

Name: _____ Date: _____

Answer Key: Morphological Mastery: Ace Advanced Affixes for 9th Grade

Synthesize Greek and Latin morphemes to decode complex academic terminology in this high-level morphological challenge.

1. In the context of sociopolitical discourse, if a governing body is described as 'autocratic,' how does the Greek root 'cracy' combine with the prefix 'auto-' to define the power structure?

Answer: B) Power held by a single individual with absolute authority

The prefix 'auto-' means 'self' and the root 'cracy' means 'rule' or 'power.' Therefore, an autocracy is a system where one person holds all the power (self-rule).

2. A scientist studying the formation of rock layers is practicing _____, a term derived from the Latin 'stratum' (layer) and the Greek 'graphy' (process of writing or recording).

Answer: C) Stratigraphy

Stratigraphy combines 'stratum' (layer) and 'graphy' (recording/writing) to describe the branch of geology concerned with the order and relative position of strata.

3. The word 'anachronism' contains the prefix 'ana-' (against/back) and the root 'chron' (time), describing something that is out of its proper historical time period.

Answer: A) True

'Ana-' means against or backwards, and 'chron' means time; an anachronism is literally something existing against its chronological order.

4. Which of the following words uses the suffix '-ism' to denote a specific philosophical practice or belief system centered around the individual rather than the collective?

Answer: B) Solipsism

Solipsism comes from the Latin 'solus' (alone) and 'ipse' (self) plus '-ism' (belief), representing the theory that only the self exists.

5. If a speaker is known for being 'loquacious,' they are 'full of' words. If we add the prefix 'circum-' to the same root 'loqu' (to speak), the resulting word describes a person who:

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Answer: B) Uses many words to avoid speaking directly about a topic

'Circumlocution' uses 'circum' (around) and 'loqu' (speak). It refers to 'talking around' a subject rather than being direct.

6. In medical and biological terminology, what is the most likely meaning of the word 'endothermic' based on its morphemes?

Answer: C) The absorption or internal generation of heat

'Endo-' means within or internal, and 'therm' means heat. Endothermic organisms generate heat internally.

7. The suffix '-oid' in words like 'anthropoid' or 'asteroid' indicates that something has the exact same essence as the root word, rather than just a resemblance.

Answer: B) False

The suffix '-oid' actually means 'resembling' or 'like,' not a perfect identity. An asteroid is 'star-like' in appearance, and an anthropoid is 'human-like.'

8. An 'exculpatory' piece of evidence is one that 'frees from' blame. This is formed from the prefix 'ex-' (out/from) and the Latin root _____, meaning 'blame' or 'fault.'

Answer: C) Culp

The root 'culp' means blame or fault, as seen in 'culprit' and 'exculpate' (to take the blame out of/away from).

9. Synthesize your knowledge of 'phil' (love) and 'anthro' (human). Why is 'philanthropy' an appropriate term for charitable acts?

Answer: C) It literally translates to the 'love of humanity'

'Phil' means love and 'anthro' means human; philanthropy is the desire to promote the welfare of others, expressed by the generous donation of money or effort.

10. If the prefix 'per-' can mean 'through' or 'completely,' and the root 'meare' means 'to pass,' which definition best fits the word 'permeable'?

Answer: A) Allowing liquids or gases to pass through

'Per-' (through) + 'meare' (to pass) + '-able' (capable of) results in a word describing a material that allows substances to pass through it.