

poli, graph, chron, geo

Unit One

Sorting Words by Root: *chron, geo, graph, poli*

Sort the words below according to their roots. NOTE: One word contains two roots on the chart.

chron (time)	geo (earth)	graph (writing)	poli/polis/polit (city)

- | | | | |
|--------------|-------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| 1. geography | 4. politics | 7. policy | 10. geologist |
| 2. chronicle | 5. chronic | 8. graphite | 11. calligraphy |
| 3. paragraph | 6. geometry | 9. Indianapolis | 12. police |



Reading Word Parts and Making Words

Your teacher will read the words in line 1 and then read just the underlined part. Repeat what your teacher says. Then read the word parts in lines 2 and 3.

1. <u>ch</u> ronic	g <u>eom</u> etry	g <u>ra</u> phic	p <u>ol</u> itics				
2. geo	graph	polit	chron	graph	polit	chron	geo

Combine the word parts below to make 4 real words. Most of the words you can make will need all 3 words parts.

geo photo ocean	graph	er y
1.		
2.		
3.		
4.		



Word Meanings

Definitions have been provided for 4 words with the roots you have just worked with. Read each definition and then, with the help of your teacher, complete the sentence stem that follows. The sentence you create should make a vivid picture in your mind. When you have completed the page, close your workbook and practice remembering the sentence/picture that goes with each word.

1. **Chronic** (*all the time*) - a condition, such as a disease or physical problem, that continues or lasts a long time.

Tom has had chronic back pain ever since

2. **Geology** (*study of the earth*) - the scientific study of the history and structure of the earth

It is no surprise that Jill loves geology because

3. **Graphic** (*written*) - something that is described in vivid detail (gory or disturbing)

Sam wrote a graphic account of

4. **Policy** (*about the city*) - a course of action, plan, or guiding principle

The school has a policy that



Using Words with *chron*, *geo*, *graph*, *poli*

Underline the best answer.

1. Which is a good example of *geology*?
 - a. studying English
 - b. studying rocks

2. Which is a good example of something that is *graphic*?
 - a. a description of the effects of smoking on a person's lungs
 - b. a telephone bill

3. Which is a good example of a *policy*?
 - a. having students wear uniforms
 - b. starting a new school

4. Which is a good example of a *chronic* liar?
 - a. a person who usually tells the truth, but lied once
 - b. a person who lies all the time



Spelling Practice

Write each word in syllables. Then circle any Greek word parts that you see. Practice spelling each word using syllable boards. Once you can spell each word easily, your teacher will say the words back to you in syllables and you will have to say the whole word.

1. policy

2. graphic

3. chronic

4. geometric



Accent Flexing

Correct your teacher's pronunciation of the underlined word in each sentence.

1. I like to study about circles and triangles and other parts of geometry.
2. What is your policy about chewing gum in class?
3. My friend is studying calligraphy and is learning how to form beautiful letters.

The following pairs of words have the same roots, but the accent and vowel pronunciations are different in each word. Practice reading and spelling these words until it is easy for you. As you practice, try saying each word in robot talk.

1. politics - political
2. geometry - geometric
3. geography - geographic



The English alphabet comes from the alphabet used by the ancient Romans. The Romans got their alphabet from people called the Etruscans. And the Etruscans designed their alphabet from the one used by the ancient Greeks.

Our word, *alphabet*, comes directly from the Greeks. It is made up of the words *alpha* and *beta*, which are the names for the first 2 letters of the Greek alphabet.

There is a chart with the Greek alphabet at the back of this workbook. You can see that some of the letters look exactly the same as letters in our alphabet, some look a little bit like English letters, and some look very strange.

One letter in the Greek alphabet that is not in ours is the letter *chi* (pronounced KIE to rhyme with “pie.) It looks like this: χ .

The sound of *chi* is very close to the /k/ sound. When a Greek word with *chi* was brought into English, this sound was spelled with *ch*.

So now there are many words that have a /k/ sound spelled with *ch*. Here are a few of them:

school, character, chorus, Christ

The names of several characters from Greek literature and mythology have a *ch* used for the /k/ sound. Your teacher will read the names to you and you should repeat them. Then read about each character. You might want to find a pictures of them and also read more about them.

Achilles (uh KILL eez) was the greatest warrior for the Greeks in the Trojan War. In one version of his story, his mother dipped him in the River Styx when he was a baby. Every part of his body that was in the river was made invincible. However, his mother held on to his heel very tightly as she dipped him in the water, and so that part of his foot never got protected. During a great battle of the Trojan War, Achilles was hit by an arrow in his heel, and this wound eventually killed him. Today, we refer to the tendon at the bottom of the leg as the Achilles’ tendon, and we use the term Achilles’ heel to refer to a weakness that seems small but that is really very important.

Echo (E koa) was a nymph who was very fond of talking. One day, the goddess Hera came to Earth looking for her husband Zeus. She suspected that Zeus was carrying on with some other nymphs. Echo talked to Hera for a long time to give Zeus time to get away undetected. When Hera found out about this deception, she took away Echo’s ability to start a conversation and allowed her only to respond to what someone else said.

Chaos (KAY oss) was the first god to emerge during creation, according to the Greek mythology. The word *chaos* means “gaping void.” Chaos was generally thought of as a confused, unorganized mass of air and mist that existed before there was the heavens, the earth, or other gods.

Chimera (kie MEER uh) was a terrible beast with body and head of a lion, a goat head, and a serpents tale. The hero Bellerophon killed the Chimera with his lance.

Practice each name until you can read and write it easily.



Putting Words Together

Say the word parts below one at a time and then blend them together to form a new word. Write the new word on the blank line. Say each syllable as you write it.

1. syn + chron + ize _____

2. geo + physics _____

3. cosmo + poli + tan _____

4. geo + graph + y _____

5. bio + graph + er _____

6. poli + tic + ian _____

7. calli + graph + y _____

8. geo + therm + al _____

9. auto + bio + graph + y _____

10. Minnea + polis _____

11. geo + syn + chron + ous _____

12. Indiana + polis _____

