

Name: _____ Date: _____

Answer Key: Neon Morphology 9th Grade Word Build Quiz

Decode complex academic texts by dissecting Greek and Latin stems to reveal the hidden architecture of the English language.

1. In a sociopolitical analysis, an author might describe a leader as 'omniscient.' Based on the root 'omni' and the stem 'sci,' what is the leader's perceived quality?

Answer: B) Possessing infinite or complete knowledge

The root 'omni' means 'all' and 'sci' (from scire) means 'to know' (as in science), making 'omniscient' all-knowing.

2. The lawyer argued that the evidence was _____, meaning it was secondary or not essential to the core of the case. (Root: 'curr/curs')

Answer: C) Discursive

'Discursive' uses the root 'curs' (to run) with 'dis-' (away); in legal or literary contexts, it refers to moving away from the main point.

3. In the word 'anthropomorphism,' the root 'anthrop' refers to the study of ancient fossils.

Answer: B) False

'Anthrop' is the Greek root for 'human' or 'man.' Anthropomorphism is the attribution of human characteristics to non-human entities.

4. If a biological process is described as 'symbiotic,' the prefix 'sym-' and the root 'bio' suggest that organisms are:

Answer: C) Living together or in union

The prefix 'sym-' means 'together' or 'with,' and 'bio' means 'life.' Symbiosis is the act of living together.

5. A literary critic notes the protagonist's _____ state, indicating they are in a period between two different stages of life. (Root: 'limin')

Answer: B) Liminal

The root 'limin' means 'threshold.' A liminal space or state is one that exists at the threshold between two conditions.

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6. The suffix '-ism' usually transforms a root word into a noun representing a specific belief, practice, or doctrine.

Answer: A) True

Suffixes like '-ism' create abstract nouns that denote systems of thought, such as Stoicism or Realism.

7. Which word correctly uses the prefix 'an-' (meaning 'without') to describe a state of political disorder or lack of government?

Answer: C) Anarchy

'Anarchy' combines 'an-' (without) and 'archy' (ruler/government), accurately describing a lack of governing authority.

8. To prevent the spread of a virus, doctors use _____ measures, which are intended to ward off disease before it occurs. (Prefix: 'pro-')

Answer: B) Prophylactic

Derived from 'pro-' (before) and 'phylax' (guard), a prophylactic measure is a preventative step taken in advance.

9. If a historian describes a document as 'apocryphal,' and knows the root 'crypt' means 'hidden,' they are suggesting the document's origins are:

Answer: D) Doubtful and of hidden/unknown authenticity

'Apocryphal' comes from roots meaning 'away' and 'hidden.' It refers to stories or statements of doubtful authenticity.

10. In the word 'equivocate,' the root 'equi' (equal) and 'voc' (voice) imply that someone is speaking clearly and taking a firm, single side.

Answer: B) False

To 'equivocate' means to use ambiguous language to hide the truth, essentially giving 'equal voice' to two different interpretations to avoid committing to one.