LANGUAGE ARTS
STUDENT BOOK

12th Grade | Unit 1
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The Worth of Words

Introduction

Samuel T. Coleridge once said, “Language is the armory of the human mind, and at once contains the trophies of its past, and the weapons of its future conquest.”

Every time we speak or write, two pieces of information are communicated: the message we intended and our level of education. All of us want to be respected and admired. A certain portion of this respect is accomplished through our ability to express ourselves accurately. Such a goal requires an extensive vocabulary.

We think with words. Therefore if our word banks are limited, our thought processes are inhibited. The word-power extension that this LIFEPAC® provides will improve individual communication and make possible greater spiritual comprehension.

In the study of this LIFEPAC, you will find the opportunity to increase your word power; to expand it, not arithmetically \(4 + 4 = 8\), but exponentially \(4^2 = 16\). You will learn Latin and Greek roots, prefixes and suffixes, and their meanings. Since half of the words in the English language come from Latin and Greek, the application of this learning will improve your comprehension of approximately one hundred thousand words; thus it will upgrade your ability to express yourself clearly.

Objectives

Read these objectives. The objectives tell you what you will be able to do when you have successfully completed this LIFEPAC. When you have finished this LIFEPAC, you will be able to:

1. Recognize word roots, prefixes and suffixes, and their meanings.
2. Translate into meaning, words you have not seen before.
3. Spell certain words more easily because you know their roots.
4. Count many new words in your vocabulary as a result of learning and applying your knowledge of roots and affixes.
5. Evaluate your own writing in relation to its unity and coherence.
6. Develop paragraphs through the proper use of topic sentences and controlling ideas.
7. Write unified coherent paragraphs.
8. Find and correct mechanical errors.
9. Find and correct errors in manuscript form.
10. Recognize and use proper sentence structure.
11. Identify and correct common grammatical errors in your own writing.
12. Use proper diction and correct improper usage.
Survey the LIFEPAC. Ask yourself some questions about this study and write your questions here.

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1. WORD STUDY

To use words correctly and effectively, you must understand words. In this section you will be working with words. First, you will make words through the use of a word wheel. Next, you will study such word elements as prefixes, suffixes, and roots. Finally, you will learn more about certain categories of words that meet specific needs. You will discover some new terms used by people in various specialized fields. Not only will you become acquainted with a few terms used by construction workers, chefs, and firefighters, but you will also be exposed to some scientific, literary, musical, and mathematical terms. One final group of words you will study deals with acronyms. Your comprehension of many words will increase as a result of the daily application of the information learned in this section.

Section Objectives

Review these objectives. When you have completed this section, you should be able to:

1. Recognize word roots, prefixes and suffixes, and their meanings.
2. Translate into meaning, words you have not seen before.
3. Spell certain words more easily because you know their roots.
4. Count many new words in your vocabulary as a result of learning and applying your knowledge of roots and affixes.

Vocabulary

Study these words to enhance your learning success in this section.

artiste  
barometer  
*basso profundo*  
belles  
cuisine  
cymbal  
dome mountain  
euphemism  
igneous  
maitre d’  
metamorphic  
sedimentary  
texturing  
vertebrate

Note: All vocabulary words in this LIFEPAC appear in boldface print the first time they are used. If you are not sure of the meaning when you are reading, study the definitions given.
WORD FORMS AND MEANINGS

You probably know more about word study than you think. You speak of an automatic transmission, and you know what that term means. Did you realize that automat comes from the Greek automatos, which means self-acting, and that the suffix -ic means having the nature of and indicates an adjective? Trans means across; mis is the root word meaning to send; and -ion is a suffix meaning an act or process and indicates a noun. The automatic transmission is a self-acting system of gears that sends power from the engine across to the live axle. Most people simply accept a term for a unit, such as a transmission, without knowing what the unit does and, therefore, why it was designated by that term.

Word study makes you more aware of word elements you have used for years. Separating these word elements and learning their original meanings will unlock the interpretations of thousands of new words for you. Tying the unknown to things you already know is one of the best ways of learning.

Making words. Use as many of your five senses and as much of your previous knowledge as you can to grasp the import of new combination of roots, suffixes and prefixes. Multiply the root by adding prefixes and suffixes. Here are some prefixes and suffixes that will help you build words.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Prefixes</th>
<th>Simple Meaning</th>
<th>Suffixes</th>
<th>Simple Meaning</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ab-</td>
<td>away, away from</td>
<td>-able, -ible</td>
<td>capable of, able to</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ad-</td>
<td>to, toward</td>
<td>-al, -ial</td>
<td>process, act of doing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>contra-</td>
<td>against</td>
<td>-ate</td>
<td>to act or possess</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>e-</td>
<td>out, forth, away</td>
<td>-ary</td>
<td>of, related to, connected with</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>in-</td>
<td>into, within</td>
<td>-ion</td>
<td>act or process</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>inter-</td>
<td>between</td>
<td>-ive</td>
<td>one who performs an action</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>mal-</td>
<td>bad, abnormal, inadequate</td>
<td>-ian</td>
<td>one who is, relating to</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>pre-</td>
<td>before</td>
<td>-or, -er</td>
<td>one who does a specific thing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>trans-</td>
<td>across</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Automatic Transmission

| automat (Greek automatos = self-acting) |
| -ic (adj. suffix = having the nature of) |
| trans (trans = across; mis = to send) |
| -ion (noun suffix = an act or process) |

| automatic transmission: a self-acting system of gears that sends power from the engine across to the live axle. |
The following activity will help you make new words. Use the prefixes and suffixes previously listed to add to the root word in the center of the wheel. As you form words, try to think of the meaning of each.

Complete this activity.

1.1 Form new words by adding prefixes and suffixes to the following roots. Write them in the segments of the circle. Think up all of the words you can think of before you turn to the dictionary. It’s more fun—and faster. You might even take this activity home and see how many words your family can think of in addition to yours.
1.2

voc, vok = to call

1.3

ven = to come
Write three sentences for each root word using three words from each of the wheels.

1.5 dic, dict
   a. ____________________________________________________________________________________________________
   b. ____________________________________________________________________________________________________
   c. ____________________________________________________________________________________________________

1.6 voc, vok
   a. ____________________________________________________________________________________________________
   b. ____________________________________________________________________________________________________
   c. ____________________________________________________________________________________________________

1.7 ven
   a. ____________________________________________________________________________________________________
   b. ____________________________________________________________________________________________________
   c. ____________________________________________________________________________________________________

1.8 vert
   a. ____________________________________________________________________________________________________
   b. ____________________________________________________________________________________________________
   c. ____________________________________________________________________________________________________