

Junior English  
Latin/Greek Roots: List #2

Vocabulary Words:

1. Root: **sta, sti** – (LATIN stare, stantum) – stand, stay

a. **stanch** – v – to stop the flow of

*Desperate to stanch the blood seeping from the wound, the doctor decided to put a tourniquet on the patient's arm above the elbow.*

b. **staunch** – adj – firm and steadfast

*Though Reverend Lockwood was a staunch believer in the goodness of humanity, he found his faith tested by the horrible events of that week.*

c. **extant** – adj – still in existence; not destroyed

*Scientists continue to search through the remains of the museum in the hopes that they will discover some extant works of art.*

d. **restive** – adj –

1. Resisting authority; difficult to control
2. restless; fidgety

*1. Police feared the townspeople would grow restive under the strict curfew and begin to engage in acts of civil disorder.*

*2. The elderly man expected the children to become restive during his long speech, but they listened attentively instead..*

2. Root: **pos** – (LATIN ponere, positum) – to put, place

a. **apropos** – prep – with regard to

*Apropos of Jim's speech on nuclear energy, Dawn mentioned that a new power plant would be built in the neighboring town.*

b. **depose** – v – to remove from office or power

*The rule of Czar Nicholas came to an end when the Czar and other members of the royal family were deposed and murdered by rebel forces.*

3. Root: **stas, stat** – (GREEK statos) - standing

a. **static** – adj – having no motion or change

*Critics found the composer's latest work static, boring, and lacking in emotional development.*

b. **ecstasy** – n – intense joy or delight

*The ecstasy Bob felt after watching the Yankees win the World Series was matched only by his joy at the birth of his daughter.*

c. **stasis** – n – condition in which there is no change

*Scientists find it difficult to accurately predict climate patterns because the environment is not in stasis, but constantly changing.*

4. Root: **ent, ess** – (LATIN esse) – to be

a. **entity** – n – a being

*For tax purposes, a married couple may be considered either two people or a single entity.*

b. **essence** – n – the most important ingredient; the crucial element

*After months of preparation, the lawyers finally began to discuss the essence of the case.*

c. **quintessential** – adj – the most typical, ideal, or important

*The goalie declared that the Rangers' victory in the last second of the final game was his quintessential sports triumph..*

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Practice

Exercise I. Complete the sentence in a way that shows you understand the meaning of the *italicized* vocabulary word.

1. Nate began to grow *restive* when his parents . . .
2. The fresh roses seemed the *quintessential* expression of love because . . .

Exercise II. Choose the set of words that best completes the sentence.

1. The subjects of the king grew \_\_\_\_\_ under his strict control and threatened to rise up and \_\_\_\_\_ him.  
A. static; staunch  
B. restive; depose  
C. apropos; stanch  
D. extant; depose
2. Certain religions teach that, while the world gives the appearance of movement and change, the \_\_\_\_\_ of existence is actually \_\_\_\_\_ and permanent.  
A. entity; staunch  
B. quintessence; apropos  
C. ecstasy; extant  
D. essence; static
3. \_\_\_\_\_ of the question about political parties, Marty reminded everyone that he was a(n) \_\_\_\_\_ supporter of Candidate Reese.  
A. staunch; extant  
B. apropos; staunch  
C. extant; restive  
D. apropos; stanch

Exercise III. Complete the sentence by inferring information about the *italicized* word from its context.

1. Tim is in *ecstasy* after the chemistry exam, so we can guess that he . . .
2. If Trina says that only five of the ancient art works are *extant*, we can infer that the rest . . .
3. If the members of the swim team vote to *depose* their squad leader, it may be because . . .

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ACT Review

Assignment: Fill in the blank with the word from the Unit that best completes the sentence, using the root we supply as a clue. Then, answer the questions that follow the paragraphs.

Water is not only the \_\_\_\_\_ (ESS) of life, but also one of the greatest forces of nature. It covers most of the Earth's surface (approximately 67%), and its constant movement, through a process called *erosion*, shapes continents and carves out rivers and lakes. Nowhere is the force of this process more evident than in the Grand Canyon.

Called one of the Seven Wonders of the Natural World, the Grand Canyon, in northern Arizona, is a 277-mile-long gorge created by millennia of erosion from the Colorado River. Because of the desert climate, the soil in the canyon is hard; it doesn't absorb liquids. When it rains in the Southwest, it often does so in torrents, sparking flash floods, which force water over the desert surface quickly, removing soil. With no deep-rooted plants to keep the soil in place, a higher volume of dirt and debris washes away, trimming another layer from the canyon.

In the spring, the Colorado River also carries snowmelt from the Rocky Mountains; these annual floods wash particles of stone and dirt from the highest peaks to the Pacific Ocean. The river also brings an annual influx of thrill-seekers, people riding the rapids in inflatable rafts, enjoying nature's won roller coaster.

However, a series of dams interposed at various points upon the river have disrupted its once-mighty flow. In a dammed river, erosion still occurs, but at a slower pace. A reduced current has made it difficult for the river to move larger rocks and sediment; debris that would have been washed away now remains. The riverbed is becoming congested.

Water, however, will find its way around any obstacle. The Colorado River has widened, reducing its banks and cutting into the canyon walls. Slower-moving water has also allowed some \_\_\_\_\_ (STAT) ponds to develop. This water seeps beneath the canyon floor, penetrating layers of rock it hadn't touched before. The consequences of this process are not yet fully understood.

Ice also affects the canyon. Because of the Grand Canyon's elevation, winter weather conditions are in effect, despite the desert setting. Snow and ice are common. When water freezes in cracks and crevices along the canyon walls, it expands the rock, splitting off pieces that fall to the canyon floor, washing away or creating more obstacles.

The Grand Canyon took centuries to mold, and it continues to change, yet this progression is barely noticeable during the average person's lifespan. The alteration takes place one speck of dirt at a time. Human intervention, however, takes only moments to alter the mighty canyon.

1. What made the Grand Canyon?
  - A. rocks and dirt
  - B. people and machines
  - C. earthquakes
  - D. water and erosion
  
2. What is the primary reason erosion has been slowed in the canyon?
  - A. less rain
  - B. dams on the river
  - C. construction of breakers and walls
  - D. snow melt
  
3. What causes standing pools in the river?
  - A. water seeping under the canyon floor
  - B. gravity
  - C. an influx of thrill-seekers
  - D. the slowing of water by the dam
  
4. Which of the following is a characteristic of erosion?
  - A. stagnant ponds
  - B. a bend in the river
  - C. flash flooding
  - D. removal of dirt and debris