

The Word Within the Word • List #6

germ	<i>(vital or related)</i>	germane, germinate, germicide, germinal, germ	<i>Latin</i>
greg	<i>(group)</i>	gregarious, egregious, gregariously, segregate, congregate, aggregate	<i>Latin</i>
mar	<i>(sea)</i>	marine, marina, ultramarine, maritime, mariner, marinate, submarine	<i>Latin</i>
prim	<i>(first)</i>	prime, primary, primate, primogeniture, primeval, prima donna, primo	<i>Latin</i>
pyro	<i>(fire)</i>	pyre, pyromania, pyrotechnic, pyrogenic, pyrophobia, pyrometer	<i>Greek</i>
clam	<i>(cry out)</i>	clamorous, exclamation, clamor, exclamatory, clamant, declaim	<i>Latin</i>
plu	<i>(more)</i>	plural, plurality, plus, pluralize, pluriaxial, pluralism, nonplussed	<i>Latin</i>
tang	<i>(touch)</i>	tangible, tangent, tangle, tangential, cotangent, intangible	<i>Latin</i>
string	<i>(bind)</i>	stringent, string, stringy, astringent, stringer	<i>Latin</i>
liber	<i>(free)</i>	liberate, liberty, liberal, libertine, deliberate, libertarian	<i>Latin</i>
junct	<i>(join)</i>	junction, conjunction, juncture, disjunct, injunction, adjunct	<i>Latin</i>
clud	<i>(close)</i>	exclude, include, preclude, exclusive, occlude, conclude, cloister	<i>Latin</i>
se	<i>(apart)</i>	secede, secret, sedition, seduce, segregate, select, separate	<i>Latin</i>
trib	<i>(pay)</i>	tribute, tributary, retribution, contribution, attribute, diatribe, distribute	<i>Latin</i>
dign	<i>(worthy)</i>	dignify, dignity, condign, dignitary, undignified, indignation	<i>Latin</i>
luc	<i>(light)</i>	lucid, translucent, lucidity, pellucid, Lucifer, elucidate, lucent, lucubrate	<i>Latin</i>
rupt	<i>(break)</i>	erupt, disrupt, rupture, corrupt, abrupt, incorruptible	<i>Latin</i>
grat	<i>(pleasing)</i>	gratifying, gratitude, ingrate, grateful, gratuitous, ingratiate	<i>Latin</i>
medi	<i>(middle)</i>	median, mediate, medium, mediocre, mediterranean, in medias res	<i>Latin</i>
soph	<i>(wisdom)</i>	sophomore, sophisticated, sophist, philosophy, pansophy, theosophy	<i>Greek</i>
curr	<i>(run)</i>	current, undercurrent, currently, recurrent, currency, incur	<i>Latin</i>
tempor	<i>(time)</i>	temporal, contemporary, temporize, temporarily, tempus fugit	<i>Latin</i>
migr	<i>(wander)</i>	migrate, transmigration, migrant, migratory, emigrant, immigrant	<i>Latin</i>
trans	<i>(across)</i>	transfer, translate, transmit, transfusion, translucent, transcend	<i>Latin</i>
gamy	<i>(marriage)</i>	monogamy, polygamy, bigamy, gamete, autogamous, exogamy	<i>Greek</i>

The Word Within the Word • Sentences #6

1. His irrelevant comments were not **germane** to the discussion.
2. The friendly alien proved to be well-mannered and **gregarious**.
3. The mariner steered through beautiful **ultramarine** waters.
4. The anthropologist was primarily interested in **primates**, especially gorillas.
5. The **pyromaniac** loved starting fires with **pyrogenic** materials.
6. The loudmouth's **clamorous exclamations** could be heard for blocks.
7. The candidate received a **plurality** but not a majority of votes.
8. The job has many **tangible** benefits, such as salary and a free car.
9. The regulations were too **stringent** for the footloose, creative artist.
10. Did the Emancipation Proclamation **liberate** the slaves?
11. There was a jungle near the **junction** of the Brazilian highways.
12. Would you rather be **excluded** from or **included** in our new group?
13. There was a **secret** decision to **secede** from the Union and to live apart.
14. The Amazon has many **tributaries** which pay their waters into the river.
15. Don't **dignify** his unworthy question with an answer.
16. Your **lucid** remarks greatly clarified the confusing issue.
17. The volcanic **eruption** of Vesuvius **disrupted** our celebration.
18. The **grateful** man was certainly no **ingrate**; he thanked us profusely.
19. It was a **mediocre** speech, neither excellent nor poor.
20. The **sophomore's** immature **philosophy** was **unsophisticated** and **sophomoric**.
21. His wandering remarks on current affairs were too **discursive** to endure.
22. Is human life **temporal** or eternal?
23. Do **migratory** species think about their distant destinations?
24. The **translucent** material allowed us to see the events on the other side.
25. Is the crime of **bigamy** a variation of monogamy or a form of polygamy?

The Word Within the Word • Analogies #6

1. **germane : irrelevant ::**
tangent : cotangent
philosophy : theosophy
sedulous : indolent
lucid : pellucid
2. **gregarious : solitude ::**
hermit : society
sociable : society
sociable : isolation
aggregate : congregate
3. **segregated : congregated ::**
secede : intercede
selection : predilection
temporary : contemporary
divided : united
4. **pyrophobia : pyrotechnics ::**
agoraphobia : festival
claustrophobia : fire
pyromania : egomania
gratitude : gratuitous
5. **migration : transmigration ::**
transfusion : fusion
animal : soul
lucid : translucent
migrant : emigrant
6. **egregious : condign ::**
gratuitous : indignation
stringent : astringent
diatribe : lucubrate
blatant : fitting
7. **emigrant : immigrant ::**
exclusive : con
segregate : congregate
incur : recur
exit : enter
8. **primate : primeval ::**
coelenterate : medieval
deliberate : archival
ingrate : credible
migrate : primal
9. **junction : conjunction ::**
injunction : conclusion
interstate : interjection
median : mediocre
translate : transmit
10. **ultramarine : submarine ::**
blue : ocean
marina : dock
mauve : pantechicon
surface : sailboat

1. An egregious act of vandalism is one that is flagrant, outrageous. Why? Because egregious combines the ideas of out (ex, shortened to e) and group (greg). An egregious act is committed out in front of the group, flagrantly.
2. One of the eight parts of speech is the conjunction. The term conjunction, like many others, is self-defining. A conjunction is a word which joins (junct) together (con) two words or two groups of words.
3. The word abrupt is used to indicate a change which is sudden and pronounced. But to feel the full descriptive force contained in the word, consider that abrupt describes the event which breaks (rupt) away (ab) from the present course. So abrupt implies both a suddenness and a violence. It is a breaking away.
4. Words sometimes make strange logic-mates. What do an ancient mariner and a marinated dish have in common? They are both pickled in brine!
5. What does an exclamatory sentence do? We typically answer with a definition such as, it shows strong emotion. But a breakdown of the word itself offers a more vivid, equally clear answer. An exclamatory sentence cries out (clam), way out (ex).
6. A Micropoem: Sometimes a word has an unexpected sharp edge. An exclusive club is not merely one which is fashionable and expensive, it is one which admits some people and closes (clud) out (ex) others. Politicians sometimes land in controversy over their membership in exclusive (out-closing) clubs.
7. It is possible for language to raise questions about the spirit. For example, is it consistent for a congregation (together/group) to practice segregation (apart/group)? Do these words express antithetical ideas? Are the ideas irreconcilable?
8. We say that clear glass is a translucent substance. Why? Because photons of light (luc) can cross (trans) through the glass without being turned back by the atoms in the glass. This light-crossing allows us to see what is on the other side of the glass.
9. Spanish Cognates: One of the most important observations to gain from the study of the etymology of English vocabulary is that English and Spanish share thousands of words that are cognates, related words, that have common origins. Often, the English and the Spanish word share not only a stem, but even more than one stem, and often in the same order. As examples, here are some English words from this lesson, and their Spanish cognates:

germinal : germinal
 aggregate : agregar
 declaim : declamar
 conjunction : conjunción
 secret : secreto
 translucent : translúcido
 bigamy : bigamia
 mediterranean : mediterráneo

ob against • upon • toward

The Latin stem *ob*, which we define as meaning *against*, actually can have a wide variety of meanings, and is sometimes changed to *oc*, *op*, or even *o*. Though *ob* usually means *against*, it can mean *opposed to*, *toward*, *before*, *upon*, *over*, *completely*, or even *oppositely*. Here are some of the interesting words that contain *ob* in its various shades of meaning.

obliterate: flattened at the poles. The water balloon was obliterate as it spun in the air.
 obituary: notice of death. The obituary page chronicled the spread of the virus.
 oblivious: forgetful. Crief had mad them oblivious to life's ordinary concerns.
 oblique: evasive. She gave oblique answers to his direct questions.
 obligate: to bind. He felt obligated to fulfill his commitment.
 obliterate: to blot out. The boy soon obliterated all signs of the ant hill.
 obnoxious: very offensive. His ethnocentric language was obnoxious and repugnant.
 obscure: one opposed to enlightenment. No proposal satisfied the obdurate obscureant
 obscure: to beg. It was useless to obsecrate in such circumstances.
 obsolete: no longer in use. The practice of bleeding the patient is now obsolete.
 obstinate: stubborn. Listening carefully and being obstinate are inversely proportional.
 obtruse: slow to understand. He blinked at her, his countenance obtuse.
 obvious: evident. "We hold these truths to be obvious," he wrote perplexedly.
 occult: concealed or esoteric. Faustus followed an occult path to his own perdition.
 opponent: an adversary. On the basketball court the two friends became arch opponents.
 oppress: to tyrannize. The nation was oppressed under the power of the tyrant.
 opportune: fitting. It was an opportune moment to announce the appointment.
 oppugnant: antagonistic. He glowered up beneath his oppugnant eyebrows.
 obligator: indispensable. The musical passage was marked *obligato*, so he played it
 obvoid: egg-shaped. The obovoid forms in the ground proved to be dinosaur eggs.
 oblation: a sacrifice. They discussed the necessary oblation to appease the god.