

Greek Roots Vocabulary List 5

Honors Junior English

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atom	(n.) A. With reference to ancient Greek philosophy: a hypothetical particle, minute and indivisible, held to be one of the ultimate particles of matter. B. The smallest conceivable part or fragment of anything; a very minute portion; a particle, a jot. C. a particle of a chemical element which is the unit in which the elements combine and which cannot be further divided into smaller particles all having the properties of that element; the smallest particle in which a chemical element exists and combines.
monotone	(n. and adj.) A. A continuation or uninterrupted repetition of the same vocal tone; an utterance continued or repeated without change of pitch. B. (Of a sound, utterance, etc.) continuing on or repeating the same note; having little or no variation in tone or pitch; (of a musical instrument) able to produce sounds of only one pitch. Also (in extended use): lacking variety; dull, repetitive.
chirography	(n.) Handwriting; (own) handwriting, autograph (obs.); style or character of writing.
cephalopod	(n.) An animal of the class Cephalopoda (The most highly organized class of Mollusca, characterized by a distinct head with 'arms' or tentacles attached to it; comprising Cuttle-fishes, the Nautilus, etc., and numerous fossil species.)
dactylology	(n.) 'Finger-speech'; the art of 'speaking' or communicating ideas by signs made with the fingers, as in the sign language alphabet.
polyglot	(n.) A person who speaks, writes, or understands a number of languages.
osteotomy	(n.) Surg. Surgical division, or partial resection, of a bone, esp. in order to correct a deformity; an instance of this.
pachyderm	(n.) any mammal of the former order Pachydermata (see Pachydermata n.). In later (non-technical) use: any of a group of these, being typically large, thick-skinned, sparsely haired herbivores such as elephants, rhinoceroses, and hippopotamuses.

plastic	(n. and adj.) A. Any of a large and varied class of materials used widely in manufacturing, which are organic polymers of high molecular weight, now usually based on synthetic materials, and may be moulded, extruded, or cast when they are soft or liquid, and then set into a rigid or slightly elastic form. Also as a mass noun: material of this kind. B. Characterized by or capable of molding or shaping clay, wax, or other soft or formless materials.
cephalalgia	(n.) Head-ache.
dermatitis	(n.) inflammation of the skin.
logomachy	(n.) Contention about words; an instance of this.
chiromancy	(n.) Divination by the hand; the art of telling the characters and fortunes of persons by inspection of their hands; palmistry.
hypodermic	(adj.) Pertaining to the use of medical remedies introduced beneath the skin of the patient; esp. in hypodermic injection, the introduction of drugs into the system in this manner.
tautology	(n.) A. Unnecessary repetition, usually in close proximity, of the same word, phrase, idea, argument, etc. Now typically: the saying of the same thing twice in different words (e.g. 'they arrived one after the other in succession'), generally considered to be a fault of style. B. An argument, explanation, or definition that merely restates in different words the very thing which is to be explained, shown, or defined; a failure fully to separate cause from effect in explaining an event, phenomenon, etc.