

Greek and Latin Roots for Grades 2 - 8

Why is it important to teach Greek and Latin roots and affixes?

Simply put, teaching Greek and Latin roots and affixes allows students to construct their own vocabularies, in the wild and on the fly. Educators who choose to teach roots *leverage* word parts, creating opportunities for students to grow their vocabularies exponentially. Each root a student acquires can lead to the understanding of twenty or more English words (Rasinski, Padak, Newton, & Newton, 2008).

Furthermore, the process of acquiring and using Greek and Latin roots is inherently metacognitive, allowing students to develop independent word learning strategies that are useful in learning words across a variety of genres and content areas (Stahl & Nagy, 2006).

Lastly, Greek and Latin roots are the only Student Expectation in the ELAR TEKS that spans five years *unchanged*, from grades four through eight. This may be because the research overwhelmingly reflects the importance of teaching roots and affixes:

- Over 60% of the words students will encounter in school textbooks have recognizable word parts; and many of these Latin and Greek roots (Nagy, Anderson, Schommer, Scott, & Stallman, 1989).
- Latin and Greek prefixes, roots, and suffixes have predictable spelling patterns. (Rasinski & Padak, 2001; Bear, Invernizzi, Templeton & Johnston, 2000).
- Content area vocabulary is largely Greek and Latin-based and research supports this instruction, especially for struggling readers (Harmon, Hedrick & Wood, 2005).

- Many words from Greek and Latin word parts are included in “Tier Two” and “Tier Three” words that Beck, McKeown, and Kucan (2002) have found to be essential to vocabulary word study.
- Knowing Greek and Latin word parts helps students recognize and gain clues to understanding of other words that use known affixes and roots (Nagy & Scott, 2000).
- Most of the academic words in English (e.g., math and science words) are derived from Latin and Greek (Rasinski, Padak, Newton, & Newton, 2008).
- Most of the more challenging multisyllabic words in English are derived from Latin and Greek (Rasinski, Padak, Newton, & Newton, 2008).
- A single Latin or Greek root or affix (word pattern) can be found in and aid in the understanding (as well as decoding and encoding) of 20 or more English words (Rasinski, Padak, Newton, & Newton, 2008).
- Since Spanish is also a Latin-based language, Latin (and Greek) can be used as a bridge to help Spanish-speaking students use knowledge of their native language to learn English (Rasinski, Padak, Newton, & Newton, 2008).

Austin ISD's Greek and Latin Root Scope and Sequence

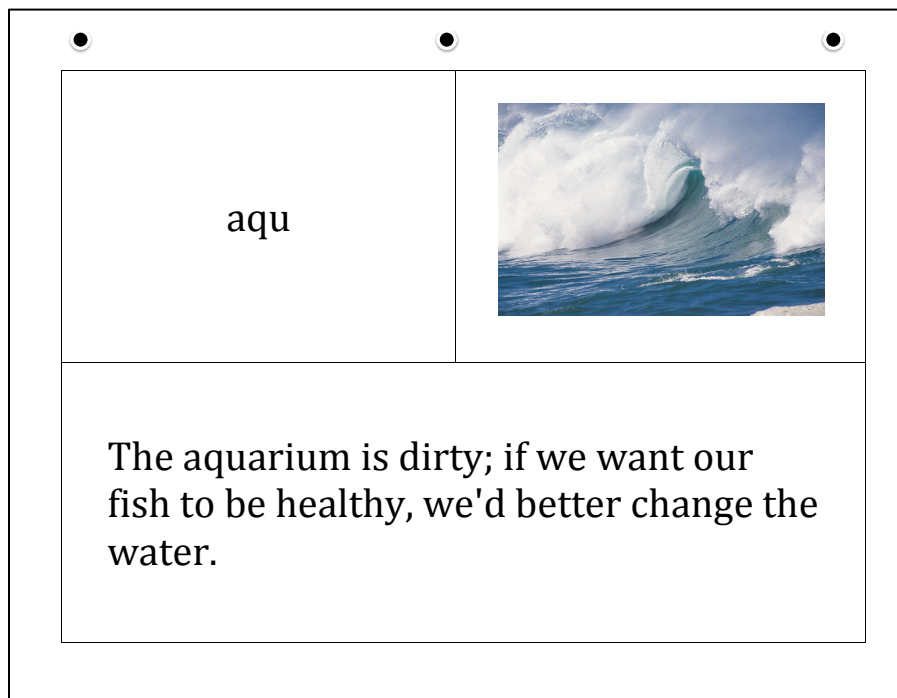
According to the ELA TEKS, high school students, "determine the meaning of grade-level technical academic English words in multiple content areas (e.g., science, mathematics, social studies, the arts) derived from Latin, Greek, or other linguistic roots and affixes." In order to meet this expectation, it is essential that students in grades four through eight, "determine the meaning of grade-level academic English

words derived from Latin, Greek, or other linguistic roots and affixes". Students in grades two and three identify and use common prefixes and suffixes, and know how these affixes change the meanings of base words.

Given the expectation that our high school students be able to use their knowledge of Greek and Latin roots and affixes for academic and technical purposes, it is clearly critical for teachers in grades two through eight to explicitly teach Greek and Latin affixes and roots. The following lists have been aligned with when students are most likely to need to identify and use words that contain these roots in math, science and social studies. For grades four through eight, three tiers were used to categorize instructional priorities. Tier I roots are high frequency, easy to learn roots that students are likely to know intuitively; these roots are to be taught once, primarily in grades four and five. The meanings of Tier II roots are less obvious, but still provide the foundations of a large number of words in the English language. These roots are to be taught twice from grades four to eight. Tier III roots are important to specific academic topics, but occur less frequently throughout the language. Tier III roots are to be taught once, typically in grades seven and eight. Using the following lists, teachers will introduce and teach two (or more) Greek and Latin roots per week from grades four through eight.

Suggested Strategies for Teaching Greek and Latin Roots

- 1) Introduce each root with a physical, drama-based instructional strategy such as [Donkey](#) or [Super Password](#).
- 2) Have students make study sheets for each root.
 - a) With a pencil, the student will divide a piece of notebook or printer paper in half horizontally and then again in the upper section vertically.
 - b) The student records each root's name in the top left area.
 - c) Using [morewords.com](http://www.morewords.com) or a similar website, the student selects a word that is representative of the meaning of the root. To see examples of words that contain these roots and affixes, key in "http://www.morewords.com/contains/" followed by the root. For example, "http://www.morewords.com/contains/hydr"
 - d) The student writes a sentence using a word containing the root and a hint word. This is a good place to embed the teaching of a variety of sentence structures, and literary devices.
 - e) The student draws a picture in the top right section of the page that illustrates the meaning of the root.
 - f) Completed study sheets will look something like this:



- 3) Periodically assess students using drama-based activities, quizzes or projects.
- 4) Maintain a Greek and Latin Root wall as an anchor of ongoing support.
- 5) Prominently display a list of commonly used affixes with their meanings.

- 6) Solicit student input when Greek and Latin roots and affixes are encountered during class reading and Shared Inquiry.
- 7) Communicate with your colleagues in the content areas, Special Education, and Bilingual/ESL, and provide them with copies of the list for each grading period.

Affixes for Grades 2-3

Prefix	Suffix	Definition	Examples	Origin	Additional Information
	-s, -es	plural, more than one	hats, pigs, books, plays, boxes, wishes, dishes cliffs, roofs, beliefs knives, leaves, halves, selves	Anglo-Saxon	y after a vowel (s) words end in -s, -sh, -ch, -x, -z (-es) nouns ending -f or -fe (s) -f or -fe change -f to -v and add -es consonant followed by -o (-es) vowel followed by -o (-s)
	-ing	action/process	helping, skipping, running, seeing, thinking	Anglo-Saxon	Present participle of verb
	-ed	past tense	jumped, helped	Anglo-Saxon	Past tense verb
un-		not/opposite	unlock, unsafe, uncover	Anglo-Saxon	
re-		again/back	reread, rewrite, return	Latin	
	-er	person connected with, comparative degree	teacher, writer, baker, bigger, colder, taller	Anglo-Saxon	
	-est	superlative degree	biggest, coldest, tallest	Anglo-Saxon	Usually an adjective
	-ful	full of	beautiful, painful	Anglo-Saxon	Usually an adjective
	-less	without	careless, helpless	Anglo-Saxon	
in-		not	inactive, income	Latin	
im-		not	impossible, improper, import	Latin	im- used before roots beginning with b, m, p
dis-		not/opposite of	dislike, distrust, disagree	Latin	
pre-		before	pretest, preplan, premade	Latin	
tele-		far, distant	telephone, telegraph, television	Greek	

Prefix	Suffix	Definition	Examples	Origin	Additional Information
	-ies	plural, more than one	parties, babies, cries	Anglo-Saxon	y after a consonant
	-ied	past tense	cried, tried,	Anglo-Saxon	y after a consonant
	-ed	past tense	stopping, hopping	Anglo-Saxon	doubling (CVC)
	-ing	action/process	stopped, hopped	Anglo-Saxon	doubling (CVC)
	-ly	characteristic of	badly, friendly, quickly	Anglo-Saxon	Usually an adverb
	-y	characterized by/like	cloudy, fishy	Anglo-Saxon	
non-		not	nonfat, nonsense	Latin	
over-		too much, above	overdone, overhead	Anglo Saxon	
mis-		bad or badly wrong or wrongly	misbehave, misread, misspell	Latin	
de-		reduce down away from	defeat, deform, decrease	Latin	
under-		too little/below	underfed, underground	Anglo-Saxon	
bi-		two	bicycle, binocular	Latin	
tri-		three	tricycle, triangle	Latin/Greek	
quad-		four	quadrilateral, quadrant	Latin	
oct-		eight	octagon, octopus	Latin/Greek	
	-er, -or	one who, that which	baker, boxer, conductor, survivor	Latin	Usually a noun Use –or with Latin roots for nouns (inventor, elevator) Use –er with Anglo-Saxon roots (heater, swimmer)
	-tion	act of, state of, result of	attention, invitation, restriction	Anglo-Saxon	Usually a noun
	-al, -ial	related to characterized by	colonial, biennial, dental, betrayal	Latin	Usually an adjective
	-ness	condition, state of	darkness, fairness	Anglo-Saxon	Usually a noun
	-ment	act, process	enjoyment, replacement	Latin	
	-en	made of, to make	wooden, dampen, tighten,	Anglo-Saxon	

Prefix	Suffix	Definition	Examples	Origin	Additional Information
en-, em-		to cause to be, to put into or onto, to go into or onto	encounter, enable, employ, embark, encircle	Latin	
sub-		under, beneath, below secondary	subway, subsoil, substitute	Latin	
fore-		before, earlier	forearm, foreword	Anglo-Saxon	
semi-		half	semicircle, semicolon	Latin	
anti-		opposite, against	antibiotic, antifreeze	Greek	
auto-		self	autograph, automatic	Greek	
multi-		many/ much	multicolor, multifamily	Latin	
poly-		many/ much	polygon, polysyllable	Greek	
deca- deci-		ten	decathlon, decade, decimal, decimeter	Latin/ Greek	
kilo-		1,000	kilogram, kilowatt	Greek	
milli- mille-		1,000	millennium, millimeter	Latin	
centi-		100	centimeter, centipede	Latin	
	-ion, -tion, - ation, -ition	act of/ state of/ result of	tension, attention, elevation, union	Anglo-Saxon	Usually a noun The real suffix is –ion. Putting s or t in front of –ion is simply determined by the spelling of the root
	-able -ible	can be done	enjoyable, sensible, likable	Latin	-able ending words have roots that can stand alone.(enjoyable) -ible ending words have roots that can not stand alone. (sensible)
	-ive -ative -tive	inclined/ tending toward an action	festive, talkative, active, sensitive	Latin	Words that end with –de (intrude) change the –de to s then add –ive (intrusive). Words that end with silent e (create) drop the e then add –ive (creative).
	-logy, - ology	science of/ study of	biology, chronology	Greek	
	-ence -ance	act/ condition of	persistence, excellence,	Latin	Usually a noun –ence and –ance sound alike because of the schwa. –

Prefix	Suffix	Definition	Examples	Origin	Additional Information
			assistance, importance		ence is used somewhat more often than –ance.
	-an, -an	one having a certain skill/ relating to/ belonging to	electrician, magician, American, suburban	Latin	Usually a noun
in- (il-, im-, ir-)		not	inability, impatient, irregular, illegal	Latin	il-used before roots beginning with “l” (illegible) im- used before roots beginning with b, m, p (immature, imbalance, impatient)
inter-		between	intercept, interview, interstate	Latin	
trans-		across/ change/ through	transformation, transportation, transfer	Latin	
super-		above/ on top of/ beyond	superfine, superhuman, supersonic	Latin	
micro-		small/ minute	microbiology, microscope	Greek	
uni-		one/ single	unicorn, unicycle, uniform	Latin	
	-ent -ant	an action/ condition	student, contestant, immigrant	Latin	Often a noun The suffix –ant often indicates a person noun.
	-ent -ant	causing a specific action	obedient, absorbent, abundant, elegant	Latin	Often an adjective -ent and –ant sound alike because of the schwa. –ent is used somewhat more often than –ant.
	-ity -ty	state of/ quality of	prosperity, equality	Latin	Usually a noun
	-ic	relating to/ characterized by	energetic, historic	Latin/Greek	Usually an adjective
	-ize	to make/ to cause to become	fertilize, criticize, apologize	Latin/ Greek	Usually a verb
	-age	result of an action/ collection	manage, drainage, acreage	Latin	
	-ous -eous -ious	full of/ characterized by	adventurous, nervous, mysterious, courteous	Latin	Words that end with –de (intrude) change the –de to s then add –ive (intrusive). Words that end with silent e (create) drop the e then add –ive (creative).

4th Grade Greek and Latin Roots

Tier	Grade	Cycle	Base	Meaning	Origin
2	4	1	dec	ten	Latin
2	4	1	hydr	water	Greek
2	4	1	loc	place	Latin
1	4	1	equ	same, fair	Latin
2	4	1	hosp	guest, host	Latin
2	4	1	mem	mindful, recall	Latin
1	4	1	anima/anim	spirit, soul, life mind or nature	Latin
1	4	1	aqua/aqu	water	Latin
1	4	1	art	craft, skill	Latin
1	4	1	aud	to hear	Latin
1	4	1	bio	life	Greek
1	4	1	carn	flesh, meat	Latin
1	4	1	centr/center	Middle	Greek
1	4	1	graph/gram	write, draw, describe, record	Greek
1	4	1	logy/ology	study	Greek
1	4	1	nov/neo	new	Latin
1	4	1	part/pars	portion, part	Latin
1	4	1	phys	nature	Greek
1	4	2	plur/plus	more	Latin
1	4	2	sci	to know	Latin
1	4	2	temp	time	Latin
1	4	2	therm	heat	Greek
1	4	2	vis/vid	to see, to look	Latin
1	4	2	nym/onym/onom	name	Greek
2	4	2	host	stranger, enemy	Latin
2	4	2	vac	empty	Latin
2	4	2	cept/capt/cip/cap/ceive/ceipt	take, hold, grasp, catch	Latin
1	4	2	cycl	circle	Greek
1	4	2	form	shape, form	Latin
1	4	2	mob/mot/mov	move	Latin
1	4	2	phob	fear	Greek
1	4	2	tract	to pull, draw	Latin
1	4	2	via	way, road	Latin
2	4	2	omni/pan/panto	all	Latin/Greek
2	4	2	chron	time	Greek
2	4	2	ambi/amphi	both	Greek
2	4	3	cid/cis	to cut off, be brief, to kill	Latin
1	4	3	act	to do with a purpose	Latin
1	4	3	arm	army, weapon	Latin

Tier	Grade	Cycle	Base	Meaning	Origin
1	4	3	cent/hecto/hecato	hundred	Latin
1	4	3	dic/dict	to say, to speak, assert	Latin
1	4	3	fen	to strike	Latin
1	4	3	max/maxim	big, most, largest	Latin
1	4	3	min	little, small	Latin
1	4	3	multi/myria/poly	many	Greek
1	4	3	phon	sound, voice	Greek
1	4	3	scrib/script	to write	Latin
1	4	3	terr/ter	land, earth	Latin
1	4	3	vid/vis	see	Latin
1	4	3	sept/hept	seven	Latin
2	4	3	meg/mega	million, great or large	Greek
2	4	3	non/novem/ennea	nine	Latin
2	4	3	oct/octa/octo	eight	Greek
2	4	3	penta/quint/quinque	five	Greek/Latin
2	4	3	ten/tain/tent	to hold	Latin
2	4	3	tend/tens/tent	to give, to stretch toward	Latin
2	4	3	omni/pan/panto	all	Latin/Greek
2	4	4	prim/prin	first	Latin
2	4	4	quadr/tetra	four	Greek/Latin
2	4	4	sex/hex	six	Latin
2	4	4	uni/mono/sol	one, alone	Latin
2	4	4	cert	sure, to trust	Latin
2	4	4	di/bi/do/duo/diplo	two	Latin/Greek
2	4	4	tri/ter	three	Greek
2	4	4	demi/semi/hemi	half	Latin
2	4	4	med/medi	middle	Latin
2	4	4	circ/circum	around	Latin
2	4	4	mut	change, exchange	Latin
2	4	4	urb	city	Latin
2	4	4	fals/fall	deceive, lie, wrong	Latin
1	4	4	photo/phos	light	Greek
1	4	4	sect	cut	Latin
2	4	4	phil	love	Greek
1	4	4	fin	To end	Latin
1	4	4	ped/pod	foot, child	Latin

5th Grade Greek and Latin Roots

Tier	Grade	Cycle	Base	Meaning	Origin
1	5	1	aero	air	Greek
2	5	1	bibl/biblio	book	Greek
1	5	1	capit/cipit	head	Latin
2	5	1	dec	ten	Latin
2	5	1	dem/pleb	people	Greek
2	5	1	fac/fect/fic/fict/-fy	to make, to do	Latin
2	5	1	flect/flex	bend stretch strain	Latin
2	5	1	fort	chance, luck, strong	Latin
1	5	1	geo	earth	Greek
2	5	1	hydr	water	Greek
2	5	1	init	to begin, enter upon	Latin
1	5	1	kno/gno	to know	Greek
2	5	1	loc	place	Latin
2	5	1	luc/lum/lux	light	Latin
1	5	1	mar	sea	Latin
1	5	1	mor/mort	death	Latin
1	5	1	ord/ordin	to arrange	Latin
2	5	1	par/pair	arrange, prepare	Latin
2	5	2	pos	to place, put	Latin
1	5	2	scop/scept/skept	examine, look at or see	Greek
2	5	2	tang/ting/tact/tig	touch	Latin
2	5	2	vers/vert	to turn	Latin
2	5	2	curs/curr/corr/cour	to run	Latin
2	5	2	frag/fract	break	Latin
1	5	2	ject/jet	throw	Latin
2	5	2	jur/jus/jud	law, right, consider	Latin
2	5	2	lat	side, wide	Latin
2	5	2	lev	to make light, raise, lift	Latin
2	5	2	mal	bad, badly	Latin
2	5	2	manu	hand	Latin
2	5	2	meter/metr	measure	Greek
1	5	2	mit/mis	to send	Latin
1	5	2	nym/onym/onom	name	Greek
2	5	2	pend/pond/pens	weigh, pay, hang, consider	Latin
2	5	2	plex/plic/ply	fold	Latin
1	5	2	port	to carry	Latin
1	5	3	rupt	break, burst	Latin
2	5	3	sequ/secut	to follow, sequence	Latin
1	5	3	techn	art, skill	Greek
2	5	3	term	boundary, limit	Latin

Tier	Grade	Cycle	Base	Meaning	Origin
2	5	3	test	to witness, affirm	Latin
2	5	3	viv/vit	life	Latin
2	5	3	bon/bene	good or well	Latin
2	5	3	clin	to lean, lie, bend	Latin
2	5	3	dors	back	Latin
2	5	3	ec/eco	environment or house	Greek
2	5	3	fer	to carry, bear, bring	Latin
2	5	3	gen	race, family, kind, type	Latin
2	5	3	hab	to have, hold, dwell	Latin
2	5	3	mater/matri	mother	Latin
2	5	3	meg/mega	million, great or large	Greek
2	5	3	migr	to move, travel	Latin
2	5	3	milli/kilo	thousand	Latin
2	5	3	pater/patri	father	Latin
2	5	3	rog	ask	Latin
2	5	3	ven	to come	Latin
2	5	3	agr	field	Latin
2	5	4	non/novem/ennea	nine	Latin
2	5	4	oct/octa/octo	eight	Greek
1	5	4	op/opt/ops	sight, eye, view	Greek
2	5	4	penta/quint/quinque	five	Greek/Latin
2	5	4	prim/prin	first	Latin
2	5	4	quadr/tetra	four	Greek/Latin
1	5	4	sept/hept	seven	Latin
2	5	4	sex/hex	six	Latin
2	5	4	uni/mono/sol	one, alone	Latin
1	5	4	vinc/vict	conquer, win	Latin
1	5	4	zo	animal	Greek
2	5	4	di/bi/do/duo/diplo	two	Latin/Greek
2	5	4	gon	Angle	Greek
1	5	4	psych	mind, soul, spirit	Greek
1	5	4	sent/sens	to feel	Latin
1	5	4	struct	to build, form	Latin
2	5	4	tri/ter	three	Greek
2	5	4	pyr	fire	Greek

6th Grade Greek and Latin Roots

Tier	Grade	Cycle	Base	Meaning	Origin
2	6	1	ann/enn	year	Latin
2	6	1	civ	citizen	Latin
2	6	1	demi/semi/hemi	half	Latin
1	6	1	frig	cool	Latin
2	6	1	lat	lateral, side, wide	Latin
2	6	1	med/medi	middle	Latin
2	6	1	polis/polit	citizen, city, state	Greek
3	6	1	pot	powerful	Latin
2	6	1	tang/ting/tact/tig	touch	Latin
3	6	1	topo	place	Greek
2	6	1	ver	truth	Latin
2	6	2	chron	time	Greek
2	6	2	ethn	nation, people	Greek
2	6	2	neg	deny	Latin
2	6	2	an/ami/amor	love	Latin
3	6	2	anthrop	human	Greek
2	6	2	clin	to lean, lie, bend	Latin
2	6	2	grav/griev/grief	heavy	Latin
2	6	2	luc/lum/lux	light	Latin
2	6	2	rog	ask	Latin
2	6	2	simil/simul/sembl	together, likeness, pretense	Latin
3	6	2	son	sound	Latin
2	6	2	spond/spons	to pledge, promise	Latin
2	6	3	ambi/amphi	both	Greek
2	6	3	arch/archi	govern, rule	Greek
3	6	3	arthr	segment, joint	Greek
2	6	3	bibl/biblio	book	Greek
2	6	3	bon/bene	good or well	Latin
2	6	3	circ/circum	around	Latin
2	6	3	crac/crat	rule, govern	Greek
2	6	3	cred	believe, trust	Latin
2	6	3	crit/cris	separate, discern, judge	Latin
2	6	3	dem/pleb	people	Greek
3	6	3	erg/urg	work	Latin
2	6	3	her/hes	stick to	Latin
1	6	4	hom	human	Latin
2	6	4	leg/lig/lect	law, to chose, perceive, understand	Latin
2	6	4	lev	to make light, raise, lift	Latin
2	6	4	log	idea, word, speech, reason, study	Greek

Tier	Grade	Cycle	Base	Meaning	Origin
1	6	4	ment	mind	Latin
2	6	4	milli/kilo	thousand	Latin
3	6	4	noc/nox	night, harm	Latin
3	6	4	oligo/pauci	few	Greek
2	6	4	plex/plic/ply	fold	Latin
3	6	4	plut	wealth	Greek
1	6	4	port	to carry	Latin
2	6	4	reg/rig/rect/reign	government, rule, right, straight	Latin
3	6	4	juven	young	Latin
3	6	4	ling/lang	tongue	Latin
2	6	5	sacr/secr/sacer	holy	Latin
2	6	5	sequ/secut	to follow, sequence	Latin
1	6	5	theo	god	Greek
2	6	5	ven	to come	Latin
3	6	5	vest	to adorn	Latin
2	6	5	ced/cede/ceed/cess	yield, withdraw, go	Latin
2	6	5	dyn	power	Greek
1	6	5	equ	same, fair	Latin
2	6	5	eth	character, custom, habit	Greek
2	6	5	grad/gred/gress	step, degree, rank	Latin
2	6	5	ign/pyr	fire	Latin/Greek
2	6	5	morph	form	Greek
2	6	6	pyr	fire	Greek
3	6	6	sed/sid/sess	to sit, to settle	Latin
2	6	6	voc/vok	voice, call	Latin
2	6	6	alt	high	Latin
2	6	6	cog	to know	Latin
1	6	6	dent/odon	tooth	Latin
1	6	6	derm	skin	Greek
2	6	6	hal/spir	breathe, breath, life	Latin
2	6	6	hosp	guest, host	Latin
2	6	6	host	stranger, enemy	Latin
2	6	6	labor/lab	work	Latin
2	6	6	priv	separate	Latin
3	6	6	volv	roll	Latin

7th Grade Greek and Latin Roots

Tier	Grade	Cycle	Base	Meaning	Origin
1	7	1	agon	struggle	Greek
2	7	1	fac/fect/fic/fict/-fy	to make, to do	Latin
2	7	1	init	to begin, enter upon	Latin
2	7	1	cert	sure, to trust	Latin
2	7	1	par/pair	arrange, prepare	Latin
2	7	1	pos	to place, put	Latin
2	7	1	vers/vert	to turn	Latin
2	7	1	curs/curr/corr/cour	to run	Latin
2	7	1	viv/vit	life	Latin
2	7	1	cumb/cub	lie down	Latin
3	7	1	path	feeling, suffering or disease	Greek
2	7	1	fer	to carry, bear, bring	Latin
2	7	2	mem	mindful, recall	Latin
2	7	2	cept/capt/cip/cap/ceive/cept	take, hold, grasp, catch	Latin
2	7	2	gen	race, family, kind, type	Latin
2	7	2	migr	to move, travel	Latin
2	7	2	corp	body	Latin
2	7	2	voc/vok	voice, call	Latin
2	7	2	prob	to prove, test	Latin
3	7	2	chrom	color	Greek
2	7	2	sat	to please	Latin
2	7	2	cid/cis	to cut off, be brief, to kill	Latin
2	7	2	frag/fract	break	Latin
2	7	2	fin	to end	Latin
2	7	3	flect/flex	bend stretch strain	Latin
2	7	3	fort	chance, luck, strong	Latin
2	7	3	jur/jus/jud	law, right, consider, deliberate	Latin
2	7	3	nat	born	Latin
2	7	3	cor/cord/cour/card	heart	Latin
2	7	3	gon	Angle	Greek
2	7	3	civ	citizen	Latin
2	7	3	cred	believe, trust	Latin
2	7	3	crit/cris	separate, discern, judge	Latin
2	7	3	bell	war	Latin
2	7	3	ec/eco	environment or house	Greek
2	7	3	hab	to have, hold, dwell	Latin
2	7	4	prehend/prehens/pris	take or seize	Latin
2	7	4	agr	field	Latin
2	7	4	mut	change, exchange	Latin
2	7	4	ann/enn	year	Latin

Tier	Grade	Cycle	Base	Meaning	Origin
3	7	4	ev/aev	age or time	Latin
2	7	4	urb	city	Latin
2	7	5	err	wander	Latin
2	7	5	lav/lu	wash	Latin
2	7	5	prob	to prove, test	Latin
2	7	5	spec/spect/spic	to look at, behold	Latin
3	7	5	helio	sun	Greek
3	7	5	culp	fault, blame	Latin
2	7	5	tend/tens/tent	to give, to stretch toward	Latin
2	7	5	sat	to please	Latin
3	7	5	ego	self	Latin
3	7	5	somn	sleep	Latin
2	7	6	nat	born	Latin
2	7	6	corp	body	Latin
2	7	6	cumb/cub	lie down	Latin
2	7	6	err	wander	Latin
				pleasure, thankful, goodwill,	
2	7	6	grat/grac	joy	Latin
3	7	6	gyn/gynec	woman	Greek
2	7	6	hal/spir	breathe, breath, life	Latin
2	7	6	junct/jug/join	connect	Latin
2	7	6	lav/lu	wash	Latin
2	7	6	morph	form	Greek

8th Grade Greek and Latin Roots

Tier	Grade	Cycle	Base	Meaning	Origin
2	8	1	mal	bad, badly	Latin
2	8	1	ver	truth	Latin
2	8	1	ethn	nation, people	Greek
2	8	1	sacr/secr/sacer	holy	Latin
3	8	1	dei/div/theo	god	Latin/Greek
3	8	1	duct/duc	to lead, draw	Latin
3	8	1	fid	trust, faith	Latin
3	8	1	it	go	Latin
3	8	1	string/strict	tie or bind	Latin
2	8	1	acu/acr/ac	needle, sharp	Latin
2	8	1	neg	deny	Latin
2	8	1	arch/archi	govern, rule	Greek
2	8	2	crac/crat	rule, govern	Greek
2	8	2	leg/lig/lect	law, to chose, perceive	Latin
2	8	2	reg/rig/rect/reign	government, rule, right, straight	Latin
3	8	2	arbitr/arbiter	to judge, consider	Latin
3	8	2	aristo	privileged or best	Greek
3	8	2	miso	hate or hatred	Greek
3	8	2	dur	to harden, hold out	Latin
1	8	2	flu/fluct/flux	flow	Latin
2	8	2	acu/acr/ac	needle, sharp	Latin
1	8	2	liber/liver	free	Latin
3	8	2	lith	stone	Greek
3	8	2	mon	to think, remind, advise, warn	Latin
3	8	3	pel/puls	push	Latin
2	8	3	pend/pond/pens	to weigh, pay, consider, hang	Latin
2	8	3	term	boundary, limit	Latin
2	8	3	test	to witness, affirm	Latin
2	8	3	dors	back	Latin
2	8	3	mater/matri	mother	Latin
2	8	3	pater/patri	father	Latin
2	8	3	polis/polit	citizen, city, state	Greek
2	8	3	simil/simul/sembl	together, likeness, pretense	Latin
2	8	3	her/hes	stick to	Latin
2	8	3	ign/pyr	fire	Latin/Greek
3	8	3	aesth/esth	sensation, feeling or perception	Latin
3	8	4	astro	star	Greek
3	8	4	cele	honor	Latin
3	8	4	cell	to rise, project	Latin
3	8	4	dol	grief	Latin

Tier	Grade	Cycle	Base	Meaning	Origin
3	8	4	dorm	sleep	Latin
3	8	4	locu/loqu	word, speak	Latin
3	8	4	nomen/nomin	name	Latin
2	8	4	fals/fall	deceive, lie, wrong	Latin
2	8	4	meter/met	measure	Greek
2	8	4	junct/jug/join	connect	Latin
3	8	4	pneu	breath	Greek
3	8	4	agog	lead or leader	Greek
2	8	4	log	idea, word, speech, reason, study	Greek
2	8	4	ced/cede/ceed/cess	yield, withdraw, go	Latin
2	8	5	eth	character, custom, habit	Greek
3	8	5	volv	roll	Latin
3	8	5	cosm	universe, world, harmony, order	Greek
2	8	5	vac	empty	Latin
3	8	5	null/nihil/nil	nothing, void	Latin
3	8	5	trib	to allot, give	Latin
2	8	5	spond/spons	to pledge, promise	Latin
2	8	5	dyn	power	Greek
2	8	5	grad/gred/gress	step, degree, rank	Latin
2	8	5	labor/lab	work	Latin
3	8	5	doc/doct	teach	Latin
2	8	5	grat/grac	thankfulness, joy, pleasure	Latin
2	8	6	phil	love	Greek
2	8	6	an/ami/amor	love	Latin
2	8	6	grav/griev/grief	heavy	Latin
2	8	6	cog	to know	Latin
2	8	6	priv	separate	Latin
3	8	6	path	feeling, suffering or disease	Greek
2	8	6	bell	war	Latin
2	8	6	ten/tain/tent	to hold	Latin
3	8	6	greg	flock or herd	Latin
3	8	6	gymn	naked	Greek
2	8	6	prehend/prehens/pris	take or seize	Latin
2	8	6	cor/cord/cour/card	heart	Latin

Advanced Affixes for Grades 4-8

The following table should be provided as an anchor of support to students in grades 4-8.

Affix	Meaning	Source	Type
ab	away	Latin	Prefix
acro	top, tip, end	Greek	Prefix
ad, ac, at, as, ap, am, an, ar, ag, af	to, toward, at	Latin	Prefix
ambi	around, both	Latin	Prefix
amphi	both, of both sides, around	Greek	Prefix
ant, anti	against	Greek	Prefix
ante	before	Latin	Prefix
apo, ap, aph	away from, off	Greek	Prefix
archa, arshae	old, ancient	Greek	Prefix
auto	self	Greek	Prefix
ben, bon	good, well	Latin	Prefix
bi	two	Latin	Prefix
co, con, com	together, with	Latin	Prefix
contra, contro	against	Latin	Prefix
de	from, away, off	Latin	Prefix
deca, dec, deka	ten	Greek	Prefix
di, dis	two, twice	Greek	Prefix
dia	through, across	Greek	Prefix
dis, dif	apart, away, not, to deprive	Latin	Prefix
du	double, two	Latin	Prefix
dys	difficult, bad	Greek	Prefix
e, ex, ec	out, beyond, from, out of, forth	Latin	Prefix
ecto	outside of	Greek	Prefix
en	in give [intensifier]	Latin	Prefix
endo, ento	within	Greek	Prefix
ep, epi	upon, at, in addition	Greek	Prefix
eu	good, well	Greek	Prefix
extra	beyond	Latin	Prefix
fore	before	Anglo-Saxon	Prefix
hemi	half	Greek	Prefix
hetero	various, unlike	Greek	Prefix
hier	sacred	Greek	Prefix
holo	whole	Greek	Prefix
homo	same	Greek	Prefix
hyper	above, beyond	Greek	Prefix
hypo, hyp	under, less than	Greek	Prefix
ideo, idea	idea	Greek	Prefix
in, ir, im, il	not, without	Latin	Prefix

Affix	Meaning	Source	Type
in, im in, on,	upon, into, toward	Latin	Prefix
inter	between	Latin	Prefix
intro	within	Latin	Prefix
iso	equal	Greek	Prefix
kilo	thousand	Greek	Prefix
macro	long, large	Greek	Prefix
magn, mag, meg, maj	great	Latin	Prefix
mal	bad, ill	Latin	Prefix
mega	great	Greek	Prefix
met, meta, meth	among, with, after, beyond	Greek	Prefix
micro	small	Greek	Prefix
migr	to move, travel	Latin	Prefix
mill	thousand	Latin	Prefix
mis	less, wrong	Latin	Prefix
mono	one	Greek	Prefix
multi	many, much	Latin	Prefix
neo	new	Greek	Prefix
non, ne	not	Latin	Prefix
o, ob, oc, of, op	against, toward	Latin	Prefix
omni	all	Latin	Prefix
paleo	long ago, ancient	Greek	Prefix
pan, panto	all, every	Greek	Prefix
para	beside, beyond	Latin	Prefix
penta	five	Greek	Prefix
per	through	Latin	Prefix
peri	around, about	Greek	Prefix
pre	before	Latin	Prefix
pro	before, forward, forth	Latin	Prefix
pronto	first	Greek	Prefix
poly	many	Greek	Prefix
post	after	Latin	Prefix
pseudo	false, counterfeit	Greek	Prefix
quad, quatr	four	Latin	Prefix
re	again, anew, back	Latin	Prefix
retro	back, backward, behind	Latin	Prefix
se, sed	apart, aside, away	Latin	Prefix
semi	half	Latin	Prefix
sover	above, over	Latin	Prefix
sub	under, below, up from below	Latin	Prefix
super, supra	above, down	Latin	Prefix
syn, sym, syl	together, with	Greek	Prefix
tele	far off	Greek	Prefix

Affix	Meaning	Source	Type
trans	over, across	Latin	Prefix
tri	three	Latin	Prefix
un	not	Latin	Prefix
uni	one	Latin	Prefix
age	belongs to	Latin	Noun Forming Suffix
ance, ence	state of being, fact, quality	Latin	Noun Forming Suffix
ant	thing or one who	Latin	Noun Forming Suffix
ar	relating to, like	Latin	Noun Forming Suffix
ary	relating to, like	Latin	Noun Forming Suffix
ent	to form	Latin	Noun Forming Suffix
ic	like, having the nature	Latin & Greek	Noun Forming Suffix
ine	nature of-feminine ending	Latin	Noun Forming Suffix
ion, tion, ation	being, the result of	Latin	Noun Forming Suffix
ism	act, condition	Latin & Greek	Noun Forming Suffix
ist	one who	Latin	Noun Forming Suffix
ive	of, belonging to, quality of	Latin	Noun Forming Suffix
ment	a means, product, act, state	Latin	Noun Forming Suffix
or	person or thing that	Latin	Noun Forming Suffix
ory	place for	Latin	Noun Forming Suffix
ty	condition of, quality of	Latin	Noun Forming Suffix
y	creates abstract noun	Greek & Anglo-Saxon	Noun Forming Suffix
able	capable of being	Latin	Adjective Forming Suffix
al	like, suitable for	Latin	Adjective Forming Suffix
ance	state of being	Latin	Adjective Forming Suffix
ant	thing or one who	Latin	Adjective Forming Suffix
ar	relating to, like	Latin	Adjective Forming Suffix
ary	relating to, like	Latin	Adjective Forming Suffix
ate	to become associated with	Latin	Adjective Forming Suffix
ent	to form	Latin	Adjective Forming Suffix
ial	function of	Latin	Adjective Forming Suffix
ible	capable of being	Latin	Adjective Forming Suffix
ic	like, having the nature of	Latin & Greek	Adjective Forming Suffix
ine	nature of-feminine ending	Latin	Adjective Forming Suffix
ive	of, belonging to, quality of	Latin	Adjective Forming

Affix	Meaning	Source	Type
ory	place for	Latin	Suffix Adjective Forming Suffix
ous	characterized by, having quality of	Latin	Adjective Forming Suffix
y	quality, somewhat like	Greek & Anglo-Saxon	Adjective Forming Suffix
ate	to become associated	Latin	Verb Forming Suffix
fy	to make, do	Latin	Verb Forming Suffix
ise, ize	to become like	Latin	Verb Forming Suffix
ic	like, having the nature of	Latin & Greek	Adverb Forming Suffix
ly	like, to extent of	Latin	Adverb Forming Suffix

Advanced Academic Opportunities

For Gifted and Talented students who have largely mastered Greek and Latin roots and affixes prior to instruction, further exploration of the “whys” of English linguistics is highly recommended.

Formed in successive invasions from 449 C.E. through 1066 C.E., English is an *amalgamation* (formed by the root “gam”, which means marriage) of various language groups that reach back to a common source—the Indo-European group of languages. The Angles, Saxons, Jutes, Frisians, Norse and Normans each contributed a wealth of vocabulary. For instance, the word “husband” is of Norse (Viking) origin; wife is Anglo-Saxon. And did you know that there are over 10,000 words of French in English? These factors combined to give English a vocabulary that is at least twice as large as French, Italian, Portuguese, and Spanish—languages that directly evolved from Latin.

Conclusion

If you have questions or need assistance implementing a Greek and Latin affix program in your classroom, please contact Vaughn Grisham, Middle School Language Arts Curriculum Specialist at vaughn.grisham@austinisd.org or Donna Lund, Elementary Language Arts Curriculum Specialist at donna.lund@austinisd.org.