
The Word Within the Word • List #7

numer	<i>(number)</i>	enumerate, numeral, numerous, supernumeraries, numerology	<i>Latin</i>
fort	<i>(strong)</i>	fortitude, fort, fortify, fortification, comfort, forte, fortissimo, pianoforte	<i>Latin</i>
osteo	<i>(bone)</i>	osteopath, osteology, osteopathy, osteoblast, osteocyte, osteotomy	<i>Greek</i>
ornith	<i>(bird)</i>	ornithology, ornithologist, ornithopter, ornithomancy, ornithosis	<i>Greek</i>
polis	<i>(city)</i>	metropolis, megalopolis, police, polite, policy, acropolis, necropolis	<i>Greek</i>
fus	<i>(pour)</i>	transfusion, infusion, refuse, fusillade, fusion, infuse, confusion	<i>Latin</i>
ego	<i>(I)</i>	egomaniac, egocentric, egotistical, egotist, egotize, egoism, alter ego	<i>Latin</i>
spir	<i>(breathe)</i>	inspire, respiration, perspiration, expire, spirit, aspire, conspire	<i>Latin</i>
dia	<i>(across)</i>	diagonal, diameter, dialogue, dialect, diatribe, diaphanous, dialectic	<i>Greek</i>
acr	<i>(sharp)</i>	acrimonious, acerbity, acrid, acridine, acrimony, acerate	<i>Latin</i>
acro	<i>(high)</i>	acrobat, acronym, acropolis, acrophobia, acromegaly, acrocarpous	<i>Greek</i>
culp	<i>(blame)</i>	culprit, culpable, exculpate, inculpate, exculpatory	<i>Latin</i>
derm	<i>(skin)</i>	dermatologist, dermatitis, pachyderm, hypodermic, ectoderm, endoderm	<i>Greek</i>
zo	<i>(animal)</i>	zoo, protozoa, zoophilous, zooplankton, zoophagous, Mesozoic, zodiac	<i>Greek</i>
per	<i>(through)</i>	perception, perforation, percolate, perambulate, peregrination	<i>Latin</i>
pac	<i>(peace)</i>	pacify, pacific, pacifist, pacifier, pacifism, Pax Romana, pacification	<i>Latin</i>
brev	<i>(short)</i>	brevity, abbreviation, breve, breviary, brevirostrate, brief	<i>Latin</i>
necro	<i>(death)</i>	necropolis, necromancer, necrophobia, necrotic, necrobiosis	<i>Greek</i>
urb	<i>(city)</i>	urban, urbane, suburbs, urbanite, urbanologist, urbanism	<i>Latin</i>
pugn	<i>(fight)</i>	pugnacious, repugnant, pugilist, impugn, oppugn, inexpugnable	<i>Latin</i>
ecto	<i>(outer)</i>	ectoderm, ectozoa, ectomorph, ectothermic, ectoplasm, ectoparasite	<i>Greek</i>
plasto	<i>(molded)</i>	plastic, dermoplasty, rhinoplasty, plaster, plasticity, plastid	<i>Greek</i>
agog	<i>(leader)</i>	demagogue, pedagogue, synagogue, agogics, pedagogy, mystagogue	<i>Greek</i>
cle	<i>(small)</i>	molecule, corpuscle, follicle, minuscule, ventricle, particle, vessicle	<i>Latin</i>
il	<i>(not)</i>	illegal, illiterate, illicit, illogical, illegible, illiberal	<i>Latin</i>

The Word Within the Word • Sentences #7

1. Please **enumerate** your reasons.
2. Her character is one of great personal **fortitude**.
3. The **osteologist** was called in for consultation on his bone condition.
4. **Ornithology** is a science for the bird lovers of the world.
5. **Metropolitan** policy called for the police to be polite.
6. The stubborn old man refused to have the blood **transfusion**.
7. Vic is not just **egocentric**; he is an **egomaniac**.
8. The ancient poet was **inspired** by the Muse of poetry.
9. Ralph expected a pleasant **dialogue** but received a scathing **diatribe**.
10. The **acrimonious** dispute was disturbing to everyone.
11. Unfortunately, the culprit was **exculpated** and escaped punishment.
12. A **pachyderm** rarely suffers from dermatitis on its trunk.
13. Does the **zoo** have a **protozoan** exhibit with microscopes to look through?
14. The perforations let water **percolate** through the membrane.
15. The angry **pacifists** were not pacified by the president's militaristic speech.
16. A long discursive speech lacks **brevity**.
17. If you have **necrophobia**, avoid the **necropolis**.
18. The wealthy **urbanite** in Chicago had urbane manners.
19. His **pugnacious** attitude was **repugnant** to his peace-loving friends.
20. **Ectothermic** species enjoy the summer warmth.
21. A plastic surgery question: "Is **rhinoplasty** a form of **dermoplasty**?"
22. Is a corrupt politician a **demagogue** or a **pedagogue**?
23. Is a blood **corpuscle** larger than a **molecule**?
24. Your corrupt suggestion is both **illegal** and **illogical**.
25. The unfortunate **acrobat** suffered from **acrophobia**.

The Word Within the Word • Analogies #7

1. **metropolis : necropolis ::**
condominium : cemetery
acropolis : acrophobia
acronym : pseudonym
megalopolis : necrotic
2. **exculpate : culprit ::**
illiterate : liberal
enumerate : acrid
abbreviate : ornithopter
liberate : oppressed
3. **pugilist : pugnacious ::**
mystagogue : religious
dermatologist : dermatitis
police : police
pedagogue : pedant
4. **ectothermic : endothermic ::**
dermoplasty : rhinoplasty
heterotrophic : autotrophic
acrimonious : acerbic
infuse : refuse
5. **osteopath : osteotomy ::**
surgeon : surgery
pedagogue : chalk
ectozoa : ectoplasm
demagogue : election
6. **bird : ornithology ::**
ichthyologist : fish
fish : ichthyologist
fish : ichthyology
fish : bird
7. **pachyderm : hypodermic ::**
dermatologist : ectoderm
giraffe : telescope
pedagogue : demagogue
synagogue : mystagogue
8. **urban : urbane ::**
metropolitan : suave
illiterate : illicit
egotistical : egocentric
fortify : fortitude
9. **acrobat : acrophobia ::**
acronym : pseudonym
acropolis : bibliophile
merchant : agoraphobia
demagogue : claustrophobia
10. **protozoan : pachyderm ::**
zooplankton : sequoia
pacific : Pax Romana
plastic : dermoplasty
ectozoa : minuscule

1. A Micropeem: We know that to be an inspired artist is to be moved by a profound need and ability to create. But there is an image of great beauty contained in the word *inspiration*. The accidents, like many creative people today, felt that their creative powers were not purely their own, but that somehow they were able to receive their visions from forces beyond themselves. They believed in the Muses, beautiful goddesses of art, poetry, and music, who provided the human artist with inspiration as a gift. Imagine the solitary poet, working late into the night, straining to find the word, sound, or image that will raise his poem to a state of beauty. He doesn't hear the Muse come into the room behind him; he doesn't feel a thing as she breathes (spirit) the creative spirit into (in) him. But he has become in-spired, and as his poem comes to life, he realizes what has happened.

2. Sometimes words that we regard as dignified academic or scientific terms actually have an almost laughable worldiness. The highly specialized cardiologist examining the patient's heart finds himself listening to the right ventricle, literally the little (ele) belly (ventri)! And what does a muscle look like? It looks like a little (ole) mouse (mus) running under the skin!

3. *Egocentric* is an enjoyable adjective. It pictures the overly self-impressed person as the center of a sort of ego-system, with everything and everyone else in orbit around him in concentric circles. I (ego), this adjective claims, am the center (center) of the universe. Sorry, Copernicus.

4. When we give a baby a pacifier we are trying to make (fy) peace (pac) with the little guy, who is in a state of war.

5. *Expire* is a vivid and poignant verb. It describes the breathing (spir) out (ex) of one's last breath.

6. Words sometimes contain instructions for doing things. In order to find a diameter, we simply measure (meter) across (dia).

7. Burial customs vary with climate and terrain. In moist, cool climates with soft earth, burial underground is common. But in some desert areas, where the sun is blazing and the near-zero humidity dries everything quickly, a traveler might come upon a necropolis. This is a city (polis) of the dead (necro) where people have constructed rooms above ground to contain human remains. As the years pass and the number of rooms rises, the necropolis begins to resemble a true city.

8. Some words are based on historical attitudes which may even be prejudicial. A polite person, the word implies, is one with city (polis) manners, not country manners.

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:

- fortification : fortificación
- egocentric : egocéntrico
- culpable : culpable
- peregrination : peregrinación
- urbane : urbano
- repugnant : repugnante
- demeagogue : demagoggo
- follicle : folículo
- muscle : músculo

ad

to • toward • nearness

The Latin stem *ad*, which we define as meaning *to*, can have a wide variety of meanings, and is sometimes altered to *ac*, *af*, *an*, *al*, *ar*, or *ag*. Though *ad* often means *away*, it can mean *toward*, *addition to*, or *nearness to*. Here are some of the interesting words that contain *ad* in its various shades of meaning:

- adapt:** to adjust. The species adapted for survival on the fourth planet.
- ad infinitum:** to infinity. The tedious debate over rules dragged on and on, *ad infinitum*.
- adjacent:** adjoining. Bobby Fischer heard Petrosian's phone ring in the adjacent room.
- advice:** cite as proof. She adduced three examples as proof of her position.
- ad nauseam:** to a disgusting extreme. The star-struck host praised the celebrity *ad nauseam*.
- affinity:** close relationship. They were related by affinity — not by consanguinity.
- affluence:** rich abundance. Ellison's *Invisible Man* was not about an affluent protagonist.
- agglutinate:** stick together. The sesquipedalian word was an agglutination of small words.
- allege:** to claim without proof. He was innocent of the crimes alleged against him.
- alleviate:** to lighten. Dr. Frankenstein refused to alleviate the monster's loneliness.
- annul:** to invalidate. He immediately annulled the decrees of the former emperor.
- annex:** to incorporate. The dictator intended to annex all adjacent nations.
- arrogate:** an upstart parvenu. The old-money families scorned the pretentious arriviste.
- arrogate:** to claim unrightfully. He arrogated to himself the benefits due to others.
- accession:** attaining. Macbeth's accession to the throne was an evil accomplishment.
- adjure:** to entreat solemnly. Hamlet's mother adjured him to remain in Denmark.
- adscriptitious:** added externally. Adscriptitious data contradicted the initial internal findings.
- advertent:** attentive. The students listened, intent and advertent, to the poet's every word.
- adverse:** opposed. The national mood was adverse to her program for rigorous schools.
- adjunct:** a secondary addition. She viewed vice-president as a fawning adjunct.
- ad hoc:** for a special purpose. She appointed an *ad hoc* committee to investigate.