



# GREEK AND LATIN ROOTS

English is a living language, and it is growing all the time. One way that new words come into the language is when words are borrowed from other languages. New words are also created when words or word elements, such as roots, prefixes, and suffixes, are combined in new ways.

Many English words and word elements can be traced back to Latin and Greek. Often you can guess the meaning of an unfamiliar word if you know the meaning.

A **word root** is a part of a word. It contains the core meaning of the word, but it cannot stand alone.

A **prefix** is also a word part that cannot stand alone. It is placed at the beginning of a word to change its meaning.

A **suffix** is a word part that is placed at the end of a word to change its meaning. Often you can guess the meaning of an unfamiliar word if you know the meaning of its parts; that is, the root and any prefixes or suffixes that are attached to it.

## PROCEDURE:

### DAY 1..."INTRO DAY" 45-50 minutes

1. You will be part of a Greek and Latin Root Team. Your assignment each week will be to explore, analyze, and learn new roots, prefixes or suffixes.
2. Your team will choose 2-3 roots, prefixes or suffixes for the week.
3. After you have chosen your roots, write each of the roots on an index card.
4. Then, think of 2-3 words that use the root(that are not included on the initial root list I gave you) and write each of these words on the opposite side of the index card. You can add the words I gave you as well. Write the definition next to each word (you can use a dictionary if you are not sure).
5. Be sure to define the root(s).

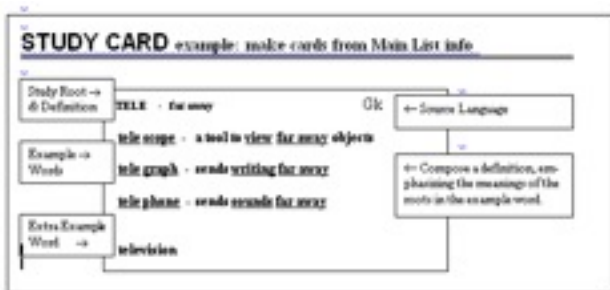
**\*\*Example of what your card should look like:** write "ject" on one index card. On the reverse side, you may come up with "inject", "reject", and "project". You may decide that all three words have something to do with movement. Moving "in", moving "back" and moving "forward". Therefore, you can infer that "ject" means to "move" or to "throw". "Inject"=throw in, "reject"=throw back, "project"=throw forward.)

- Now try to think of one or two more complex words that use your root and add to your list.
- After you are finished, come back together as a whole team, and share your findings and record your roots and definitions in your notebook.

DAYS 2, 3, 4, 5... Please see Ms. West for activity requirements.

**ACTIVITIES TO PRACTICE YOUR ROOTS:** A-F=You must do!

**A. \*\*CREATE STUDY CARDS FOR EACH OF YOUR ROOTS. You can make these on line if you wish. THIS MAY BE DONE AS A GROUP AND EVERYONE GETS A SET OF STUDY CARDS.**



**B. \*\*Word Hunt-Over the next few days, continue to generate words and add to your cards. You must find at least 10 words that have your root.**

**C. Write a sentence using a word containing the root and a hint word; your context clues are important here! \*\*Select at least 6 words .**

**D. \*Pictures/Symbols for your roots/words-create pictures or symbols to help you remember your word. You can add this to each study card.**

**E. Divide and Conquer-Break down each part of your words and give the meaning of each part.  
Tele =far away graph=writing**

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