Sort 20  Latin Roots: To Look, Carry, and Shape (spect, port, form)

Generalization: spect means “to look at”; port, “to carry”; and form, “shape.”

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<th>spect</th>
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Explore Meaning: Wait until after sorting to talk about the meanings of words students may not know. Have a dictionary and your chart of prefixes and affixes handy to aid in the discussion of meaning.

Sorting and Discussion:

1. Introduce this lesson by showing the words and asking, What do you notice about these words? What do you have left when you take off prefixes and suffixes? (roots) Explain, In our previous sort, we learned about the Latin roots dict, aud, and vis. We’re going to be looking at three more important Latin roots in the words in this lesson.

2. Introduce the headers and say, Let’s look for these roots in the words and sort under the headers. Sort as a group, or have students sort independently.

3. After sorting, examine the words under each header. Say, Let’s read down the words in this column and see if you can get an idea of what the element spect might mean. Talk with a partner. Any ideas? Prompt with, What is a spectator? (someone who looks) What are spectacles? (something you use to look with) Let’s try using “look” to define other words such as inspection. (Students might define it as looking at something carefully.)

4. Say, Let’s look at the words you’ve sorted under port. Any ideas about what the root port might mean? Get students’ ideas, and then explain as needed. The Latin root port means to “carry”—if something is portable, we are “able to carry” it. We’ll learn more about the prefix ex- later, but it usually means “out.” So, if we export goods to another country, what does it mean? (carry out) What does it mean when we import goods? (carry in) Explain, We will learn later that the prefix im- can mean the same as in-. What does a reporter do? (Re- means “back” so to carry something back, such as news.)

5. Now let’s look at the words under form. What common meaning do these words have? We’re very familiar with the word form, but it comes from Latin and will usually have the meaning of “shape” in the words in which it occurs. Can we use shape or form to define these words? (Transform means to change shape; conform means to shape with, and so on.) Explain, We will learn later that the prefix con- is simply a different spelling of the prefix com-.

6. Begin the reflection by saying, What did you learn from this sort? How can this help you as a reader when you encounter new words? What is the meaning of the Latin roots spect, port, and form? Can you think of more words with these roots?

Extend:

Assign weekly routines, but omit the blind sort as it is not very useful. Do not assign a word hunt, but suggest that students set aside a part of their Word Study Notebook to list the words for each root and keep their eyes open for more words to add over time. Searching online dictionaries, such as Your Dictionary, with the use of an asterisk can turn up additional words (e.g., to find all words that contain the root spect, type *spect*); another excellent word and pattern search website is OneLook. Ask students to choose at least eight words that they cannot define and look up and record the definitions.

This is a good time to begin a chart of roots that you will continue to add to across many lessons to come. Students can also establish a section of their notebooks to list roots, their meaning, and examples of words.
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Greek and Latin Elements

Many English words are derived from Greek and Latin.

What is Etymology?

Etymology—the study of the origin of words (where they came from) and how their meanings have evolved (changed) throughout history.

Use www.etymonline.com, an Online Etymology Dictionary, to discover additional words related to the Greek and Latin elements being studied. This will also provide a solid definition for the element when you simply type in the word part.

Other Web Resources:

www.wordhippo.com
www.onelook.com

What is PIE?

You may see "from PIE root" when researching Greek and Latin elements. PIE stands for Proto-Indo-European. Linguists believe that all modern Indo-European languages descended from a single language called Proto-Indo-European. It was a spoken language by people who lived from 4500-2500 B.C. and left no written texts.

You can learn more at Wikipedia's Proto-Indo-European Root page.
**Greek and Latin Elements Analysis**

**Additional Words Containing Element**

- wordhippo.com: "Find Words"—type in your word element to see a list of words that contain the word part.

**Etymology**

- etymonline.com: In the search box, type in your word element; find it in the list and read about the etymology of the Greek or Latin element.

**Where to Look**

**Illustration**

- Create an illustration using as many of the words for this word element as you can or to express the element’s meaning.

**Meaning of Greek/Latin Element**

- etymonline.com: In the search box, type in your word element; find it in the list to identify the meaning of the word element.

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Latin Roots Analysis
Blue Sort 20

Additional Words Containing Prefix

Etymology

spect-

Illustration

Meaning of Greek/Latin Element
Latin Roots Analysis
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Meaning of Greek/Latin Element
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Words Their Way Word Sorts for Derivational Relations Spellers, 3rd Edition
Sort 20: Latin Roots (spect, port, form)