear as that of an angel. Everyone who saw the pictures said that her face glowed with enthusiasm and *speculated* as to why this might be the case.

UNIT TWO

NUNC, NOUNC

Latin NUNTIARE, NUNTIATUM, “to announce”

III Some Christians believe that the angel Gabriel visited Mary to tell her she would be the mother of Christ. This event is known as the Annunciation (ad, “toward,” + nuntiatum).

ENUNCIATE (ē nun´ sē āt) v. to pronounce or speak clearly

L. *e*, “out of” + *nuntiatum* = to announce out of

The spelling bee contestant was asked to *enunciate* so that the judges could understand what she was saying.

ant: mumble

RENOUNCE (ri nowns´) v. to reject by declaration

L. *re*, “back” + *nuntiatum* = to go back on an announcement

In order to become a member of the fraternity, Jeff had to *renounce* his membership in other organizations.

syn: disavow

ant: reaffirm

PRONOUNCEMENT (prə nowns´ mənt) n. a declaration of opinion; a judgment

L. *pro*, “forth” + *nuntiatum* = to announce forth

Fred’s *pronouncement* that the party was a disaster drew agreement from the whole group.

syn: declaration

VOC, VOK

Latin VOCARE, VOCATUS, “to call”

III Classical literature often started with an invocation to a Muse (a goddess of poetry or some other art).

INVOKE (in vōk´) v. to call on for support

L. *in*, “on” + *vocare* = to call on

Amy *invoked* the First Amendment when Bill tried to silence her.

syn: appeal

PROVOCATIVE (prə vōk´ ə tiv) adj. causing disturbance or excitement

L. *pro*, “forth” + *vocare* = to call forth (emotions)

The film’s *provocative* ending had people talking for months.

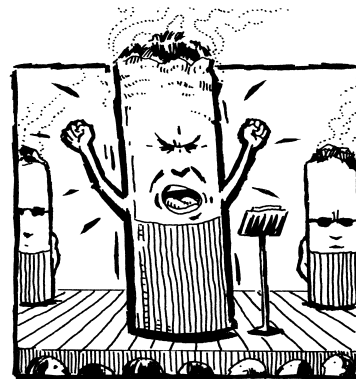
REVOKE (ri vōk´) v. to make invalid; to deactivate

L. *re*, “back” + *vocare* = to call back

If you don’t pay your traffic tickets, the state may *revoke* your driver’s license.

syn: recall, cancel

ant: activate



The angry cigarette shouted, “REVOKE the NO SMOKING law!”