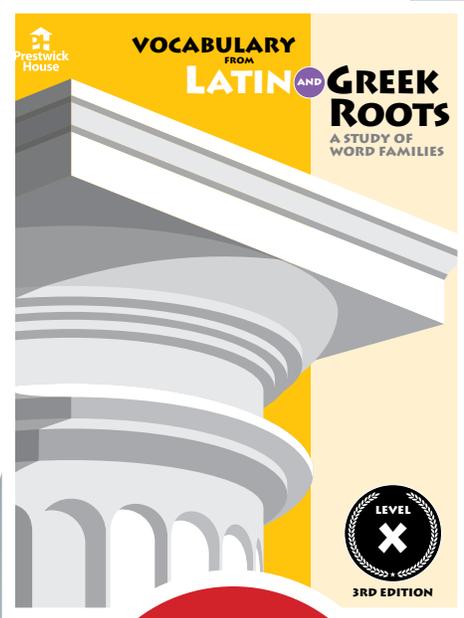




Vocabulary from Latin and Greek Roots

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3RD EDITION

VOCABULARY
FROM
LATIN AND GREEK ROOTS
A STUDY OF WORD FAMILIES

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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 Nine of this book, for example, includes four roots having to do with rolling, twisting, and turning. When a student reads through the Unit, he or she will see the key letters that signal the presence of the root in an English word. The letters in the first root of Unit Nine form the stems TORT, TORQ. Beneath the key letters is the root word from which the English is derived: TORQUERE, TORTUS. 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. TORQUERE, for instance, gives us the word *torque*, meaning "a twisting force," while TORTUS, another form of the verb, gives us *extort*, meaning "to wrongly or illegally force someone to comply with a demand." 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 *temper* in this book, then, is a verb meaning "to decrease the strength of," rather than the more familiar noun meaning "a person's disposition or mood"; in Level IX, *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 Level IX, Unit Five, 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 X

UNIT 1

conducive
deduce
evince
impetuous
impetus
induce
intractable
invincible
petulant
protracted
provincial
retract

UNIT 2

anatomy
compunction
concise
dichotomy
epitome
excise
fractious
incisive
infraction
infringe
punctilious
pungent
tome

UNIT 3

abject
compel
conjecture
dejected
dismissive
emissary
emote
expel
impulse
motif
motive
remiss

UNIT 4

comportment
confer
defer
deference
deviate
impervious
inference
obviate
proffer
proliferate
purported
viaduct

UNIT 5

apparition
aspect
diaphanous
envisage
epiphany
introspective
perspicacious
phenomenon
retrospective
sycophant
visage

UNIT 6

adherent
diffuse
diligent
dissolute
effusive
incoherent
inherent
insoluble
profuse
recollect
resolute
sacrilege

UNIT 7

constructive
construe
destitute
expound
facile
facsimile
factotum
infrastructure
proficient
proponent
restitution
stature

UNIT 8

complacent
docile
doctrine
gratuitous
indoctrinate
ingrate
ingratiate
intemperate
placebo
placid
temper
temperance

UNIT 9

adverse
convoluted
deflect
evolve
extort
inflection
inflexible
retort
revert
subvert
tortuous
voluble

UNIT 10

approbation
culpable
culprit
decriminalize
exonerate
incriminate
mea culpa
onerous
onus
recrimination
reprobate
reprove

UNIT 11

confide
credence
credible
credulity
diffident
dubious
fallacious
fallacy
fallible
fidelity
incredulous
indubitable
redoubtable

UNIT 12

definitive
infinite
infinitesimal
innovative
novel
novice
penultimate
primacy
primal
primeval
ultimate
ultimatum

UNIT 13

aberrant
circumvent
congress
convene
covenant
cursory
degrade
egress
errant
erroneous
incursion
precursor
recourse

UNIT 14

apolitical
civic
civility
civilize
cosmopolitan
demagogue
demographic
pandemic
politicize
virile
virtue
virtuoso

UNIT 15

advocate
benediction
clamorous
colloquial
declaim
dictate
eloquent
equivocate
evocative
exclamatory
locution
malediction

UNIT 16

acerbic
acrid
acrimonious
crucial
crux
doleful
dolorous
effervescent
exacerbate
excruciating
fervent
fervor
indolent

UNIT 17

annotate
connotation
conscientious
denotation
dispute
disreputable
impute
irrational
prescient
rationale
rationalize
unconscionable

UNIT 18

aesthetic
anesthetic
antipathy
apathetic
empathy
intact
pathos
presentiment
sentient
sentiment
sentinel
tactile
tangible

UNIT 19

abrogate
acquisitive
arrogant
correspond
deprecate
derogatory
despondent
espouse
imprecation
inquisitive
interrogate
precarious
requisition

UNIT 20

admonition
cautionary
cautious
conciliatory
counsel
dissuade
persuasion
precaution
premonition
reconcile

UNIT 21

avarice
avid
bibulous
glut
glutton
gustatory
gusto
imbibe
insipid
palatable
palate
sapient

UNIT 22

fetid
malodorous
odoriferous
olfactory
putrefy
putrid
rancid
rancor
redolent
stagnant
stagnate

UNIT ONE

VINC, VICT

Latin VINCERE, VICTUM, “to conquer”

INVINCIBLE (in vin' sə bəl) *adj.* unable to be conquered

L. *in*, “not” + *vincere* = *not able to be conquered*

Although the Romans thought of themselves as *invincible*, they were eventually conquered.

syn: invulnerable

ant: vulnerable

PROVINCIAL (prə vin' shəl) *adj.* limited in knowledge of the world; narrow-minded

L. *pro*, “forward” + *vincere* = *having to do with a conquered territory*

Rory's somewhat *provincial* outlook made it difficult for her to understand what people in other parts of the world were going through.

ant: sophisticated

EVINCE (i vins') *v.* to establish; to reflect the truth of

L. *e*, “out of” + *vincere* = *to overcome (as with evidence)*

The incident at the mill *evinced* the old saying, “Don't count your chickens before they hatch.”

Duc, Duct

Latin DUCERE, DUCTUM, “to lead”

CONDUCTIVE (kən dōō' sɪv) *adj.* supportive; encouraging; helping to bring about

L. *com*, “with” + *ducere* = *leading along with*

These noisy conditions are not *conductive* to learning or teaching.

syn: helpful, favorable

INDUCE (in dōōs') *v.* to lead toward some action

L. *in*, “toward” + *ducere* = *to lead into*

Is there any way I can *induce* you to come for coffee with me?

syn: persuade

ant: discourage

DEDUCE (di dōōs') *v.* to draw a conclusion from fact; to infer

L. *de*, “down, away from” + *ducere* = *to lead down from*

The detectives *deduced* from the evidence that the bank had been robbed not long before they arrived.

syn: conclude

III The ancient Romans considered Rome and Italy the center of the civilized world. They thought of people living in the provinces (pro, “outward” + *vincere* = conquered territories outside Italy) as unsophisticated and far from civilization. The word provincial still carries the idea of narrow-mindedness and lack of sophistication.

TRACT

Latin TRAHERE, TRACTUM, “to drag”

PROTRACTED (prō trak´tid) *adj.* extended in time; prolonged

L. *pro*, “forward” + *tractum* = *dragged forward*

There was a *protracted* struggle between the two armies.

syn: lingering

ant: brief



Though they usually broke early, PRO TRACK stars held a PROTRACTED practice today, running even after the sun went down.

INTRACTABLE (in trak´təbəl) *adj.* stubborn; obstinate; hard to move forward

L. *in*, “not” + *tractum* = *not able to be drawn forward*

Isaiah’s *intractable* nature made bedtimes difficult for his mother.

syn: immovable

ant: malleable

RETRACT (ri trakt´) *v.* to draw back; to withdraw

L. *re*, “back” + *tractum* = *to draw back*

When I found out I was wrong, I was forced to *retract* my statement.

syn: repeal

PETO

Latin PETERE, PETITUM, “to seek aggressively; to assail; to rush”

PETULANT (pech´ələnt) *adj.* irritable or short-tempered

When I told my little brother to put away his toys, he had a *petulant* fit and threw the toys down the stairs.

IMPETUOUS (im pech´ōōəs) *adj.* acting passionately and without forethought

L. *in*, “in, toward” + *petere* = *rushing toward*

Because Barry was a rather *impetuous* boy, he often found himself getting into fights over little things.

syn: rash

ant: careful

IMPETUS (im´pi təs) *n.* that which drives one; momentum

L. *in*, “into” + *petere* = *rushing into*

The tragic accident at the crossroads was the *impetus* for a meeting on traffic safety.

syn: stimulus, reason

III There are many ways to fight wars, and thousands of books have been written on the subject, but one of the most successful types of fighting is called a “protracted war.” This tactic has been used by smaller countries against larger ones throughout history. Why might it have been so successful?

III How do you think the word *petulant* evolved from the root *petere*?

III Both *impetus* and *impetuous* come from the Latin *impetere*, meaning “attack.”

EXERCISES - UNIT ONE

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

1. In order to overcome some *provincial* tendencies in my own thinking, I...
2. The company attempted to *induce* its employees to take shorter vacations by...
3. In one of my more *petulant* moods, I told my noisy roommate to...
4. The army was considered *invincible* because...
5. A *protracted* struggle between the two countries over land resulted in...
6. It seemed rather *impetuous* of our club president to simply...
7. Because we knew that once George made up his mind, he would be completely *intractable*, we...
8. Many piano players find that loud noises and visual distractions are not *conducive* to...
9. The governor decided to *retract* his statement because...
10. Nothing *evinces* the powerful effects of pollution like...
11. When paleontologists find a dinosaur's bones in an area, they can *deduce* that...
12. The *impetus* for the riot that took place in the town square was most likely...

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

petulant evince invincible protracted retract

1. The _____ debate between the two senators bored some people, but also led to some important reforms.
2. I hardly expected a grown man to become that _____ when I awakened him at three in the morning.
3. Harry may be a good chess player, but he's not _____.
4. When I realized I was wrong, I decided to _____ everything I had said.

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

evince deduce induce conducive impetuous

5. When Mike saw Hugh and Lena talking and laughing together, he _____ that they were no longer fighting.
6. Certain kinds of soil are more _____ to growing prize-winning roses than others are.
7. Wasn't it kind of _____ to volunteer for a job you knew nothing about?
8. The relationship between the two characters _____ the main themes of the novel.

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

impetus induce provincial intractable conducive

9. After the accident with the horse, nothing could ever _____ Albert to go back to the farm.
10. Laughing at someone for having a different accent than yours makes you seem _____.
11. The _____ for his decision to play the violin was his early love of symphonic music.
12. Jamie was so _____ that she refused to move her car from the sidewalk even when ordered to do so by the police.

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

1. The _____ argument that raged in the office for days was not _____ to getting work done.
 - A. provincial; petulant
 - B. impetuous; provincial
 - C. petulant; protracted
 - D. protracted; conducive
2. Can we _____ from the uproar in the newspapers that the senator has refused to _____ his controversial bill?
 - A. retract; induce
 - B. deduce; retract
 - C. evince; deduce
 - D. retract; evince
3. What was the _____ for the supposedly _____ hockey team's decision not to play in the tournament?
 - A. conviction; provincial
 - B. impetus; invincible
 - C. impetus; petulant
 - D. conviction; intractable

4. Sam became so _____ that he ran away and climbed a tree, and nothing could _____ him to come down.
- protracted; deduce
 - conducive; evince
 - petulant; induce
 - provincial; retract
5. Nothing _____ Ben's tendency to act without thinking more than his _____ decision to become a daredevil pilot.
- evinces; impetuous
 - retracts; impetuous
 - induces; intractable
 - deduces; provincial

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

- If one boy *induces* another boy to tip over a garbage can, we can assume the second boy is...
- If the new family in the city apartment is looked down upon for being *provincial*, they probably came from...
- When a businessman's boss criticizes him for being *impetuous*, we can assume the businessman has probably NOT...

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.

The American mass media has an abiding interest in the paranormal. Television infomercials advertise "psychics" who convince people that they can communicate with the dead; popular television programs pander to the public's love of occult phenomena; Hollywood produces movies that depict supernatural occurrences as factual. As billions of dollars are wasted on 900 numbers, cable subscriptions, and movie tickets, we Americans must become more critical in our acceptance of subjects and events portrayed as legitimate, from séances and extrasensory perception (ESP) to UFOs and alien abductions.

What could _____ (DUC) so many Americans to part with hundreds of dollars to learn "news" of the future or have a glimpse of a departed loved one? Is it because we do not have the knowledge to protect ourselves from intellectual fraud? Surely, we can exercise enough sense to stop calling hotline psychics after dozens of them have been prosecuted for criminal intent to mislead. Yet, 900 numbers exist, offering mind reading, spirit-channeling, and fortune-telling with monotonous regularity; television

viewers continue to be convinced of the validity of telepathy, clairvoyance, and reincarnation.

One organization, the Committee for Skeptical Inquiry (CSI), believes that the mass media plays a predominant role in leading the public to accept paranormal events uncritically. If Americans were to think critically about what they were reading and viewing and were also to reject the scientifically unsupported ideas about the paranormal that the media puts forth, the industry that relies so heavily on our gullibility would be bankrupt.

CSI has attempted to counter these popular media claims. In televised specials, members of the organization carefully explain each step of an unexplainable phenomenon, such as the supposed mind reading of a telephone clairvoyant. However, even when these illusions are revealed, the public has a hard time accepting that mind reading is not real. We can _____ (DUC) from this reluctance that shrewd analysis of seemingly occult phenomena is less appealing than the mystique of the unknown is.

Many people are troubled by individuals who do not take the time to investigate outrageous claims. To the mass media, however, a docile public is a reassuring constant. The general population's inability—and unwillingness—to distinguish a hoax from reality will continue to provide a(n) _____ (PETO) for the media's focus on paranormal activity long into the future.

1. How does the writer feel about the mass media's portrayal of the paranormal?
 - A. supportive of the mass media's interest in the paranormal
 - B. critical of the media for portraying paranormal activity as unbelievable
 - C. angry for creating a nation of non-critical thinkers by challenging Americans to question the paranormal
 - D. skeptical about both the paranormal and the media's motives in focusing on the paranormal

2. What can you logically infer is the reason the words *psychics* and *news* are in quotation marks?
 - A. The author does not believe in the powers of these people.
 - B. The author wants to poke fun at professional mind readers.
 - C. The Committee used those specific words in their TV specials.
 - D. The author wants to highlight the words for their importance in the passage.

3. Why, according to the author, does the American public fail to distinguish hoaxes from reality?
 - A. The media has created a nation of ready consumers.
 - B. Americans cannot or will not think critically about the paranormal.
 - C. The American public is constantly challenging the claims made in the movies and on television.
 - D. Americans are afraid to question the media.

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. Note that the prefix *tra* (from *trans*) means “across,” and that *e* (from *ex*) means “out from.”

The defense attorney attempted to win over the jury in the case by *trading* the prosecutor's star witness. In response to the claim that his witness was an alcoholic, the prosecutor tried to repair the damage done with a series of questions intended to *educe* a feeling of pity for the witness from the jury. Unfortunately, after the defense's harsh attack, there was little reason for the jury to believe the witness.

UNIT TWO

FRACT, FRING, FRANG

Latin FRANGERE, FRACTUM, “to break”

III Every law is an evil,
for every law is an
infraction of liberty:
And I repeat that
government has but a
choice of evils.
—Jeremy Bentham,
18th-19th-century
British judge and
philosopher

FRACTIOUS (frak' shəs) *adj.* tending to argue or cause discord
Malcolm grew from a *fractious* and irritable child into a tolerant and peaceful adult.

syn: cross, peevish *ant:* amiable

INFRACTION (in frak' shən) *n.* a minor violation of a rule or law

L. *in*, intensifier + *fractum* = *to break*

For his *infraction* of the camp code, Kevin had to peel potatoes in the kitchen.

syn: transgression

INFRINGE (in frinj') *v.* to intrude on an area belonging to another; to trespass

L. *in*, intensifier + *frangere* = *to break*

Susan said her father was *infringing* upon her freedom when he took her car.

CIS

Latin CAEDERE, CISUM, “to cut; to kill”

EXCISE (ek' sīz) *v.* to cut out of; to remove

L. *ex*, “out of” + *cisum* = *to cut out of*

Having *excised* several paragraphs from my essay, I returned to ask my teacher's advice.

syn: expunge

INCISIVE (in sī' siv) *adj.* sharply cutting; direct and powerful

L. *in*, “into” + *cisum* = *cutting into*

Natasha's fast-moving narratives and *incisive* style never failed to impress us.

syn: keen *ant:* dull

CONCISE (kən sīs') *adj.* brief and straightforward

L. *con*, “with” + *cisum* = *cutting with or away*

Because I had only one page to write my note on, my language had to be *concise*.

syn: terse *ant:* rambling

III A surgical incision is a
sharp, clean cut;
incisive thinking cuts
directly to the heart of
an issue.