

Greek Roots *gram*, *soph*, *mech*, and *poli*

FOCUS

The **Greek root *gram*** means “letter” or “written.” For example, the word *grammar* means “the rules that tell how words should be used.”

The **Greek root *soph*** means “wisdom.” For example, the word *philosophy* means “love of wisdom.”

The **Greek root *mech*** means “machine.” For example, the word *mechanical* means “relating to machines.”

The **Greek root *poli*** means “city.” For example, the word *police* means “department in a city that enforces the laws.”

PRACTICE Think of a word that uses each Greek root given below. Write the word on the line, and then use it in a sentence.

1. *mech* meaning “machine” _____

2. *poli* meaning “city” _____

3. *soph* meaning “wisdom” _____

4. *gram* meaning “letter” or “written” _____

APPLY Choose a word from the box to complete each sentence. Each word contains the Greek root *gram*, *soph*, *mech*, or *poli*. Write the word on the line.

diagram	mechanism	monogram	philosopher
policy	political	sophisticated	Thermopolis

5. The amusement park's _____ allows each person to bring one bottle of water into the park.
6. The toy's winding _____ is broken, so the toy will not spin.
7. A _____ of the water cycle shows how water moves through the world.
8. Many people visit _____ to experience the hot springs.
9. It's obvious to whom that lunch box belongs because it has her _____ on it.
10. Plato was a Greek _____ who founded the Academy in Athens.
11. Although she is young, the author's style of writing is very _____.
12. The major parties created several _____ commercials leading up to the election.

Vocabulary

FOCUS Review the selection vocabulary words from “A Spy by Chance.”

befriend
blockade
camaraderie
checkpoints
enterprise
freely

frigid
gruffer
hull
keen
market square
oath

outgoing
pushcart
suspicions
under lock and key

PRACTICE Read each sentence. Write the vocabulary word or phrase on the line that best completes each sentence.

1. If you jump into a very cold lake, the water feels _____.
2. When you secure your belongings, you place your things _____.
3. If you make an official promise, you make a(n) _____.
4. When you make a friend of someone, you _____ that person.
5. If there is a place for selling goods in a public area of town, that area is a(n) _____.
6. If you speak without worry or concern, you speak _____.
7. If a coach talks in a rougher manner than other adults, he is _____ than others.
8. If you have a great friendship, you enjoy a(n) _____.
9. When you have doubts about a person’s statements, you have _____.
10. If you study the sides and bottom of a boat, you are looking at the boat’s _____.

11. If you are friendly and talkative, you could be described as _____.
12. When security guards put barriers in place to ensure people did not enter without a ticket, they set up _____.
13. If you push a small cart full of roses, you are moving a(n) _____.
14. If a person has a business of selling flowers from a cart, it could be called a(n) _____.
15. If you are eager or interested in hearing more about a sport, you are _____ to know more.
16. When the navy shut off the harbor to keep boats from leaving or coming, they created a(n) _____.

APPLY Read each sentence. Answer each question by explaining the underlined vocabulary word in your own words.

17. Jacob has an enterprise selling lemonade on Saturdays. What does this mean?

18. The air outside is frigid. How should you dress and why?

19. Savannah and Sarah have a great camaraderie. What does that mean?

20. It is easy to befriend Mia because she is so outgoing. How does her personality help?

The Scavenger Hunt

I live in a town that has a small market square in the downtown area. A park sits in the center of the market square, which is created by four streets. Each street has a line of shops that face the park. The park has sidewalks that run through it, connecting the streets and shops. From time to time, the town will set up blockades for activities in the park, so people can walk freely in the streets from the shops to the park and back. Each year, I keenly await the annual spring scavenger hunt.

Teams of two compete to find a special prize secured under lock and key in the market square. The teams must figure out clues and work their way through a series of checkpoints to win the prize. Because the same people participate each year, the teams share a sense of camaraderie as they compete. We also befriend many of the shopkeepers when we go downtown on other occasions throughout the year. They can often be helpful in the scavenger hunt.

In the past, I have competed with my father, who can sometimes seem a bit gruff to others. His gruffness and my shy personality have made it difficult for us to find some of the clues in previous scavenger hunts. People do not always want to help us, and once we were even ignored! So, this year, I asked my mother to be my partner. She is much more outgoing, and she knows many of the shopkeepers. I have a suspicion that my father is keen that my mother is my partner this year. He smiled and wished us good luck as he sat back with his coffee, hurrying us out the door.

Since we live only a few blocks from the market square, my mother and I walked quickly to the downtown park. We passed the blockade easily on foot, and then made our way to the location where the hunt would start. We registered and received an envelope with our first clue, but we needed to wait for the mayor's signal before opening it.

The mayor announced the rules and asked all of the competitors to take an oath. We promised to follow the rules, follow the clues, and to be kind to our fellow scavengers. The mayor reminded us that we had to give each completed clue to a person at a marked checkpoint to receive the next clue.

I ripped open the envelope as soon as the mayor said “Go!” Inside, the clue said: *Choose BLOOMS or BALLOONS.* I looked around the market square and saw two pushcarts. One had flowers and the other had balloons. We headed to the pushcart with flowers, which was closest to us. There we had to arrange flowers to match a sample bouquet. We looked carefully, counting the number of each kind of flower, choosing the same from the cart. We took our finished bouquet to the marked checkpoint and received our next clue.

The next clue said: *Count the hulls, not the gulls, in the market square.* It sounded simple enough, until we saw all the little boat sculptures and pictures in the windows. We walked past all the shops and enterprises around the market square, counting each hull we saw. We gave the number to the marked checkpoint, but it was incorrect! So, we went around again, looking closer and finding a few more boat hulls. Luckily, we got the right number the second time.

The third clue said: *Find a coin with the number 2 in the place with tiles of blue.* It had to be the park fountain with the blue tiles! We raced over to the fountain and dipped our hands in the frigid water, looking for a coin with a number 2. We found one and delivered it to the marked checkpoint, where we got our final clue: *Find the treasure at the enterprise between the pushcarts. To unlock: number of red, number of hulls, year on coin.*

We looked between the flower pushcart and the balloon pushcart and saw the gruffest man I’d ever seen sitting next to a cooler. He had a handmade sign selling water for a dollar. We went over to the man, and my outgoing mother had no problem starting a conversation with him. His gruffness melted away as my mother talked and asked about the treasure. He opened the cooler to show a treasure chest and asked us for the combination. We needed four numbers to open the box.

We thought back to our previous clues. We gathered eight red carnations, then counted thirty-three hulls, and finally found a coin with the year 2007. When we added all those numbers, we got 2048, so we tried that number. It worked and we won!

Making Inferences

FOCUS

Readers get clues from the text and use their own prior knowledge to **make inferences** about characters and events in a story.

PRACTICE Read each sentence below. Make an inference about the character based on the sentence and write it on the line.

1. Nick attached the number to his tank top, tightened his shoestrings, and listened for the start.

Inference: _____

2. Imani wandered through the large building, stopping to appreciate the large painted canvases.

Inference: _____

3. Angelo took a deep breath and awaited his next word, sure he would know its spelling.

Inference: _____

4. Emily studied the map, checked her bag, and double-checked the email.

Inference: _____

5. Kevin tapped his fingers on the desk, looked out the window again, and shook his head.

Inference: _____

6. Kayla grabbed the broken toy, marched over to the boy and his mother, and then spoke directly.

Inference: _____

APPLY Read the description of each character below. Then write a short paragraph describing how the character feels or acts without actually stating it.

7. a student who is polite and respectful

8. a friend who is heartbroken

9. a classmate who is shy

10. a teammate who is selfish

Name _____

Date _____

Persuasive Letter

Think

Audience: Who will read your persuasive letter?

Purpose: What is your reason for writing a persuasive letter?

PREWRITING Persuasive writing is used to convince someone to agree with your opinion. Use the graphic organizer below to plan your persuasive letter.

1. Establish your position.	
2. Provide sound reasons. Support them with detailed and relevant evidence.	
3. Consider alternatives and opposing arguments.	
4. Include an emotional appeal that will be effective with your audience.	
5. Close your letter by restating your position and asking the reader for action, if appropriate.	

REVISING Use this checklist to revise your persuasive letter.

- Have you made your position clear in the introduction?
- Did you use persuasive techniques that will appeal to your audience?
- Have you included strong, persuasive reasons to support your position?
- Have you included an emotional appeal to your audience?
- Did you address an opposing view?
- Have you used only formal and polite language?
- Did you thank your reader in the conclusion?

EDITING/PROOFREADING Use this checklist to correct mistakes in your persuasive letter.

- Did you use proofreading symbols when editing?
- Did you check for mistakes in pronoun use?
- Did you format your letter correctly?
- Did you check the writing for misspelled words?
- Did you check the writing for mistakes in punctuation?

PUBLISHING Use this checklist to prepare your persuasive letter for publishing.

- Write or type a neat copy of your letter.
- Address an envelope and mail your letter.

Greek Roots *gram, soph, mech, and poli*

FOCUS Many English words contain **Greek roots**, and knowing the meanings of these roots can help you understand the meanings of unfamiliar or challenging words.

gram = “letter” or “written”; **soph** = “wisdom”
mech = “machine”; **poli** = “city”

PRACTICE Fill in the appropriate Greek root to form a spelling word.

Word List

- | | |
|------------------|-------------------|
| 1. anagram | 11. monogram |
| 2. diagram | 12. philosopher |
| 3. epigram | 13. philosophy |
| 4. grammar | 14. policy |
| 5. mechanic | 15. political |
| 6. mechanical | 16. politician |
| 7. mechanism | 17. seismogram |
| 8. mechanized | 18. sophisticated |
| 9. metropolis | 19. sophomore |
| 10. metropolitan | 20. telegram |

Challenge Words

1. cardiogram
2. cosmopolitan
3. grammatical

- | | |
|-------------------|-----------------|
| 1. epi_____ | 8. _____omore |
| 2. _____isticated | 9. philo_____er |
| 3. metro_____tan | 10. metro_____s |
| 4. _____anism | 11. tele_____ |
| 5. seismo_____ | 12. mono_____ |
| 6. _____tical | 13. _____anized |
| 7. _____anical | 14. philo_____y |

15. _____cy

18. ana_____

16. dia_____

19. _____anic

17. _____tician

20. _____mar

APPLY Write the spelling word that matches each definition.

21. a graphic written about ground motion

22. a written message sent across distances

23. the study of wisdom

24. make a process mechanical

25. rule or law for a city

26. wise in the ways of the world

27. someone who works with machines

Circle the correctly spelled word.

28. metropolis

matropollis

29. philosopher

philosopher

30. grammer

grammar

31. politician

pollititian

32. mechanism

machenism

33. annegram

anagram

34. diagram

diogram

Demonstrative, Indefinite, Reflexive, and Relative Pronouns

- FOCUS**
- A **demonstrative pronoun** points out a particular person, place, or thing. *This* and *these* refer to people, places, or things that are nearby. *That* and *those* refer to people, places, or things that are farther away.
That was my favorite part of the book.
 - An **indefinite pronoun** does not refer to specific people, places, or things. Examples of indefinite pronouns include *everyone*, *no one*, *somebody*, *somewhere*, *nothing*, *several*, and *anyone*.
Somebody always brings a treat on the last day of school.
 - A **reflexive pronoun** refers to the subject of a sentence and receives the action of the verb. Reflexive pronouns always end with *-self* or *-selves*.
Josh made **himself** a sandwich after school.
 - A **relative pronoun** introduces a relative clause. Relative clauses are used to provide additional information about a noun. The relative pronouns are *that*, *which*, *who*, *whom*, *where*, and *whose*.
The boy **who** broke his leg in gym sits behind me in English.

PRACTICE Complete each sentence with the type of pronoun shown in parentheses.

1. _____ will know who decorated the auditorium for the dance. (indefinite)
2. The playground _____ I usually go with my brother is just a few blocks away. (relative)
3. Bake _____ for a longer amount of time than you would bake bread. (demonstrative)
4. Katelynn wrote _____ a note so she would not forget to practice. (reflexive)

Circle the pronoun that best completes the sentence.

5. (Several, One) leave early each year.
6. (That, These) is the best route to take to school.
7. Jun and I built (ourself, ourselves) a fort in the woods.
8. Ms. Paulson, to (who, whom) I gave the note, claims she never got it.
9. The prize (that, whose) Niko won will be mailed to him tomorrow.
10. Please tell (everyone, anybody) that the concert has be rescheduled.
11. All of (that, those) have been reserved for the guests of honor.
12. The Chens bought (themselves, themselves) a new grill.
13. Charley gave his old computer to the couple (who, whom) live on the corner.
14. (Many, Everybody) try, but (one, few) succeed.

Write a sentence using each type of pronoun.

15. demonstrative

16. reflexive

17. indefinite

18. relative
