GRAMMAR

# Greek and Latin roots

Name _____ Date _____

I can use Greek and Latin roots to work out what a word means.

## 1 The rule

**Many words come from Greek and Latin roots. Knowing a root helps you work out a word: tele means far, aqua means water, graph means write.**

We used a **telescope** and a **microscope** at the science fair.

## 2 Look and say



**telephone**
tele = far



**aquarium**
aqua = water



**geography**
geo = earth



**microscope**
micro = small



**biology**
bio = life



**transport**
port = carry



**autograph**
graph = write



**photograph**
photo = light

**How did I do?** ☆ ☆ ☆

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# Sort the words

Name _____ Date _____

Which root does each word have? Write it in the right box.

## 1 Word bank

telescope | photograph | transport | paragraph | export | telephone | microscope | microchip | autograph | microphone | portable | television

| tele (far) | graph (write) | micro (small) | port (carry) |
|---|---|---|---|
| _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ |
| _____ | _____ | _____ | _____ |

**How did I do?** ☆ ☆ ☆

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# Find it in a sentence

Name _____ Date _____

**Read each sentence. Circle the word with a Greek or Latin root.**

1. We saw stars through a telescope.
2. Fish swim in the aquarium.
3. The speaker used a microphone.
4. My laptop is portable.
5. I got the author's autograph.
6. We study maps in geography.
7. Plants are part of biology.
8. We watched the game on television.

**How did I do?** ☆ ☆ ☆

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# Write it

Name _____ Date _____

**Use the roots. Write the word from the box that matches each meaning.**

**1 Word bank**

telescope | microscope | aquarium | portable | autograph | biology

1. see far away = _____
2. see small things = _____
3. a water tank for fish = _____
4. can be carried = _____
5. a name you write = _____
6. the study of life = _____

**How did I do?** ☆ ☆ ☆

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FOR TEACHERS AND PARENTS

# Answer key: greek and latin roots

## 1 Sort the words

tele (far): telephone, telescope, television
graph (write): autograph, paragraph, photograph
micro (small): microscope, microphone, microchip
port (carry): transport, portable, export

## 2 Find it in a sentence

1. telescope 2. aquarium 3. microphone 4. portable 5. autograph 6. geography 7. biology 8. television

## 3 Write it

1. telescope 2. microscope 3. aquarium 4. portable 5. autograph 6. biology

## 4 Teaching tip

Start a root wall. Each time children meet a word with a root they know, they add it under the root. Seeing telephone, telescope and television together makes the meaning of tele stick.

**Watch for: Stopping at the root. A root is a clue, not the whole meaning: telephone is far plus sound (phone), so children should put the parts together and check the meaning in the sentence.**

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