

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## Answer Key: Old Morphemes, New Meanings: 9th Grade Etymology Analysis

Can you deconstruct the complex jargon of modern law and science? This quiz uses high-level synthesis to test your ability to break down sophisticated Greek and Latin word parts.

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**1. In a legal context, an 'interLOCUtory' injunction occurs during a lawsuit. Based on the root word, what fundamental action is taking place?**

**Answer:** B) Formal speech or discussion between parties

The root 'locu' (or 'loqu') comes from the Latin 'loqui,' meaning 'to speak.' An interlocutory order is one made while the 'speaking' or legal dialogue is still ongoing.

**2. Select the prefix-root-suffix combination that describes the 'study of the soul or mind.'**

**Answer:** C) Psych-o-logy

'Psych' is the Greek root for soul/mind, and '-logy' is the suffix for 'the study of.' Together they form the academic discipline focused on mental processes.

**3. True or False: The word 'ANACHRONISM' contains a root that refers to 'humanity' or 'mankind.'**

**Answer:** B) False

False. The root in 'anachronism' is 'chron,' which means 'time.' An anachronism is something out of its proper time period, not something related to 'anthro' (humanity).

**4. If a philosopher describes a concept as 'ONTological,' they are dealing with the nature of being. Which other word shares a suffix that functions the same way as '-ical'?**

**Answer:** A) Hypothetical

Both '-ical' and '-ical' in 'hypothetical' serve as adjective-forming suffixes that mean 'relating to' or 'characterized by.'

**5. A scientist studying 'light-driven movement' in bacteria would be observing \_\_\_\_.**

**Answer:** B) Phototaxis

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'Photo' means light and 'taxis' (from Greek) refers to arrangement or directional movement. 'Taxis' is more specific to movement toward/away from a stimulus than 'tropism' (turning).

**6. True or False: The prefix 'PER-' in the word 'PERVADE' indicates a sense of 'going through' or 'through-out.'**

**Answer:** A) True

True. The Latin prefix 'per-' means 'through,' and the root 'vade' means 'to go.' To pervade is to spread throughout every part of something.

**7. Analyze the word 'somnambulate.' If a character in a novel is described this way, what are they literally doing?**

**Answer:** C) Walking while asleep

The root 'somn' means sleep, and 'ambul' means walk (as in ambulance or ambulatory). Somnambulate is the formal term for sleepwalking.

**8. Choose the most appropriate word to describe a person who 'hates people':**

**Answer:** C) Misanthrope

The prefix 'mis-' means hate, and the root 'anthro' means mankind. A misanthrope is literally a hater of humans.

**9. In the word 'MALevolent,' the prefix 'mal-' suggests which type of intention?**

**Answer:** B) Ill-willed or evil

The prefix 'mal-' means bad or evil. When combined with 'vol' (wish/will), it describes someone who wishes bad things upon others.

**10. True or False: The suffix '-ITY' in the word 'ACERBITY' changes the root from an adjective into a noun representing a state or quality.**

**Answer:** A) True

True. The suffix '-ity' is used to form abstract nouns expressing state or condition. 'Acerbity' is the state of being sharp or sour (from 'acer').