Word Roots B2 Introduction

## How to Do the Activities

The worksheets help the student to meet the following objectives: given Greek and Latin elements and their definitions, the student will:

- 1. Identify these elements in English words.
- 2. Match each given word to its correct meaning.
- 3. Select the correct word to complete an unfinished sentence.

## **Identifying the Elements**

The information below will help the student identify the word elements (Objective 1 above).

• A word can have more than one root, as shown below. Each root is circled.

$$hier + arch = (hier)(arch)$$

• Often, when a word ends with a root, an *e* is added to the end of the root.

$$pro + trud = \underline{pro(trude)}$$

• Sometimes similar letters are dropped when elements are combined. The student should use overlapping circles to identify roots when two roots share letters.

• In some English words, connecting vowels and/or consonants are used to join word parts.

$$turb + ul + ence = (turb)ulence$$
  $tum + ult + uous = (turb)ultuous$ 

• A combining form of a root, such as *eu*, is used as a prefix in English words.

$$eu + phoria = \underbrace{euphonia}_{}$$

• In some English words, connecting vowels may have to be dropped before joining word parts.

\*Variations in spelling of roots are given when necessary. For example, some words include the root as *peps*, some as *pept*. The form of the root shown depends on the words used. When both or all forms are used, the root is listed with its alternatives. In some instances, an *s* is added to a suffix ending because the word is typically used in the plural form. For example, *repercussions*: the effects, often indirect or remote, of some event or action.

## **Completing the Exercises**

Each worksheet is labelled with the focus elements for that page (see next page). Each word in Column A includes at least one of the focus elements. A 3-column box lists the word elements used on the page and their definitions. A prefix *ends* with a hyphen (-) indicating that text follows; a suffix *begins* with a hyphen indicating that text precedes it. The combining forms, labelled with an asterisk, are original Greek or Latin roots that are commonly used in English words as prefixes.

The student should do each worksheet as instructed below:

1. Study the meanings of the prefixes, roots, and suffixes given.

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## STUDENT INTRODUCTION

#### **Latin and Greek Elements**

A **root** is the element that gives the basic meaning of the word. In this book, the term *root* refers to the original Greek or Latin\* word. An English word may have two or more roots in it. Identifying these roots can help you to define a word you don't know.

A **prefix** is an element that is added to the beginning of a word. The prefix adds to or alters the meaning of the basic word. For example, the prefix *in* means in, into. The root *flux* means flowing.

$$in + flux = influx$$

the arrival of a large number of people or things

The prefix re means back, again.

$$re + flux = reflux$$

a backward flow

'A **suffix** is an element added to the end of a word. The suffix can define the word grammatically, giving some indication as to the part of speech a word is.

Root: *magn* = great, large

Suffixes: ate (one who), fy (to do, to make), tude (state, quality, act)

magn + ate = magnate

a person of high rank, power, influence, etc. in a specific field (noun)

magn + ify = magnify

to increase in size; enlarge (verb)

magn + itude = magnitude

greatness of size, volume, or extent (noun)

## Identifying the Elements in a Word

• A word can have more than one root, as shown below. Each root is circled.

• Often, when a word ends with a root, an *e* is added to the end of the root.

• Sometimes similar letters are dropped when elements are combined. The student should use overlapping circles to identify roots when two roots share letters.

• In some English words, connecting vowels and/or consonants are used to join word parts.

$$turb + ul + ence =$$

$$tum + ult + uous =$$

• A combining form of a root, such as *eu*, is used as a prefix in English words.

• English words may vary in meaning from the original Latin or Greek root word. In this upper level book, the student may find it necessary to use dictionaries, online resources, or other reference materials in order to determine the meaning of some words.

\* Variations in spelling of roots are indicated on the chart with a slash. The root used will depend on the word.

PREFIX	ROOT	SUFFIX
	peps/ digest pept	

# FOCUS: agon (G); culp (L)

	PREFIX		ROOT	SUFFIX	
ant- ex- in-	against, opposite out, away, from in, into	agon culp proto*	struggle fault, blame first, ahead	-able -ate -ic -ist -y	able to be to make, to act like, relating to one who state, quality, act
		*con	nbining form		

**DIRECTIONS:** In Column A, identify the parts of each word by circling roots and then underlining prefixes and suffixes. Match each word to its correct meaning from Column B.

- 1. exculpate \_\_\_\_
- 2. agony
- 3. culpable
- 4. protagonist
- 5. antagonistic \_\_\_\_\_
- **6.** inculpate \_

#### **COLUMN B**

- a. key figure in a contest or dispute; main character in a novel
- b. contending with or opposing another; adversarial
- c. to incriminate; to blame
- d. deserving blame
- e. an intense feeling of suffering
- f. to clear from alleged fault or guilt; to free from blame

**DIRECTIONS:** Choose the best word from Column A for each sentence. Use each word only once.

- **1.** His suspicious behavior tended to \_\_\_\_\_ him.
- **2.** The attorney berated and was \_\_\_\_\_\_ toward the witnesses.
- **3.** Despite the from his shattered ankle, the athlete kept running.
- **4.** Alex was confident that after the investigation, the court would \_\_\_\_\_ him of all charges.
- **5.** The novel's was characterized with the virtues of a classical hero.
- **6.** The property owner was found guilty of \_\_\_\_\_\_ negligence in the accident involving an uncovered manhole.

Word Roots B2 Dictionary

capable of being burned

**infelicitous** [ĭn-fə-lĭs´ĭ-təs] unsuitable; inappropriate

**insomniac** [ĭn-sŏm´nē-ăk] person who is unable to sleep

**insurgent** [ĭn-sür jənt] person involved in a rebellion against a constituted authority **insurrection** [ĭn-sə-rĕk shən] a rising up against established authority

inter- Latin — between

**intermediary** [ĭn-tər-mẽ dē-er-ē] negotiator who acts as a link between parties

intermediate [ĭn-tər-mē dē-ĭt] being or happening between two other related things, levels, or points

iso- Greek — equal

**isobaric** [ī-sə-bär´ĭk] showing equal pressure

meta- Latin — beyond, change

metamorphosis [mět-ə-môr´fə-sĭs] a complete change of character, appearance, condition, etc.

metaphysics [mět-ə-fĭz´ĭks] a branch of philosophy dealing with what is beyond the physical or the experiential

**non-** Latin — not

**non sequitur** [nŏn-sĕk wĭ-tŏor] a remark having no bearing on what has just been said

**ob-** Latin — to, toward, for **obsequious** [ŏb-se´kwē-əs] overly eager to please or obey

op- Latin — against

**opponent** [ə-pō' nənt] one who takes an opposite position; rival

par- (para-) Greek — beside, variation

paradox [păr´ə-dŏks] a statement, situation, etc. that seems absurd or contradictory, but is or may be true paroxysm [păr-ək´sĭz-əm] a sudden and uncontrollable expression of emotion

**per-** Latin — through, by, very

percussion [pər-kŭsh´ən] the group of instruments that produces sound by being struck, as drums, cymbals, and tambourines peroxide [pə-rŏk´sīd] an oxide containing a relatively high proportion of oxygen persecute [pûr´sə-kyoot] to oppress; to pester continually

**perturb** [pər-tûrb] to disturb greatly; to upset

repercussion [rē-pər-kŭsh´ən] the effects, often indirect or remote, of some event or action

**post-** Latin — after

postpone [pōst-pōn´] to put something off until a later time; delay postponement [pōst-pōn´mənt] the act of putting something off to a future time post-traumatic [pōst´trə-măt´ĭk] occurring as a result of or after injury

pre- Latin — before, in front of
 precinct [pre singkt] a part of a territory
 with definite bounds

pro- Latin — for, before, forward

**proponent** [prō-pō' nənt] one who argues in favor of something; advocate **prosecute** [prŏs' ə-kyōot] to take legal action and bring someone before a court

### (protagonist moved to root word section)

**protrude** [prō-trood'] to bulge or extend forward **protrusive** [prō-troo'sĭv] jutting or

re- Latin — back, again

thrusting forward

**recant** [rē-kănt'] to withdraw something previously said

reflux [refluks] a backward flow repatriation [re-pa-tre-ashan] the act of returning to one's country of origin repercussions [re-par-kush ans] the effects, often indirect or remote, of some event or action

resurgence [rē-sür' jəns] a rising again into life, activity, prominence

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appease

**placebo** [plə-sē´bō] something done or said simply to reassure

placid [plăs´id] calm in nature; tranquil
placidity [plə-sĭd´ĭ-tē] the quality or
feeling of being calm or composed

platy [combining form] Greek — flat, broad

**platyhelminth** [plăt-ē-hěl' mĭnth] parasitic or free-living worms having a flattened body

**platypus** [plăt´ĭ-pəs] an aquatic animal with a broad, flat bill

**platyrrhine** [plăt'ĭ-rīn] characterized by a broad, flat nose

pod (pus) Greek — foot

**branchiopod** [brăng kē-ə-pŏd] aquatic crustacean with gills on feet

**poly** [combining form] Greek — many

**polyglot** [pŏľē-glŏt] a person who speaks several different languages

pon Latin — place, put

**component** [kəm-pō'nənt] a part of something larger

**exponential** [ĕk-spō-nĕn´shəl] characterized by an extremely rapid increase

**opponent** [ə-pō´nənt] one who takes an opposite position; rival

**postpone** [pōst-pōn´] to put something off until a later time; delay

**postponement** [pōst-pōn´mənt] the act of putting something off to a future time **proponent** [prō-pō´nənt] one who argues in favor of something; advocate

proto [combining form] Greek — first, ahead

**protagonist** [prō-tăg´ə-nĭst] key figure in a contest or dispute; main character in a novel

pter Greek — feather

**apterygial** [ăp-tə-rĭj´ē-əl] belonging to the group of animals without paired wings, fins, or limbs

**brachypterous** [bră-kĭp´tər-əs] short winged

pterodactyl [těr-ə-dăk' təl] wingedfingered, prehistoric flying reptile pteridology [těr-ĭ-dŏl' ə-jē] the branch of botany that studies ferns pterosaur [těr' ə-sôr] extinct flying reptile

**pterygoid** [těr´ə-goid] like a bird's wing in form or limbs

pur (purg) Latin — clean

**purity** [pyoor´i-te] the quality or state of being clean

purg (pur) Latin — clean

expurgate [ĕks´pər-gāt] to edit, to censor

purge [pûrj] to cleanse or clear

pus (pod) Greek — foot

**platypus** [plăt'ĭ-pəs] an aquatic animal with a broad, flat bill

pyr (pyret) Greek — fever

pyrometallurgy [pī-rō-mĕt'l-ûr-jē] chemical metallurgy that depends on heat action

pyrogenic [pī-rō-jeň ĭk] fever-inducing

pyret (pyr) Greek — fever

antipyretic [ăn-tē-pĭ-rĕf ĭk] drug that relieves or reduces fever apyretic [ā-pī-rĕf ĭk] without fever pyretotherapy [pīr-ĭ-tō-thĕr ə-pē] fever therapy pyretotyphosis [pĭ-rə-tō-tĭ fō-sĭs] the delirium of fever

rhin Greek — nose

**platyrrhine** [plăt ĭ-rīn] characterized by a broad, flat nose

sarc Greek — flesh

sarcophagus [sär-kŏf´ə-gəs] an ornamental stone coffin used to decompose the flesh of the corpse within

saur Greek — lizard

ichthyosaur [ĭk´thē-ə-sôr] an extinct variety of fishlike marine reptiles of the Mesozoic period