

Lack of ruling powers	
Rule of/power held by the old	
Rule of/power held by the sea(faring)	
Rule of/power held by the deserving	
Rule of/power held by the fathers	
Rule of/power held by the self	
Rule of/power held by the holy (priests)	
Rule of/power held by the mothers	
Rule of/power held by the rich	

7. See how far you can carry the following sequences (find the numbers in a later chapter):

triangle, square, pentagon, hexagon, ...

tetrahedron, pentahedron, ...

monarch, diarch, triarch, ...

(look up the first four of that last list in a dictionary: surprised?)

## Lesson 3

### PREFIXES

- Prefixes are combining forms that occur exclusively before stems or other prefixes.
  - A word may have more than one prefix: *an-ec-dote* ("not-given-out"), *syn-ec-doche*.
  - A prefix may be inside a word as the result of compounding: *ap-pend-ec-tom-y*.
  - Occasionally, by shortening, a prefix may come to be a word on its own:
    - *hyper*, from *hyperactive*.
    - *hypo* from *hypodermic*
    - *retro* from *retroactif* (French)
  - Adjectival stems are typically found before noun stems, but are not considered prefixes, because they occur frequently on their own. See lesson 8.
- Certain prefixes have more than one form, which is for the sake of euphony.
  - Some add a consonant if a vowel follows:
    - *a-* "not, without" is usually *an-* before vowels.
    - *ec-* is usually *ex-* before vowels.
  - Some assimilate to a consonant at the beginning of the following stem.
    - *en-*, *em-*, *el-*

- *syn-, syl-, sym-, sy-*
- Some prefixes elide a vowel before stems beginning with vowels or *h* (called "elision"): *ana-* + *hodos* > *anode*.
  - In Greek, the vowel at the end of the prefix usually elides.
  - *ana-, anti-, apo-, cata-, dia-, ecto-, exo-, endo-, ento-, epi-, hypo-, meta-,* and *para-* usually elide.
  - Compare English "I'm" < "I am" and "you're" < "you are": the norm in English is to elide the following vowel.
  - *amphi-, peri-,* and *pro-* never elide.
- The following table has a common meaning of the prefix, which is rarely the only meaning.
  - In Greek words containing prefixes that entered English with those prefixes, it is often impossible to figure out what the prefix "means" even though it is clear what the prefix (and stem) is. That is because in Greek, the prefixes often have several meanings, but English uses them with only a restricted set of those meanings.
    - Consider *ellipse* (*en* "in" + *leip-* "leave" + *-sis* "the action of"), which is from the Greek verb *elleipein* "to fall short, fail". There is no verifiable historical reconstruction of why *en-* "in" affixed to *leipein* "to leave" means "to fall short, fail." We do, however, know how the word *ellipse* came from *elleipein* "to fall short" (it has to do with the way you construct an ellipse by cutting a cone: the plane that creates an ellipse falls short of the slope of the cone's side). Thus there is no explanation that is informative for English speakers as to why *en* "in" was prefixed to *elleipein* in Greek.

Prefix	Most common meaning(s)
a-, an-	not, without
amphi-	at both ends, two ways
ana-	up, again, back
anti-	against, opposing
apo-	from, away from
cata-	down
dia-	through, throughout
dys-	badly, with difficulty
ec-, ex-	out of, from
ecto-, exo-	outside (of)
en-, em-, el-	in, on

endo-, ento-	inside (of), within
epi-	upon, on
eu- rarely ev-	well, good, easy
hyper-	above, excessive
hypo-	under, deficient
meta-	a change of, after, beyond, later, behind
palin-	back, again
para-	beside, against
peri-	around
pro-	before, in front of
pros-	to, in addition to
syn-, sym-, syl-, sy-	together, with
tele-	far off

## EXERCISES

1. Why have certain parts of the Earth been called "Arctic," "Antarctic," "Tropics," "Antipodes," and "Zones"?
2. Find the prefixes and their meanings in the following (look up words you don't know and find their English meaning too).

anemia	dysphasia	evangelist	symbol
anesthesia	dysphagia	eugenics	syllabic
anatomy	eccentric	hyperbole	systole
amphitheater	appendectomy	hyphen	telescope
anachronism	exophthalmic	hypothesis	metempsychosis
analysis	ectoplasm	metathesis	anecdote
antagonist	exogamy	palinode	
apostle	endemic	palimpsest	
aphelion	ellipse	paragraph	
catechism	endothermic	periscope	
catalytic	entophyte	proscenium	

diameter  
diagnosis

epiglottis  
eponymous

prosthetic  
synthesis

3. Find the etymology and meanings of the following. Try to predict their meanings as you go along (but be sure to look them up to confirm your predictions):
1. *amphidromic, catadromous, anadromous, catanadromous, diadromous, antidromal, syndrome, palindrome, paradromic, and prodromal.*
  2. *diadermal, ectoderm, endermic, endoderm, enepidermic, entomesoderm, epidermal, exoderm, hypodermic, intradermal, mesectoderm, periderm, and transdermal.*
  3. *anode, aphodus, cathode, diodia, episode, esodic, exodus, Evodius, method, period, parodos, prosodion, and synod.*
4. Find the prefixes in the following list: be careful, not every word has a prefix and not every prefix is obvious.

anthem	emblem	catamount	metallurgy
economics	Apollo	Episcopal	neurectomy
Diana	epic	eclogue	anodyne
parasite	anteater	syllabus	peripteral
category	method	protozoa	amphiprostyle
epenthesis	parotid	atom	apostle

5. Construct the English word whose etymological elements mean:

act of knowing before  
thing around the heart  
voices together (abstract  
noun)  
plant (growing) upon  
far writer  
a turning away  
a feeling against  
a lack of feeling  
a writing upon  
a writing back  
writing badly

6. Find the prefixes and their meanings in the following:

anacoluthon	aneuric	anaphora	anaerobic
anthology	anarchy	aneroid	anemone
athletic	anathema	anion	epanorthosis

7. Compare the etymologies of *embolism* and *emblem* as well as *parable* and *parabola* and *beloid* and *bolide*. What's the difference?
8. Match the words in column A with their etymological meaning in column B:

A		B	
1.	On a day	A.	Antidote
2.	Living on both sides	B.	Epidemic
3.	Given against	C.	Hypertrophy
4.	Difficulty cooking	D.	Metonymy
5.	Marriage within	E.	Telekinesis
6.	Upon the people	F.	Problem
7.	Sprouting well	G.	Anabolic
8.	Excessive growth	H.	Dyspepsia
9.	Change of name	I.	Ephemeral
10.	Act of being born again	J.	Evernia
11.	Throw beside	K.	Syzygy
12.	A carrying around	L.	Prosody
13.	A throwing forth	M.	Periphery
14.	Addition to a song	N.	Parable
15.	Throwing up	O.	Endogamy
16.	Yoking together	P.	Palingenesis
17.	Movement far off	Q.	Amphibian

## Lesson 4

### • Suffixes

- Suffixes are word-elements that occur exclusively after a stem or another suffix.
- Sometimes, a dictionary will not separate suffixes from stems. In that case, it usually means that the etymon of the word already affixed the suffix. You need to analyse such words yourselves.
- Some "suffixes" listed here are actually compounds and some include stems: -ology, for instance is a cement -o- plus log- (study) plus -y (abstract noun ending). Because such endings are used in English as if they were single