

Name: _____ Date: _____

Answer Key: Morphological Synthesis for 11th Grade Lexicon

Junior level students deconstruct complex etymologies and synthesize Greek and Latin morphemes to decode sophisticated academic and technical terminology.

1. In the context of sociopolitical discourse, an 'egalitarian' society is one characterized by the belief in human equality. Which Latin root provides the foundation for this concept?

Answer: A) Equi- (Equal/Even)

The root 'equi' or 'aequus' means equal. In 'egalitarian,' it reflects the philosophy that all people are inherently equal in status and rights.

2. The literary critic described the protagonist as _____, suggesting they are 'prone to excessive talking' or 'wordy.' Which word correctly uses the Latin root 'loqu'?

Answer: B) Loquacious

While all options use 'loqu' (to speak), 'loquacious' specifically functions as an adjective meaning talkative, utilizing the suffix '-acious' meaning 'tending toward.'

3. The word 'anachronism' contains the Greek root 'chron' (time) and the prefix 'ana-' (back/against), implying something is out of its proper chronological order.

Answer: A) True

True. 'Ana-' (against/back) + 'chron' (time) literally translates to 'against time,' describing an object or event that exists outside of its historical era.

4. Analyze the word 'anthropocentric.' If a scientific paper adopts this viewpoint, what is the primary focus of its study?

Answer: D) Humanity as the central fact of the universe

From the Greek 'anthropos' (human) and 'kentron' (center), an anthropocentric view interprets the world in terms of human values and experiences.

5. A legislator proposes a policy that is 'prejudicial,' meaning it shows bias before the facts are known. Identify the morpheme that indicates the 'judgment' part of this word.

Answer: B) Jud-

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The root 'jud' or 'jur' comes from the Latin 'judicium,' meaning judgment or law. 'Pre-' is the prefix meaning 'before.'

6. In the word 'immutable,' the prefix 'im-' functions as an intensifier, suggesting the object is extremely capable of change.

Answer: B) False

False. The prefix 'im-' (a variant of 'in-') acts as a negator meaning 'not.' Combined with 'mut' (change), 'immutable' means 'not capable of change.'

7. The surgeon performed a 'nephrectomy.' Using your knowledge of medical suffixes, what occurred during this procedure?

Answer: C) The surgical removal of a kidney

The root 'neph'r' refers to the kidney, and the suffix '-ectomy' always denotes surgical removal or excision.

8. A philosopher who studies 'epistemology' is primarily concerned with the nature of _____.

Answer: B) Knowledge

The Greek root 'episteme' means knowledge or understanding. Combined with '-logy' (study of), it refers to the study of the grounds of knowledge.

9. The term 'cacophony' utilizes the Greek root 'phon' (sound) and the prefix 'caco-' (harsh/bad) to describe a discordant mixture of sounds.

Answer: A) True

True. 'Caco' (bad/ill) + 'phon' (sound) refers to a harsh, unpleasant sound, often used in literature to describe sensory overload.

10. If an ideology is described as 'perfidious,' which Latin root suggests it is 'breaking faith' or 'treacherous'?

Answer: C) Fid- (Faith/Trust)

The root 'fid' (as in 'fidelity' or 'confide') means faith or trust. 'Per-' in this context implies a 'going through' or violation of that faith.