



Scan for practice

Greek roots: student worksheet

Reference page / English vocabulary / No Greek or Latin reading required

Read each word part and example. Use these clues with the whole sentence. A root is not a complete definition.

Word part	Clue	Examples
tele-	Far; at a distance	telephone; telegraph
phon- / -phone	Sound; voice	telephone
graph- / -graph	Writing; recording	telegraph; autograph
micro-	Small	microscope

Worked example

We spoke by telephone while we were in different cities. Tele- supplies the distance clue and -phone the sound clue. The sentence confirms communication across distance. The whole word names a device for communication, not just “far sound.”

Check the whole meaning

A microscope makes very small objects easier to see. Micro- does not mean that the instrument must be tiny. Autograph can mean a person’s own handwritten signature; graph supplies a writing clue, but the whole word has a more specific meaning. These English words use Greek-derived parts; they did not all pass directly from Ancient Greek into English.

Hyphens mark word parts here; do not add them to complete English words. A spelling match alone does not prove a shared origin.

Next: complete page 2. Keep this page for support, or cover it for recall. The separate answer key is on the linked lesson.



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Greek roots: written practice

Name: _____ Date: _____

Cover page 1 for recall. Use the separate key only after you finish.

1. Write the distance word part and its meaning.

2. Which word part supplies the sound clue in telephone?

3. Which word part gives a writing or recording clue?

4. Write the smallness word part and its meaning.

5. "The museum showed how a telegraph sent coded messages between towns." Explain the two root clues and the whole word in this sentence.

6. "The actor wrote her autograph in my notebook." What does autograph mean here? Why is "writing" alone too broad?

7. "Our large classroom microscope revealed tiny details." Does micro- describe the size of the instrument? Explain.

8. Exit task: explain telephone using both root clues and the example sentence above. What would you check if the sentence were unclear?
