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**GREEK ETYMOLOGY**  
**Course Information**

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[www.quia.com/pages/pvigreeketymology.html](http://www.quia.com/pages/pvigreeketymology.html)

**1. Introduction**

Etymology is the study of words and their origins. Etymology is more than memorizing vocabulary, more than scoring well on the SATs. Etymology is an investigation into **language** and **thought**. Etymology requires **precision** and **clarity**, because a clearly defined term is precise. Language is a tool for transmitting thought. Etymology brings us to a clearer understanding of words, to a more precise use of language, and thus to clearer thinking.

**2. Objectives**

Students will be expected to

- Investigate the introduction of Greek into English and its role in the further development of English;
- Consider popular expressions in English and their linguistic implications to our society and culture;
- Examine the three constitutive elements to English words: Prefixes, bases, and suffixes, and how they change the function of words in the sentence;
- Examine the ways in which words have changed their meaning over time, or have been employed in different linguistic contexts;
- Employ skills developed in class to analyze words at the etymological level;
- Learn to use and appreciate the dictionary as the pre-eminent linguistic tool for the English language;
- Increase vocabulary through practice and memorization of bases, prefixes, and suffixes.

**3. Materials**

- **Required**
  - [English Words from Latin and Greek Elements](#), Ayers;
  - [EW Workbook](#);
  - Loose-leaf notebook;
  - 3x5 Cards;
  - 2 Pens, any color except for **green**.
- **Optional (recommended)**
  - [Merriam Webster Collegiate Dictionary](#)

**4. Grading**

- Homework 50%
- Quizzes 20%
- Tests 20%
- Participation 10%

**5. Homework**

- Homework will be graded on its completion; if it is complete, it earns 100%, if it is not complete or is turned in late, it earns nothing (I may offer, at my discretion, the opportunity to earn some points on a missed assignment).

**6. Participation**

- Participation is based on class participation as well as on coming to class prepared with all required materials.

**7. Some hints for success:**

- **Repetitio mater memoriae:** study daily, reviewing what we have done in class for at least fifteen minutes each night;
- **Slow is fast, fast is slow:** taking your time on your assignments and your readings means avoiding mistakes born of carelessness, and having to do something a second time;
- **A little bit is more than a lot:** practicing your flash cards 3 times a day for five minutes each time is an easy method to gain mastery of your vocabulary, and is much easier than attempting to cram;
- **Remember the parable of the talents:** the purpose of homework and projects and tests is to encourage your growth as classisists, as students, and as people, so make the most of the opportunity and do your best.

**8. Class policies and procedures**

a. **Notebook:** I expect you to keep a notebook, organized with the following four sections:

1. Vocabulary
2. Word elements
3. Semantic elements
4. Class papers

b. **General policies**

1. I expect that you will know, understand, and follow all the student policies outlined in your handbook regarding appearance, behavior, and compartment.
2. I hear better when you raise your hand.
3. Each day, I outline a set amount of material to cover. As soon as we cover the material for the day, I am finished.
4. I like to pace; I don't like to trip. If I encounter obstacles, I will remove them in the most convenient and entertaining manner for me.
5. The best way to make the most of your time here is to be prepared, be on time, and be focused on the task at hand.

["I have wasted time, now time doth waste me," W. Shakespeare.](#)

**9. Academic Dishonesty**

Academic dishonesty is inconsistent with the aim and mission of Catholic education, and has no place in scholarship. It is a violation of the [4th](#), [7th](#), [8th and 10th](#) commandments.

Therefore, I will enforce the school policies on academic dishonesty ([Student Handbook, pp. 36 - 7](#)) with Roman rigor and *severitas*. The following is a list (by no means exhaustive) of what is considered academic dishonesty:

- Plagiarism: failing to offer proper citation of works consulted;
- Lending or copying homework unless expressly permitted by the teacher;
- Theft of quizzes, tests, or exams;
- Providing answers to another student, or asking another student to provide answers during a quiz, test, or exam;
- Entering a quiz, test, or exam with an unfair advantage or with materials that violate my testing procedures.

In addition to the penalties assessed by the school, I will subtract **ten points** from your participation grade **for each offense**.

**10. Class rule**

✂JMJ✂

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I have read the above information and will adhere to the class policies and procedures.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student Signature

I have read the above information and will provide my child with what assistance he/she needs to fulfill the conditions for this class.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian Signature

As a part of this homework assignment, please copy the following statement on the lines below, and sign and date this paper.

**I have upheld the intent and principles of the Paul VI Academic Honor Code while completing this assignment.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student Signature / Date