

Name: _____ Date: _____

Answer Key: Lexical Alchemist's Laboratory: Sophomore Etymology Quest

Synthesize complex morphological structures to decode scientific and philosophical terminology during small-group rotations or independent enrichment.

1. In the context of sociopolitical discourse, if a movement is described as 'centrifugal,' how is it moving in relation to the center of power?

Answer: B) Moving away from the center toward the periphery

The Latin root 'centr' (center) combined with 'fug' (to flee, as in fugitive) creates a word meaning to flee or move away from the center.

2. A philosopher who studies the nature of being and existence is engaging in _____.

Answer: B) Ontology

The Greek root 'onto-' means 'being' or 'existence,' and the suffix '-logy' denotes the study or science of a subject.

3. True or False: The word 'anachronism' contains a prefix meaning 'against' or 'back' and a root meaning 'time,' referring to something placed in the wrong historical period.

Answer: A) True

The prefix 'ana-' means 'against' or 'backwards,' and the root 'chron' means 'time' (e.g., chronological), accurately describing a chronological inconsistency.

4. Which of these words uses the suffix '-ism' to denote a specific pathological condition rather than a belief system?

Answer: B) Botulism

While '-ism' often denotes a philosophy or belief (like Stoicism), in medical nomenclature like 'botulism,' it refers to a diseased condition or poisoning.

5. In literature, an _____ narrator possesses all-knowing insight into the thoughts and feelings of every character.

Answer: B) Omniscient

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The prefix 'omni-' (all) is paired with the root 'sci' (to know, as in science) to describe someone who is 'all-knowing.'

6. True or False: The word 'peripatetic,' used to describe Aristotle's habit of walking while teaching, utilizes the prefix 'peri-' meaning 'around.'

Answer: A) True

'Peri-' means 'around' (as in perimeter). Peripatetic comes from 'peripatein,' meaning to walk around while conversing.

7. If a biological process is described as 'endogenous,' where does that process originate?

Answer: C) Within the organism or system

The prefix 'endo-' means 'internal' or 'within,' and the root 'gen' refers to 'origin' or 'birth.'

8. To _____ a text is to provide critical explanation or interpretation, often by breaking down its components.

Answer: D) Exegete

The Greek prefix 'ex-' (out) and the root 'hegeisthai' (to lead) create the verb 'exegete,' meaning to lead the meaning out of a text.

9. Which word construction correctly describes the 'hatred of women,' a term often analyzed in feminist literary criticism?

Answer: B) Misogyny

The prefix 'miso-' (hatred) combined with the root 'gyn' (woman) forms 'misogyny.'

10. True or False: In legal terminology, if someone is 'exculpated,' they have been 'brought into' a state of guilt.

Answer: B) False

False. The prefix 'ex-' means 'out of' or 'away from,' and 'culp' means 'blame' or 'guilt.' To exculpate is to clear someone from blame.