1 What is a prologue?

Language focus

Many suffixes and prefixes have Latin or Greek origins. Knowing what each one means can help you decode other words that use the same prefix or word root.

Pro has more than one meaning when used as a prefix:

1 for (substitute); 2 for (in favour of); 3 going or putting forward; 4 coming before.

1 Use the context in each sentence to decide which meaning of the prefix is used. Write the corresponding number next to each sentence.

   a. The school is **promoting** healthy eating this week. ____________

   b. We debated the **pros** and cons of uniform in last week’s assembly.

   ______________

   c. The doctor carried out a life-saving **procedure** on the baby.

   ______________

   d. As soon as I the read the **prologue**, I knew I would enjoy this book.

   ______________

   e. **Pronouns** stand in for nouns to prevent repetition. ______________

2 Choose three words from the box and write a sentence for each to demonstrate that you understand the meaning.

   profession prodigy project prolific pronunciation proficient prospect
Anti (also ant) meaning against or opposite can be an antonym for pro.

Choose the correct word from the box to match each definition. Only use a dictionary to check your answers at the end.

antisocial antifreeze antibody anti-climax
Antarctic antidote antibiotic antiseptic
anticlockwise antithesis

1 A substance produced in your blood to fight disease: __________
2 The very cold area around the South Pole: __________
3 Harmful to society; avoiding spending time with other people: __________
4 A disappointing experience, less exciting than expected: __________
5 A medicine that prevents harmful bacteria in the body: __________
6 A liquid added to water to lower its freezing temperature: __________
7 The exact opposite; a contrast between two things: __________
8 A chemical used to prevent infection in an injury: __________
9 A chemical to limit the effects of poison: __________
10 In the opposite direction to the movement of the hands of a clock: __________
Choose the correct prefix from the box to complete each word. Then use a dictionary to write the meaning of the prefix next to each completed word.

Example: ultra violet extremely

1 _____ cast ____________ 6 _____ active ____________
2 _____ structure ____________ 7 _____ pare ____________
3 _____ meter ____________ 8 _____ clude ____________
4 _____ pone ____________ 9 _____ merge ____________
5 _____ gon ____________ 10 _____ chronise ____________

2 Delve into detail

Use the etymological dictionary to answer the questions below.

**Etymological dictionary entry**

**phobia n.** An irrational or extreme fear of something. First recorded use in English c.1786 possibly via French *phobie*. Originally the word was extracted from compound words using *phobia* as a suffix in Ancient Greek, stemming from the Greek word *phobos* (φόβος) meaning fear, panic fear or terror.

**Language focus**

Many of the suffixes and prefixes we use came originally from ancient Greek or Latin words. Knowing what the root word means helps you unlock the meaning of other words containing the root word. Root words can appear as suffixes, prefixes or in the middle of words. Etymological dictionaries give the word’s origin as well as its meaning.
1 What does *phobia* mean? _____________________________

2 What word class is it? _______________________________

3 When was it first used in English? ____________________

4 What is the origin of the word? _______________________

5 Use the word *phobia* in a sentence of your own.
   __________________________________________________

Circle all the words in the wordsearch containing *phobia*. Use a dictionary to help you.

What’s your phobia? _________________________________

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Research three phobias using an etymological dictionary if possible. Find out the meaning of each and write its word origin. Follow the example below.

**Example:** _sidero_ phobia  _fear of the stars_.

**Etymology:** Greek _sideros_ (iron; star group).

1. _____ phobia  ________________________ .
   **Etymology:** ________________________
2. _____ phobia  ________________________ .
   **Etymology:** ________________________
3. _____ phobia  ________________________ .
   **Etymology:** ________________________

**Phil** is a word root meaning love in Ancient Greek. Choose the right word to complete these sentences and underline the root in each:

- **bibliophiles**  philosopher  **philanthropists**  philharmonic  philately

1. Aristotle is a famous Ancient Greek ____________________ and scientist.
2. ____________________ is the collection and study of postage stamps.
3. ____________________ make charitable donations to promote human well-being.
4. Many librarians are also ____________________ .
5. The Vienna ____________________ Orchestra is a world famous orchestra.
Identify different types of nouns.

1. Under each box write the correct type of noun for the words in italics.

   The Orange River flows through South Africa.

   The river flowed through woodlands and fields.

   Happiness is the opposite of sorrow; both are emotions.

   The colony of water voles lives near a scattering of herons.

2. What is special about the way proper nouns are written?

3. What type of noun is the underlined word in each sentence?
   a. Our address is 24 Main Road, Toorak, Sydney, Australia.

   b. The road is dangerous when it is wet.

4. Explain your answers for a and b in question 3.
5 Match each noun to its correct collective noun.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Noun</th>
<th>Collective Noun</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>herons</td>
<td>colony, huddle</td>
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<tr>
<td>flamingos</td>
<td>flamboyance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>penguins</td>
<td>siege, sedge or scattering</td>
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<tr>
<td>hummingbirds</td>
<td>wedge, ballet, lamentation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>starlings</td>
<td>charm, glittering, shimmer, tune, bouquet</td>
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<tr>
<td>vultures</td>
<td>rafter, gobble</td>
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<tr>
<td>turkeys</td>
<td>chattering, affliction, murmuration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>swans</td>
<td>committee, venue, volt, wake</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

6 Choose your two favourite collective nouns and use each in a sentence.

a ________________________________
b ________________________________

Language focus

Abstract nouns are things you cannot see, hear, smell, taste or touch. They describe something that is known, learned, thought, understood or felt emotionally.

7 Circle the words in the box that are abstract nouns.

market power school curiosity trust rope liberty wind patriotism moonlight loyalty science sympathy optimism journey jubilation earth glee enthusiasm library destiny courage soccer street ability teacher anger holiday affection
8 Choose three abstract nouns that you are not so familiar with. Look them up in the dictionary and use each in a sentence to show that you understand them.

a

b

c

Write down the proper adjective formed from each of these proper nouns.

**Language focus**

Proper adjectives are formed from proper nouns, so they also take a capital letter: *Morocco* (n) – *Moroccan* (adj).

a Hawaii ______

b Islam ______

c Russia ______

d Germany ______

e China ______

f Mexico ______

g Hungary ______

h Slovak ______

What is the proper adjective related to the country where you live?
4 Write a short prologue

A Make predictions from a prologue.

**Prologue**

Long before we arrived, long before any of us arrived, a different people lived here. I feel Them here with me, watching, waiting, wary as the wind rustles through the trees and the river chatters over the lumpy pebbles. We live close to a crossing; a shallow point in the river. It’s not a road exactly but you can tell somehow that it was once a well-trodden path – the easiest way across the river. We use the bridge now, where the cars and trucks crash by never noticing *the old way*. But I spend my time here, in the woods, sitting on the bank or following *the way* deep into the hills. Sometimes I find things, things that tell me about Them. Sometimes I wonder if They leave them for me to find. A tiny carving of an animal – hard to tell what sort now – but tiny and perfectly carved from bone, I think. A pile of stones in a ring fused by time and weather into the ground. Holes gouged out of rock in a pattern, as if for a game of sorts. A painting on the rocks, faded but there. Sometimes I know They are watching me, waiting for me to come and They walk with me as I venture further and further from where I know. One day, perhaps I will go too far but I trust they will always lead me home …

1 Read the prologue and answer the questions.

a What tense is the prologue mostly written in? __________________________

b Suggest a reason why this tense has been used.

________________________________________________________

c Why is the first sentence in a different tense? __________________________

________________________________________________________

d Scan the prologue to find another example of a different tense. Why is it used?

________________________________________________________
e. Is the prologue in first or third person narrative? ________________________

f. Explain how you know. ____________________________________________

g. Suggest why the author has written some words in italics. ________________________________

h. What is the effect of certain personal pronouns being given a capital letter?

i. What is the purpose of the ellipsis (…) at the end of the prologue?

j. Who do you think They are? ________________________________

2. What genre of book do you predict this is going to be? Why?

3. Make some predictions about the storyline. Use the questions in the box to help you.

**Things to think about:**
What sort of person is the main character? Why might the narrator spend so much time alone? Who could They be? Are the things the narrator finds clues? To what? What does the last line foreshadow about the plot?