

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

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

<i>spect</i>	<i>port</i>	<i>form</i>
inspection	portable	formation
respect	export	format
retrospect	import	conform
spectator	transport	transform
inspector	reporter	reform
prospect	important	
spectacles		
spectacular		
perspective		

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.

SORT 20 Latin Roots (*spect, port, form*)

<i>spect</i>	<i>port</i>	<i>form</i>
inspection	portable	formation
respect	spectacle	export
retrospect	import	format
conform	spectator	transport
inspector	reporter	reform
transform	prospect	spectacular
perspective	important	

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

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

Illustration

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

Meaning of Greek/Latin Element

Latin Roots Analysis
Blue Sort 20

Additional Words
Containing Prefix

Etymology

spect-

Illustration

Meaning of
Greek/Latin Element

Latin Roots Analysis
Blue Sort 20

Additional Words
Containing Prefix

Etymology

port-

Illustration

Meaning of
Greek/Latin Element

Latin Roots Analysis
Blue Sort 20

Additional Words
Containing Prefix

Etymology

form-

Illustration

Meaning of
Greek/Latin Element

Sort 20 Word Search

Name _____

G Y R U Z V R O T A T C E P S T W H R H
N K A T R O P M I K B E Q J M E H T E P
O H L R E T R O S P E C T Q M J L K F S
K P U J R W Z Y T V Z O C P P H P B O T
N W C A M E E P T R A N S P O R T C R R
R Q A U P Q S U E N O I T A M R O F M A
P M T G K S O P Z R P Y R O K J M V T N
L M C D I X V E E I S E P B A R U N F S
B R E E F M O Y N C P P J F O P D F I F
X B P E X W P S P O T G E F Z J L S N O
W J S A X P P O R D K S N C K V V Z S R
S F W Q E E O T R H D O Q P T Z K B P M
A P H H C N E R A T C U T O T I O T E G
O X E T Q R X Z T M A P E R A B V A C Z
I V O C D K W Z R A T N Q T M D U E T D
J R L N T F R B L K K D T A R S R T I A
R F D D R A I R Y Y P U E B O W F W O I
K S M P S T C Q Q H H L A L F Z C W N R
N D U R H U L L G C R W C E R F U S T I
T L C C J F G D E P R O S P E C T V C W

conform
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