

ALTERNATIVE EDUCATION

Layers of Language:
Practice Reading and Spelling Long Content Area Words

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Handout 1
Latin and Greek Number Prefixes

1	uni- (Latin) mono- (Greek)	unicorn, unicycle, uniform, universe monochrome, monocycle, monogram, monopoly, monologue
2	bi- (Latin) duo- (Latin) di- (Greek)	biannual, biceps, bicycle, biennial, bifocals, bipolar dual, duet, duality, duologue, dualism digraph, diode, dioxide, dipole, dichromatic
3	tri- (Latin/Greek) ter- (Latin)	triangle, tricycle, tripod, triplicate, triceratops tertiary, tercet, tercentennial, tercentenary
4	quadr-, quar- (Latin) tetra- (Greek)	quadrangle, quart, quartile, quartet, quadruplets tetragon, tetracycline, tetragonal, tetrahedron, tetrameter
5	quint- (Latin) pent- (Greek)	quintet, quintile, quintuple, quintuplets pentagon, pentadactyl, pentameter, pentarchy, pentathlon
6	sex- (Latin) hex- (Greek)	sextet, sextant, sextuple, sextuplets hexagon, hexagonal, hexagram, hexahedron, hexadecimal
7	sept-(Latin) hept- (Greek)	September, septet, septilateral, septuagenarian heptagon, heptagonal, heptameter, heptarchy
8	octa-, octo- (Latin/Greek)	octopus, octagon, octet, octogenarian, octagonal, October
9	nona-, nove- (Latin)	nonagon, nonagonal, nonagenarian, November, novena
10	dec-, deca-, deci- (Latin/Greek)	decade, decagon, decathlon, December, decigram, decimal, decimate, decimeter

100	cent- (Latin) hect- (Greek)	century, centennial, centenary, centigram, centigrade, centipede hectare, hectogram, hectometer
1000	mille- (Latin) kilo- (Greek)	millennial, millennium, million, millipede kilobyte, kiloliter, kilowatt, kilogram, kilometer
10,000	myria (Greek)	myriad, myriameter
million	mega- (Greek, also means <i>large</i>)	megabyte, megameter, megawatt
billion	giga- (Greek)	gigabyte, gigacycle, gigahertz, gigameter
trillion	tera- (Greek)	terahertz, teramet
quadrillion	peta- (Greek)	pentameter
quintillion	exa- (Greek)	exameter