

Royal Fireworks Language Arts by Michael Clay Thompson

THE WORD WITHIN THE WORD I

Third Edition

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Royal Fireworks Press
UNIONVILLE, NEW YORK

INTRODUCTION

The Word Within the Word, Volume I, is designed to raise your awareness of the Greek origins of English. *The Word Within the Word* is the premier text for understanding English language vocabulary; the vocabulary sections have proven valuable to several million students. However, included in the text is the discussion of Greece in the Classical Age. In this and the subsequent two volumes, we want to give you more insight into Greece and Rome, the two ancient cultures from which much academic English is derived. This is not material that will be on the test, or at least it should not be. Its function in this volume is to give you some idea of the Greek world, of the chronological, geographical, and other relationships of the actors to one another. History should not be a story to be memorized but rather an exploration of relationships, of how people in specific contexts acted and reacted, solved problems, and endeavored to live in ways that they found satisfactory. I chose the subjects of the short essays in this volume to give you a sense of what occurred during the fewer than 200 years that proved so important for the history of the world and to us today.

As you read these essays, it is important to realize and remember that the fundamental structure of ancient Greece was competition. The Greeks were competitive about everything; it was how they approached one another and the world around them. It was individual against individual, family vying with family, city against city, league against league, and finally all of Greece against the Persian empire. The Greeks were the originators of the Olympic games, but the Olympic games were only one of several Panhellenic games that involved athletes, musicians, charioteers, sailors, and other contestants from all of Greece. The Greeks did not simply have concerts, they had competitions between singers and between musicians; they did not simply go to plays, they had competitions between playwrights. If this does not seem strange to you, it is because much of our world is organized on the same premise. We have competitions and give prizes on a level that rises to the ancient Greek standard and perhaps even surpasses it. And after a lapse of 1,600 years, we revived the Olympic games and play them every four years, just as the ancient Greeks did.

With competition, the Greeks developed a concept of individualism and freedom and a portrayal of individuals striving and fighting for their own liberty and for the freedom of their homeland from enslavement. They had fewer protections of their individual rights than we do, but individuals had far more protections in Athens than they did in Egypt or Persia or elsewhere in the ancient world. Their freedoms might have been circumscribed, but they were no less precious to them.

The Greeks gave us many of the underpinnings of our life. Besides organized competitive games, they developed democracy, the importance of the individual and the will of the people, philosophy, the theater, comedy and tragedy, mathematics, medicine, rhetoric, history, the epic poem, and the fable. The most glorious manifestation of Greek culture and achievement might be Athens in the fifth century, although others would argue it was the fourteen years of Alexander's leadership of the Macedonians, and still others have pointed to Sparta. It was an exciting and vibrant period in the history of the world, and in these short essays I have tried to open up some aspects of it to you.

As interesting and important as the history of classical Greece may be, it is well to remember that the purpose of this book is to help you learn English vocabulary, specifically the academic English of learned discourse. The essays and photographs about the Greek world are not an end in themselves but an aid to your comprehension of academic English.

Thomas Milton Kemnitz

The Word Within the Word • List #1

ante	<i>(before)</i>	antedate, antecedent, antebellum, anterior, ante meridiem, antepenult	<i>Latin</i>
anti	<i>(against)</i>	antiaircraft, antibody, anticlimax, anticline, antitoxin, antithesis	<i>Greek</i>
bi	<i>(two)</i>	bilateral, bicycle, binary, bimonthly, biped, bipolar, binocular, bicuspid	<i>Latin</i>
circum	<i>(around)</i>	circumnavigate, circumspect, circumvent, circumlocution, circus	<i>Latin</i>
com	<i>(together)</i>	combination, comfort, commensurate, common, complete, combo	<i>Latin</i>
con	<i>(together)</i>	contract, confidence, confine, confederate, conjunction, contact	<i>Latin</i>
de	<i>(down)</i>	deposit, descent, despicable, denounce, deduct, demolish, decrepit, deplete	<i>Latin</i>
dis	<i>(away)</i>	distract, distort, dispute, dissonant, disperse, dismiss, dissuade, disprove	<i>Latin</i>
equi	<i>(equal)</i>	equitable, equilateral, equivocate, equinox, equation, equilibrium	<i>Latin</i>
extra	<i>(beyond)</i>	extraterrestrial, extraordinary, extravagant, extrovert, extramural	<i>Latin</i>
inter	<i>(between)</i>	international, interdepartmental, interstellar, interject, interlude	<i>Latin</i>
intra	<i>(within)</i>	intracellular, intravenous, intracranial, intrastate, intrauterine	<i>Latin</i>
intro	<i>(into)</i>	introduce, introspective, introvert, introject, introrse, introgression	<i>Latin</i>
mal	<i>(bad)</i>	malevolent, malcontent, malicious, malign, malady, malapropism, malonym	<i>Latin</i>
mis	<i>(bad)</i>	misfit, mistake, misfortune, misfire, misdeed, misguided	<i>Germanic</i>
non	<i>(not)</i>	nonstop, nonprofit, nonconformity, nonplussed, nonchalant	<i>Latin</i>
post	<i>(after)</i>	postgraduate, posthumous, postscript, posterity, posterior, postlude	<i>Latin</i>
pre	<i>(before)</i>	prelude, preposition, premonition, premature, predict, predecessor	<i>Latin</i>
semi	<i>(half)</i>	semitone, semiaquatic, semicircle, semiweekly, semiannual, semiformal	<i>Latin</i>
sub	<i>(under)</i>	subterranean, subtract, subordinate, submarine, subterfuge, substantial	<i>Latin</i>
super	<i>(over)</i>	supervise, superb, superior, superfluous, supercilious, supernatural	<i>Latin</i>
sym	<i>(together)</i>	sympathy, symbiosis, symbol, symmetry, symphony, symposium	<i>Greek</i>
syn	<i>(together)</i>	synthetic, synchronize, syndrome, synonym, synopsis, syntax	<i>Greek</i>
tri	<i>(three)</i>	tricycle, triangle, triceps, triad, trichotomy, triceratops, trivia, triologue	<i>Greek</i>
un	<i>(not)</i>	unfit, unequal, undone, unequivocal, unearned, unconventional, untenable	<i>Old English</i>

de

down • away • from

The Latin stem **de**, which we define as meaning *down*, actually can have a wide variety of meanings and is a relative of the stem **dis**. Though **de** often means *down*, it can mean *away*, *off*, *from*, *entirely*, or even *undo*. Here are some of the interesting words that contain **de** in its various shades of meaning:

- debacle:** an overwhelming defeat. Alexander's attack was a debacle for Darius.
- debark:** to get off of a ship or airplane. They debarked immediately.
- debauch:** to lead astray morally. Dorian's life was increasingly debauched.
- debris:** rubble or fragments. The barbarians lived in the debris of Rome.
- decamp:** to depart suddenly or secretly. In the night, the enemy had decamped.
- declivity:** a downward slope. The horses stumbled down the declivity.
- defalcate:** to embezzle funds. He had defalcated the funds and vanished.
- defeasible:** able to be undone or voided. The provision proved to be defeasible.
- defoliate:** to strip of leaves. The chemical defoliated most of the jungle.
- deliquesce:** to melt down. In the movie, the villain's face deliquesced in the blast.
- demure:** modest or affectedly modest. Her demure pretensions fooled no one.
- denizen:** an inhabitant. The denizens of the forest could be heard in the night.
- depravity:** wickedness. The depravity of the criminal was beyond belief.
- depredation:** plundering. Ghengis Kahn's depredations terrified the villages.
- deracinate:** to pull up by the roots. He weeded with deracinating frenzy.
- deride:** to ridicule. He mercilessly derided the new student.
- derogate:** to detract. Why derogate another's reputation?
- deseccrate:** to profane what is sacred. Vandals had deseccrated the shrine.
- desiccate:** to dry completely. The desiccated apples fell out of the package.
- desideratum:** something considered essential. Our primary desideratum was cost.
- desperado:** an outlaw. The cove was a haven for desperadoes and escapees.

The Word Within the Word • Sentences #1

1. The Civil War **antedates** the Korean War by decades.
2. The **antiaircraft** fire shot down the enemy planes.
3. The two nations have a **bilateral** agreement.
4. The **circumspect** spy is difficult to catch.
5. The two together are an interesting **combination**.
6. He was **confined** to the asteroid's detention center.
7. The lunar lander **descended** through the atmosphere.
8. His attention was easily **distracted**.
9. She made an **equilateral** triangle with three straws.
10. It was an **extraordinary** achievement.
11. They were lost in **interstellar** space.
12. He received an **intravenous** solution through a tube in his arm.
13. The boy was a lonely **introvert** who kept to himself.
14. He looked fearfully at the glowing, **malevolent** demon.
15. He had the **misfortune** to forget his wallet.
16. The foundation is a **nonprofit** organization.
17. She added a **postscript** at the bottom of the letter.
18. Before Romeo left, Juliet had a frightening **premonition**.
19. The circle was divided into two equal **semicircles**.
20. The lieutenant gave a sharp order to her **subordinate**.
21. The talkative fool made several **superfluous** comments.
22. The **symbiotic** species could not survive without each other.
23. Please **synchronize** your watches at this time.
24. Rome was sometimes ruled by a **triumvirate**.
25. **Unearned** income must be reported to the Internal Revenue Service.

The Word Within the Word • Ideas #1

synthesis

1. Invent three words that each combine two or more of the stems in List #1. Write definitions for these words.
2. Write a paragraph about an **intracranial** operation, and use at least ten example words from List #1 in your paragraph.

divergence

1. List as many words as you can think of that contain the stem *pre*. Keep listing until you find unexpected, creative examples.
2. How many things can you think of that need to be **synchronized**?

analysis

1. What is the difference between **interstate** highways and **intrastate** highways? Explain by examining parts of the words.
2. If *nav* means ship, explain the origin of the word **circumnavigate**.

evaluation

1. Are politicians morally obligated to speak **unequivocally**, or do they have a practical right to be **equivocal** in order to be elected?
2. Is it wrong to be an **introvert**, or is it just a matter of style? Is it better to be sociable? Should you force yourself to socialize if you feel like being alone?

intuition

1. What images flash in your mind when you hear the following words: **preschool**, **misfortune**, **symbol**, **deposit**, **interstellar**, and **descent**?
2. If you could do something truly **extraordinary**, what would it be?



The typical Greek terrain with its mountains and narrow valleys is evident in this view of the amphitheater at Delphi. Delphi was thought by the Greeks to be the center of the Earth. It was here to the oracle in the sacred temple of Apollo that Greek people came—often journeying hundreds of miles—for advice and answers to pressing questions. It was the oracle who pronounced Socrates the wisest man in the world, who foretold that the Spartans would have a king killed in combat or their city would be destroyed, and who said that Athens would be destroyed and the Athenians should seek protection behind a wooden wall (which Themistocles interpreted as the navy). Alexander the Great visited the oracle before setting off to conquer Persia.

THE LATE BRONZE AGE: POLITIES AND HOMER

Dr. Thomas Milton Kemnitz

Greece is mountainous and its land rocky. Its climate is too dry in the summer, and its soil not rich enough for the lush crops of the Nile or the Tigris and Euphrates valleys. The inhabitants of Greece were about 2,000 years behind the occupants of those more fertile lands in the development of a literate culture. But with the husbanding of animals, the bounty of the sea, the produce of olive trees and grape arbors, and other assets, the Greeks managed to feed themselves and find the resources for trade throughout the eastern Mediterranean.

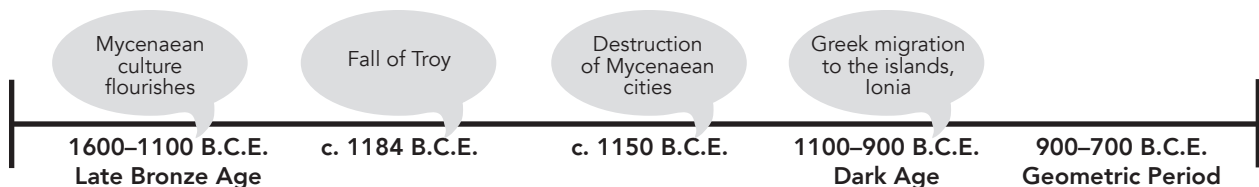
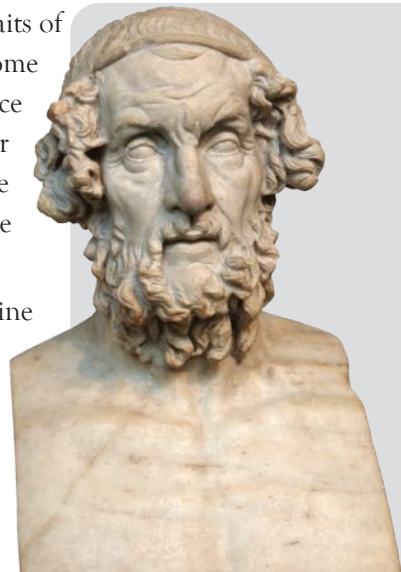
In the second millennium B.C.E., the inhabitants of Greece organized themselves into polities—city states—of some sophistication. This is known as the Mycenaean culture, after the location in Greece of the most complete ruin. They developed an alphabet and a system of writing, known as Linear B. Besides some buildings, most of what survived has been found in graves of royal personages, including many elaborately worked items of gold jewelry and death masks.

Though their cities were widely scattered through the Greek peninsula, the surrounding islands, and the shores of what is now Turkey, the Greeks developed a shared identity and a common culture. Toward the beginning of the twelfth century B.C.E., they made common cause in a war against the city of Troy and its allies. If we can believe the oral tradition that Homer and other sources recorded, the conflict involved the entire northeastern Mediterranean and lasted for a decade before it ended with the destruction of Troy.

Homer's story of the Trojan War, the *Iliad*, and of the return home from the war of Odysseus and his men, the *Odyssey*, are two of the greatest pieces of literature ever composed. The ancients themselves recognized the enormity of the achievement, and busts of Homer were common in the ancient world. All we know about Homer the man is that he was blind. The busts of him are probably idealized visages sculpted generations after his demise. For the ancient Greeks and Romans, Homer's works were great classics, a status they retain today. Scenes from the *Iliad* and the *Odyssey* were often used to decorate walls and vases in ancient Greece and Rome. The martial prowess of Achilles, the cunning of Odysseus, the wisdom of Nestor, the prescience of Cassandra, and many of the other traits of the principal characters and the salient incidents of the war and voyage home resonated with the ancients and were part of the shared culture of Greece and Rome. Alexander the Great liked to portray himself as the successor to Achilles, and throughout his campaigns, he kept with him a copy of the *Iliad* which Aristotle had annotated for him; after the battle of Issus, he used a golden chest taken from the Persians to protect his *Iliad*.

To understand the colossal status of the *Iliad* and the *Odyssey*, imagine a book published today that is translated into every language, taught in every university, and read by every educated person in the year 4915!

For centuries after the Mycenaean culture was destroyed, Greece seemed to go through a dark age, until the ninth century when once again polities and culture began to flourish.



The Word Within the Word • Analogies #1

1. **ANTEBELLUM : BELLIGERENCY ::**
 - a. antiaircraft : aircraft
 - b. nonstop : continuous
 - c. cause : effect
 - d. morning : afternoon
2. **INTERSTELLAR : STELLAR ::**
 - a. submarine : marine
 - b. interstate : intrastate
 - c. mortar : bricks
 - d. intracellular : cell
3. **SUPERFLUOUS : INADEQUATE ::**
 - a. excess : insufficiency
 - b. malevolence : benevolence
 - c. superior : mediocre
 - d. euphony : cacophony
4. **SUPERCILIOUS : IDOLIZING ::**
 - a. depression : euphoria
 - b. condescension : admiration
 - c. synthesis : antithesis
 - d. zenith : nadir
5. **CIRCUMVENT : COMPLY ::**
 - a. noncooperation : complaisance
 - b. superior : subordinate
 - c. preposition : position
 - d. circumnavigate : navigate
6. **ANCESTRY : POSTERITY ::**
 - a. eohippus : horse
 - b. intracranial : cranial
 - c. anteroom : gazebo
 - d. syncline : anticline
7. **ANTECEDENT : PRECEDENT ::**
 - a. grammar : law
 - b. circumlocution : equivocation
 - c. malaprop : malevolence
 - d. inspection : introspection
8. **PRENATAL : POSTHUMOUS ::**
 - a. bilateral : unilateral
 - b. pathogen : syndrome
 - c. intravenous : vein
 - d. subterfuge : evasion
9. **BIPED : BICYCLE ::**
 - a. rectangle : tetragon
 - b. binary : unitary
 - c. biceps : triceps
 - d. quadruped : automobile
10. **CIRCUMSPECT : RECKLESS ::**
 - a. circumlocution : equivocation
 - b. conjunction : disjunction
 - c. supercilious : despicable
 - d. homophone : homonym



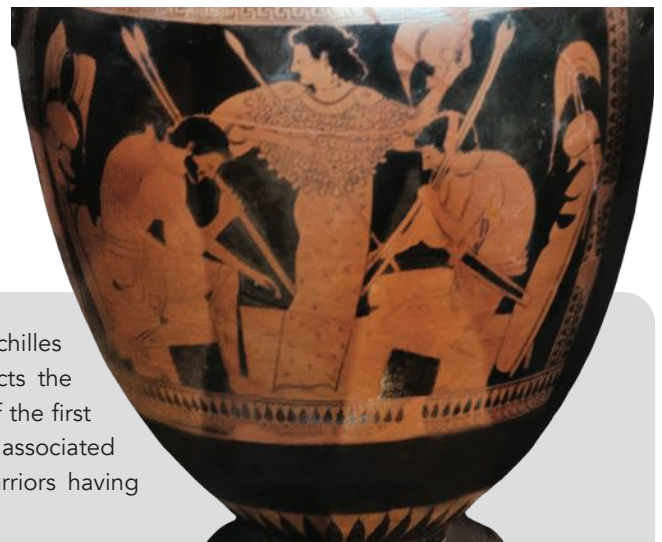
Achilles and Ajax are depicted playing a board game on a vase made in Athens about 520 B.C.E. The Trojan War was a common theme of Greek art and was used to emphasize a common Hellenic identity far more important than the rivalries and battles and wars that separated one polity from another. The Hellenic identity became even more important in the face of the threat of Persian invasion because it emphasized Greek unity against an enemy from the other side of the Hellespont. Note the pointed beards on the faces of the players on the Athenian vase; Achilles and Ajax are depicted in the fashion of fifth- and sixth-century Athenians. This vase was made at a time when Athenian potters and ceramic painters were eclipsing most of their rivals in the quality and sophistication of their output. Athenian potters used both the black-figure style on this page and in about 530 B.C.E. developed the red-figure style seen on page 9.

The Word Within the Word • Notes #1

1. The interior of a word often contains a striking image that only a person who knows the meaning of the stems will enjoy. In the case of **circumspect**, which means cautious, we see the cautious person looking (*spec*) around (*circum*) for signs of danger.
2. Many other *spec* words contain memorable images. The **introspective** person is not merely thoughtful but is looking inside himself. And we **respect** a person when something that person does causes us to look at him again in a new way.
3. Some words offer moments of humor. The person who **equivocates** is deliberately ambiguous, but we see in the word an image of someone having problems with his mouth as he attempts to give equal (*equi*) voice (*voc*) to both sides of an issue!
4. Depending upon how it is used, **introvert** contains an unsettling, sad image. The *intro* (into) *vert* (turn) is turned into himself—his back to the beautiful, unnoticed world.
5. Even familiar words take on new light at times. Why is a **preposition** called a preposition? Because of its position—it always (almost) comes at the beginning of a prepositional phrase. It occupies the *pre* position.
6. The word **posthumous**, as in posthumous award, contains a portrait of tragedy. A posthumous award is only granted after (*post*) its recipient has been buried in the ground (*humus*).
7. The foolishness of a too-talkative person's excessive questions and comments is wittily described by the word **superfluous**. The talker has provided all of the comments that can be contained, and now the comments begin to over (*super*) flow (*flu*).
8. Can a word help to sharpen one's senses? The beauty of a **symphony** arises largely from just what the word *symphony* emphasizes: the musicians play their instruments in unison so that the sounds (*phon*) rise together (*sym*).
9. **Spanish Cognates:** One of the most important observations to gain from the study of the etymology of English vocabulary is that English and Spanish share thousands of words that are cognates—related words—that have common origins. Often, the English and the Spanish words share not only a stem but even more than one stem, and often in the same order. As examples, here are some English words from this lesson and their Spanish cognates:

semiannual : semianual
introduce : introducir
posterity : posteridad
superior : superior
superfluous : superfluo
malicious : malicioso

This Athenian vase of about 520 B.C.E. shows the same scene of Achilles and Ajax playing a board game and was found in Italy. It reflects the spread of Greek culture through the Mediterranean in the middle of the first millennium B.C.E. The red-figure style was easier to work and was associated with a more natural representation, characterized here by the warriors having shed their helmets and armor, which are shown behind them.



The Word Within the Word • Classic Words #1

In each case below, one of the choices was really the word used by the author in the sentence provided. All of the choices can be found in the example words on the first page of this lesson. Your challenge is to decide which word the author used. This is not a test; it is more like a game because more than one word choice may work perfectly well. See if you can use your sensitivity and intuition to guess correctly which word the author used. You may need a dictionary.

1. **From F. Scott Fitzgerald's *The Great Gatsby***

The _____ assumption was that on Sunday afternoon I had nothing better to do.

- a. commensurate
- b. supercilious
- c. introverted
- d. symbiotic

2. **From Herman Melville's *Moby Dick***

He was _____, evincing a confusion.

- a. equivocal
- b. circumspect
- c. equitable
- d. nonplussed

3. **From James Joyce's *A Portrait of the Artist as a Young Man***

His life had grown to be a tissue of _____ and falsehood.

- a. subterfuge
- b. antithesis
- c. nonchalance
- d. introversion

4. **From Harper Lee's *To Kill a Mockingbird***

Inside the house lived a _____ phantom.

- a. subordinate
- b. superfluous
- c. malevolent
- d. dissonant

5. **From Eudora Welty's *One Writer's Beginnings***

I found my own _____ way into becoming part of it.

- a. introspective
- b. synthetic
- c. untenable
- d. posthumous

The Word Within the Word • List #9

path	<i>(feeling)</i>	sympathy, pathetic, pathos, telepathy, empathy, apathy, idiopathy	Greek
a-	<i>(not)</i>	amoral, amorphous, atheist, apathy, agraphia, apolitical, aphasia, achromatic	Greek
nomy	<i>(law)</i>	astronomy, economy, Deuteronomy, taxonomy, heteronomy, nomothetic	Greek
fid	<i>(faith)</i>	infidel, fidelity, confidence, diffident, bona fide, fiduciary, perfidy	Latin
caco	<i>(bad)</i>	cacophony, cacography, cacodemon, cacoëthes, cacodyl, cacology	Greek
hetero	<i>(different)</i>	heterodox, heteromorphic, heterogeneous, heterosexual, heteronym	Greek
sci	<i>(know)</i>	science, conscience, prescience, omniscience, scientism, sciolist	Latin
graph	<i>(write)</i>	bibliography, photograph, autograph, polygraph, stenography	Greek
lat	<i>(side)</i>	bilateral, unilateral, lateral fin, multilateral, collateral, latitude	Latin
lith	<i>(rock)</i>	neolithic, paleolithic, lithograph, megalith, monolith, lithium, laccolith	Greek
tract	<i>(pull)</i>	tractor, detract, retraction, attractive, protractor, contract, traction	Latin
in	<i>(in or not)</i>	inscribe, insane, infidel, indefinite, incorrigible, insomnia	Latin
co	<i>(together)</i>	cooperate, coordinating, coterminous, colloquy, coauthor, cotangent	Latin
phile	<i>(love)</i>	philosopher, audiophile, bibliophile, philologist, philanthropy	Greek
ine	<i>(nature of)</i>	porcine, crystalline, saturnine, canine, ursine, vulpine, bovine	Greek
-ar	<i>(relating to)</i>	pulsar, stellar, lunar, solar, secular, columnar, linear, circular	Latin
hexa	<i>(six)</i>	hexagram, hexagon, hexapod, hexameter, hexahedron, hexarchy	Greek
fract	<i>(break)</i>	fracture, infraction, fraction, refraction, refractory, fractious	Latin
platy	<i>(flat)</i>	plateau, platyhelminthes, platypus, plate, platitude, platyrrhine	Greek
theo	<i>(god)</i>	theology, pantheism, atheism, monotheism, apotheosis, henotheism	Greek
fin	<i>(end)</i>	final, define, infinite, finial, finis, Finisterre, infinitive, fin de siecle	Latin
hedron	<i>(sided object)</i>	polyhedron, tetrahedron, heptahedron, octahedron, icosahedron	Greek
ambul	<i>(walk)</i>	ambulatory, somnambulism, funambulist, ambulance, perambulate	Latin
ous	<i>(full of)</i>	luminous, glorious, loquacious, vivacious, garrulous, anomalous, zealous	Latin
topo	<i>(place)</i>	topographical, topology, topic, topiary, toponym, topognosia	Greek

pro

forward • before • for

The Latin stem **pro**, which we usually define as meaning *forward*, actually can mean *before* or *for*. Furthermore, there is also a Greek stem **pro** that means *before*. Here are some of the interesting words that contain **pro** in its various shades of meaning:

procumbent:	lying face-down. They took a procumbent position in the tall grass.
progeny:	offspring. The father's physiognomy was written on the faces of his progeny.
profuse:	generous. There was something suspicious about his profuse apology.
prognathous:	projecting in the jaw. The prognathous jaw gave him a vaguely equine visage.
prolepsis:	anticipating. In brilliant prolepsis, she refuted his case before he even made it.
prolocutor:	a spokesperson. A green prolocutor stepped forth from the alien craft.
propitiate:	to appease. Achilles sacrificed an ox to propitiate the sensitive gods.
propagate:	to breed. Many species were unable to propagate in the deforested area.
pro rata:	proportionate. The spoils were divided on a <i>pro rata</i> basis.
propound:	to propose. Frederick Douglass propounded a series of antislavery policies.
proselyte:	a convert. The cult's proselytes were oblivious to the ominous implications.
protuberant:	bulging. The children's protuberant stomachs revealed the pain of the famine.
provident:	showing foresight. Their provident labor gave them ample food for the winter.
prospect:	a vista. From the hilltop, Hannibal had a prospect of the Roman army.
pronominal:	of a pronoun. Demonstrative adjectives have a pronominal function.
propaedeutic:	elementary instruction. The table of basic facts had propaedeutic value only.
pro patria:	for one's country. He regarded his career as a <i>pro patria</i> obligation.
prologue:	introductory remarks. The play begins with a prologue by the protagonist.
procryptic:	having protective coloration. The moth's bark-shade was a procryptic effect.
proboscis:	a trunk. Cyrano's proboscis reminded Christian of an elephant's trunk.
prodigy:	a genius. The young chess prodigy's combinations crushed the grandmaster.

1. The **pathetic** child received **sympathy**.
2. The unexpected **anomaly** was **amorphous** in shape and **atypical** in structure.
3. What is the difference between **astronomy** and **agronomy**?
4. Does a **diffident** person have self-**confidence**?
5. If **cacophony** hurts the ear, what sense organ does **cacography** hurt?
6. The **heterogeneous** mixture of odd substances had a noisome odor.
7. If **science** could give us **prescience**, would it be a good idea to know the future?
8. Would you like a **photograph** of my **autograph**?
9. Is this treaty **bilateral** or **multilateral**?
10. Did the **Neolithic** age come before the **Paleolithic** age?
11. The shiny red **tractor** **attracted** many buyers.
12. Please **inscribe** something **insane** in my yearbook.
13. He refused to **cooperate** with the **copilot**.
14. My friend, the **audiophile**, has a wonderful collection of recordings.
15. The **crystalline** substance began to evaporate.
16. The **lunar** surface is bombarded by **solar** rays.
17. What is the difference between a **hexagram** and a **hexagon**?
18. It's an **infraction** of the rules to **fracture** someone's nose.
19. The **platypus** has a **plate**-like bill.
20. The Greek **pantheon** of gods was not a **monotheistic** religious system.
21. Is outer space **infinite** or **finite**?
22. Is a **tetrahedron** a cube or a pyramid?
23. Can an **ambulatory** hospital patient **somnambulate** without waking up?
24. The **luminous** moonlight was **glorious** to behold.
25. The **topography** of the region was a fascinating **topic**.

synthesis

1. Can you find two example words in List #9 that have the same or closely related meanings? See if you can find five pairs of related terms.
2. Can you find five adjectives in List #9 that could be used to describe the same person, place, or thing? List the adjectives, and tell what they describe.

divergence

1. How many gods can you name from the Greek **pantheon**? Can you recall what each god was known for? Now, what powers can you think of that none of the gods in the pantheon had? List as many missing powers as possible.
2. Can you think of ten humorous causes of **insomnia**? More than ten?

analysis

1. Think about the word **topognosia**, and try to guess its meaning. Then look it up in an unabridged dictionary, and see how close your guess is.
2. What is the difference between a **lithograph** and a **petroglyph**? You may need a dictionary to solve this one.

evaluation

1. Which person has a richer, more fulfilling life: a **bibliophile** or an **audiophile**? Even though there can be no absolute answer to such a question, can you give an answer that seems probable to you? How would you even begin to think about such a question?
2. Do you think it is moral, **amoral**, or immoral for a corporation to require its employees to take a **polygraph** test?

intuition

1. Where would you choose to **amble** or **perambulate** if you could be instantly transported to the location of your choice?
2. What would be a creative way to cure **insomnia**?



These are the remains of the stadium at Delphi, where the Pythian games were held every four years.



This small statuette of a girl involved in athletics is quintessentially Spartan. Physical fitness was emphasized in Sparta for girls and young women. Spartan women had the reputation of being the most beautiful in all of Greece and also of being the most independent in their actions and affections. Helen of Troy was a Spartan woman, and her example and legacy were not lost on later Spartan women.

In the seventh and sixth centuries B.C.E., the Spartans made many statues and a good deal of pottery. This was the work of the *Perioeci*, the free people who lived in Spartan territory but who were not full Spartan citizens. These statues would not have been made if the Spartans had not wanted them to be. While some statuary exists from the early fifth century, little was made after the middle of the century.

SPARTAN LIFE

Dr. Thomas Milton Kemnitz

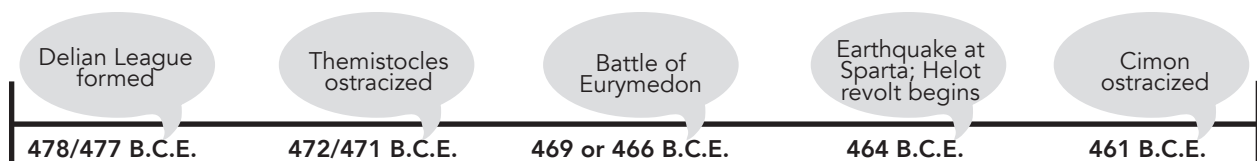
It is possible to focus on the physical hardships of Spartan education to the exclusion of other areas. Apparently poetry, dance, music, song, and philosophy were an integral and abundant part of it. Spartan children were taught to express themselves tersely and thoughtfully. They were trained to think of the common good. Girls were educated also; their curricula included physical fitness as well as literature and the arts. There were games and athletic contests for girls, just as there were for young men. Women were considered an important part of Sparta, and they had more freedom and were better educated than women anywhere else in Greece.

The governance of Sparta gave each man a sense that he had a voice in the community. All Spartan men older than thirty had a vote in the Assembly. The Assembly chose a senate whose members were at least sixty years old and who were elected for life. The senate put forward laws for the Assembly to pass or reject. Each year the Assembly elected five *ephors* (overseers) who presided over the senate and Assembly and put forward legislation about education and moral conduct. A Spartan became an *ephor* only for a year and only once in his life; relatively young men could be elected as *ephors*. Sparta had two kings who ruled simultaneously; the kings of Sparta were primarily military leaders; policy was largely decided by the senate and *ephors*.

Only citizens became soldiers, and only they were able to vote in the Assembly; they were the ones who could trace their families back to the original Spartans. Below them were a class of freemen called *Perioeci* who were not citizens but who functioned as merchants and who organized commercial life. Below them were the *Helots*, the serfs, most of whom were Greeks who were the descendants of people who lived in the Messina valley to the west of Sparta and who had been enslaved when the Spartans took their territory.

There were many more Helots than citizens in the Spartan state. The problem for the Spartans was keeping the Helots from revolting. In 464 B.C.E. a major earthquake provided the opportunity for a Helot revolt. Sparta had to seek assistance from other Greek cities to put it down. Each autumn the *ephors* declared war on the Helots, a legal shield to allow for the killing of them by *cryptes*, an elite group of boys who had reached eighteen years of age. The *cryptes* were given a knife and sent out into the countryside with instructions to steal the food they needed, to spy on the Helot population, and to kill any Helot out after dark or who seemed likely to rebel.

The Spartans were reluctant to go to war for long for fear of a Helot uprising, and they devised various strategies for eliminating potential Helot leaders. Thucydides tells of an event in 425 B.C.E. when the Helots were invited by a proclamation to select those of their number who had most distinguished themselves so that they might receive their freedom, the object being to identify the first to claim their freedom because the Spartans believed they would be the most likely to rebel. About 2,000 Helots were selected, allowed to rejoice in their new freedom, and then disappeared without any explanation. When they were not outright killing the Helots, the Spartans found many ways to humiliate them. One practice noted by ancient writers was to make a Helot drink unwatered wine (the Greeks added water to their wine so as not to get drunk) until he was drunk and then bring him to the mess halls to sing songs that were described as “low.” This was a means the Spartans used to engender in their youth an abhorrence of drunkenness, as well as a way of demeaning the Helots.



1. **PERFIDY : FIDELITY ::**
 - a. luminous : luminary
 - b. loquacious : garrulous
 - c. cacophony : euphony
 - d. funambulist : somnambulist
2. **HEXAEDRON : HEXAGON ::**
 - a. triangle : pyramid
 - b. polyhedron : cube
 - c. topology : topognosia
 - d. cube : square
3. **VULPINE : PORCINE ::**
 - a. clever : gluttonous
 - b. fox : grapes
 - c. telegraph : photograph
 - d. ignominious : glorious
4. **SATURNINE : VIVACIOUS ::**
 - a. calligraphy : cacography
 - b. apathy : empathy
 - c. bibliophile : audiophile
 - d. pantheism : henotheism
5. **OMNISCIENCE : PRESCIENCE ::**
 - a. pantheism : monotheism
 - b. multilateral : prelude
 - c. omnivorous : anteroom
 - d. all-knowing : foreknowledge
6. **CRYSTALLINE : AMORPHOUS ::**
 - a. octahedron : tetrahedron
 - b. topology : topiarist
 - c. polyhedron : polygon
 - d. glorious : ignominious
7. **INFIDEL : MONOTHEIST ::**
 - a. diffident : confident
 - b. telepathy : empathy
 - c. multilateral : unilateral
 - d. detract : retract
8. **PLATYHELMINTH : PLATYPUS ::**
 - a. plateau : platitude
 - b. worm : marsupial
 - c. mammal : science
 - d. crystalline : canine
9. **COLLOQUY : LOQUACIOUS ::**
 - a. somnambulism : ambulatory
 - b. plateau : flat
 - c. octahedron : eight
 - d. toponym : noun
10. **HETERODOX : ORTHODOX ::**
 - a. vivacious : zealous
 - b. divergence : adherence
 - c. infraction : refractory
 - d. conscience : omniscience

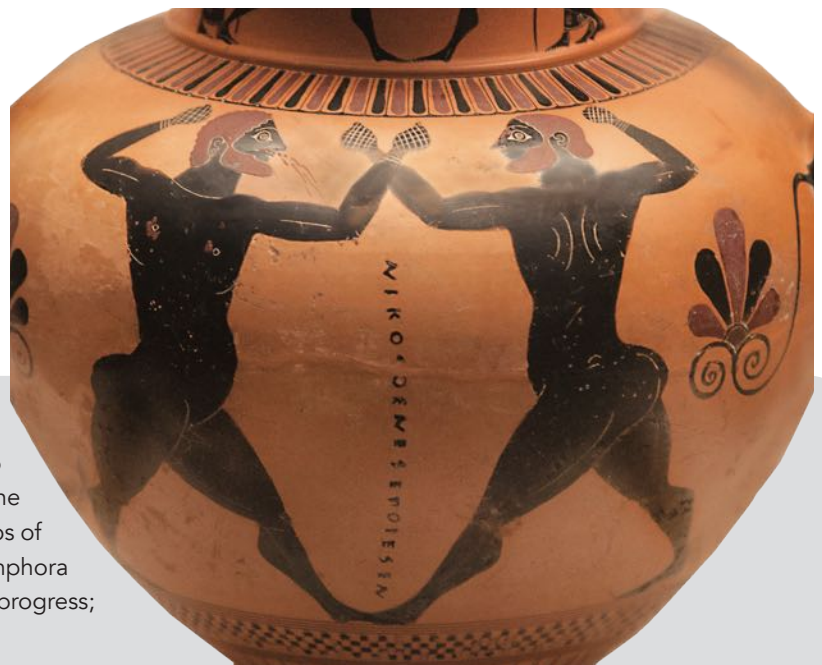


These are jumping weights, which Greek athletes used in the long jump. Unlike the running start in the current event, the Greeks must have jumped from a standing start. The weights were used to give the jumper added momentum. There is some speculation that the athletes made a series of jumps—perhaps five—to see who got the farthest. If

that is the case, the weights would have provided not only momentum but also an aid to balance. Many sets of the weights have been found, varying between three and five pounds. The weights were made differently for the left and right hands.

1. We sometimes say that terms like *a lot* are **colloquial**, meaning that they are conversational—too informal to be used in a formal research paper. What does *colloquial* literally mean? It refers to the sort of language you use when you talk (*loqu*) together (*co*).
2. A **Micropoem**: If a **platypus** is a flat-billed critter, what is a **platitude**? It is a flat remark, one that is stale and uninteresting, trite. A platitude is a FLATitude! The ironic point about platitudes is that they are usually uttered as though they were novel and witty. Ho hum.
3. Everyone knows that **polygraph** is the scientific name of the lie detector test. But why is the lie detector test known as the polygraph, since *poly* means many and *graph* means write or record? The answer is that the polygraph is an instrument that makes a record of many different things simultaneously as the subject answers questions. The polygraph records changes in blood pressure, pulse rate, respiration, and other factors.
4. A person who is **saturnine** is a person with a personality in the nature of (*ine*) the planet Saturn. Saturn is distant, cold, dark, and cloudy. You wouldn't like it there, and a saturn-like person is not much fun to be around either.
5. Like animal crackers, animal adjectives are small but tasty. With animal adjectives you can describe a huge man as **ursine** (bearlike), a gobbling eater as **canine** (doglike), a messy slob as **porcine** (piglike), or a person with long, protruding jaws as **equine** (horselike). A crafty person could be **vulpine** (foxlike), and a predatory person might be **lupine** (wolflike). Although these adjectives have wonderful impact, they can be cruel, so it is best to use them with care.
6. **Spanish Cognates**: One of the most important observations to gain from the study of the etymology of English vocabulary is that English and Spanish share thousands of words that are cognates—related words—that have common origins. Often, the English and the Spanish words share not only a stem but even more than one stem, and often in the same order. As examples, here are some English words from this lesson and their Spanish cognates:

apathy : apatía
perfidy : perfidia
cacophony : cacofonía
omniscient : omniciente
incorrigible : incorregible
fracture : fractura
monotheism : monoteísmo
somniaambulism : sonambulismo
topographical : topográfico



Boxing was a Greek sport often depicted on vases. Prowess in boxing was valued for its relationship to hand-to-hand combat, as well as for the ability of the individual victor in the *agonia*. The Greeks used strips of leather to make boxing gloves. This black-figure amphora made in Athens about 550 B.C.E. shows a match in progress; the boxer on the left is bleeding from his nose.

In each case below, one of the choices was really the word used by the author in the sentence provided. All of the choices can be found in the example words on the first page of this lesson. Your challenge is to decide which word the author used. This is not a test; it is more like a game because more than one word choice may work perfectly well. See if you can use your sensitivity and intuition to guess correctly which word the author used. You may need a dictionary.

1. **From Rachel Carson's *Silent Spring***

The budworm populations, instead of dwindling as expected, have proved _____.

- a. refractory
- b. incorrigible
- c. vulpine
- d. saturnine

2. **From Bram Stoker's *Dracula***

It was that his cast of face made his smile look malignant and _____.

- a. loquacious
- b. garrulous
- c. saturnine
- d. diffident

3. **From E.L. Doctorow's *Ragtime***

He had the _____ of the amateur before the professional.

- a. omniscience
- b. diffidence
- c. insomnia
- d. somnambulism

4. **From Jack London's *White Fang***

In San Quentin prison he had proved _____.

- a. anomalous
- b. vivacious
- c. multilateral
- d. incorrigible

5. **From Toni Morrison's *Song of Solomon***

She was as tranquil as he was agitated, as monosyllabic as he was _____.

- a. garrulous
- b. heterodox
- c. prescient
- d. fractious