

Workbook Chapter 6

Exercises for Textbook Chapter 6

A. Study questions

1. Name and define the three aspects of assimilation, and the different subtypes of each aspect (seven in all). Give an example of a word for each subtype.

2. Which of the following roots has undergone consonant lenition? For each word give the basic form of the root and the type of weakening.

- | | |
|---------------|------------|
| (a) pensive | (d) omit |
| (b) ecstasy | (e) reside |
| (c) repertory | (f) thesis |

3. For the following words, name the replacement process(es) which has (have) taken place:

- | | | |
|------------------|----------------|--------------|
| (a) offend | (e) dissident | (i) nautical |
| (b) prescriptive | (f) suffer | (j) arrive |
| (c) explosion | (g) illiterate | (k) adult |
| (d) deficit | (h) contiguous | (l) election |

4. Explain why the following words did not undergo vowel weakening, using your dictionary if necessary.

- (a) syllable
- (b) indelible
- (c) inference
- (d) inherent
- (e) inventory

5. For each of the following words, answer these questions:

- (i) Has the word undergone a vowel weakening process? If so, which?
- (ii) If not, is the word an exception to a vowel weakening rule (i.e. does it contain the required environment for a vowel weakening rule to apply?)

- | | |
|----------------|----------------|
| (a) centennial | (b) expatriate |
| (c) competent | (d) obvious |
| (e) decadence | (f) occasion |
| (g) decision | (h) permit |
| (i) degrade | (j) reflection |
| (k) depart | (l) viviparous |

6. For each of the following words, state which type of assimilation, if any, has occurred:

- | | | |
|---------------|--------------|------------------|
| (a) admit | (f) dialect | (k) occasion |
| (b) assess | (g) elegance | (l) prescriptive |
| (c) compete | (h) epilepsy | (m) surrogate |
| (d) irrigate | (i) impose | (n) symbiosis |
| (e) correlate | (j) impudent | |

7. Identify the rules which must be applied for the following sequences to become words.

- (a) ad + sed + uous
- (b) de + scrib + t + ion:
- (c) in + cad + ent
- (d) in + cumb + ent:
- (e) in + par + t
- (f) ob + pos + e:
- (g) sub + stat + ute
- (h) syn + log + ism:
- (i) sub + sed + y

8. For the following words, give

- (i) the basic forms of all the morphemes
- (ii) the meaning of each morpheme (except stem-extenders)
- (iii) the replacement rules (if any) required to derive the word from the morphemes

- | | |
|--------------|------------|
| (a) arrogant | (c) impose |
| (b) junction | (d) inject |

- | | |
|---------------|----------------|
| (e) attend | (j) suffer |
| (f) occasion | (k) incident |
| (g) repertory | (l) succumb |
| (h) submit | (m) obsequious |
| (i) insect | |

9. Which processes account for the different phonetic shape of the root in the following cognates:

- | | |
|------------------------------|-----------------------|
| (a) grateful ~ grace | (c) delude ~ delusion |
| (b) respectable ~ despicable | (d) capture ~ concept |

B. Roots

Your task is to look at the words attached to each root and make sure you know what the meaning of the root contributes to the meaning of the whole word. If you don't see it, look it up in your dictionary.

1.

√ ambi- 'both, on both or all sides'		
ambi-		amphi-
ambidextrous		amphitheater
ambient		
ambivalent ⁻¹		
ambiguous		
ambition		

(What is the literal meaning of *ambiguous*?)

(What profession commonly "goes around for votes" – hence *ambition*?)

2.

√ andr 'male human'		
ander	andr	andro
philander (-er)	polyandry (-ous)	androgynous
		androcentric
		android

(A *philosopher* is one who loves wisdom. Is a *philanderer* one who loves men?)

¹ √**val** = 'strong'.

3.

√ hom 'same, even'		
homo		homeo
homogeneous	anomalous	homeostatic
homomorphic		
homonym		
homorganic		
homosexual		

(What is the homeostatic device for maintaining even temperature?)

4.

√ mater 'mother, surroundings'		
mater	matr	metr
material	matrix	metropolis
maternal	matrimony	metritis
maternity	matron	metrocracy
	matriculate	
	matricide	
	matrilineal	
	matriarchal	

5.

√ par(t) 'part, share, equality'		
par(t)		por(t)
disparate		portion
parse		proportion (-al, -ate)
compartment		

6.

√ pater 'father'		
patern	patr	patri
paternal (-ism)	patron	patrimony
paternity	patronym (-ic)	patriarch
		patriotic
		expatriate
		patrilineal

(*Patrimony* is formed with the help of the combining form *-mony* meaning 'state, condition', compare *matrimony*, *acrimony*, *testimony*. Why **mon** should mean 'inheritance' is unknown.)

(The adjective *patristic* is occasionally capitalized. Why?)

7.

√ paed 'teach, child'		
paed		ped
paediatrics		encyclopedia
orthopaedics		pedagog (-y, -ical)
		pedant (-ry, -ic)

(Why would the general name for a medical specialty of this type be associated with the root for "child"?)

(*Pedantic* should mean only 'one who teaches'; why has it come to mean 'one who teaches in a boring manner'?)

8.

√ seg 'cut, split'		
seg	sec	sect
segment	secant ²	section
		sect (-arian)
		insect
		intersect
		dissect

9.

√ sper 'scatter, seed'		
sper	spers	spor
sperm	aspersion	sporadic
	disperse	diaspora
	intersperse	spore

² In mathematics, a straight line intersecting a curve at two points, thereby splitting the area it contains.

10.

√ uter 'womb'		
hyster		uter
hysterectomy		uterus
hysteria		uterine
hysterogenic		uteritis

11. The following forms are marked as roots, although some of them are classified as combining forms by the *OED*. They occur only in a single invariant form (i.e. zero allomorphy):

- (a) √**anthrop(o)** 'generic human being' – *anthropocentric, anthropology, anthropoid, misanthrope, philanthropy*
- (b) √**bio** 'life' – *biocide, biography, biology, symbiosis, amphibious, microbiology*
- (c) √**ero(t)** 'physical love' – *Eros, erotic, erogenous, erotica, erotomania*
- (d) √**gam** 'marriage, sexual union' – *bigamy, monogamy, polygamy, gamete*
- (e) √**lat** 'carry' not to be confused with √**lat** 'side' as in *equilateral* – *correlate, elated, legislate, relate, translate*
- (f) √**mani(a)** 'intense desire' – *bibliomania, maniac, megalomania, nymphomania*
- (g) √**migr** 'wander' – *emigrate, immigrate, immigrant, migrate, transmigration*
- (h) √**miso** 'hate' – *misanthrope, misogamy, misogyny, misopatrism, misozoic*
- (i) √**par** 'beget, produce' – *parent, viviparous, repertory*
- (j) √**pass** 'step, go' – *compass³, encompass, passport, surpass, trespass*
- (k) √**pet** 'go, seek, strive' – *appetite, compete, competent, impetuous, impetus, petition, petulant, repetition*
- (l) √**phil** 'love' – *Anglophile, bibliophile, philanthropy, philology, philosophy*
- (m) √**port** 'carry' – *deport, opportunity, importune, deportment, export, import, important, report, support, portfolio, portly, purport, rapport*
- (n) √**prol(i)** 'offspring' – *proletariat, prolific, proliferate*
- (o) √**pud** 'feel shame' – *impudent, pudendum, repudiate*
- (p) √**riv** 'river, bank, shore, stream' – *derive, arrive, river, rival* (using the same stream), *rivulet* (ultimately borrowed from two Latin roots, see Appendix)

³ *Compass* is semantically obscure; it appears to derive from the French verb *compasser* 'to measure.')

- (q) √**rog** 'ask, take away' – *abrogate, arrogant, derogatory, interrogate, prerogative, supererogate, subrogate, surrogate*
 (Although treated as a separate entry here because of the semantic shift, the form √**rog** is a historical allomorph of √**reg** 'rule, lead, straight line.')
 (*Arrogant* is to take to oneself by force or coercion, then the figurative sense.)
 (In *prerogative*, the idea is that if you 'ask first,' you obtain special privileges.)
 (*Supererogate* started as positive, 'doing more than asked for', has become negative because if it wasn't asked for, it can be superfluous.)
- (r) √**tract** 'drag, pull, draw' – *tractable, traction, tractor, attract, abstract, contract, detract, distract, extract, protracted, retract, subtract*
- (s) √**vir** 'male, man' – *triumvirate, virago, virile, virtue, virtually*

C. Root exercises.

1. The following words all contain the root *phil* 'love.' In each case, name the object of the 'love.' Think of five other words containing the same root.

- (a) Francophile
- (b) gastrophile
- (c) audiophile
- (d) hydrophilic
- (e) photophilic

In which of these words does the root *phil* show vowel reduction? In which of these words does the root *phil* show vowel shifting?

2. Explain the following words containing the form *mania* 'intense desire':

- (a) theomania
- (b) monomania
- (c) pyromania
- (d) erotomania

3. Parse and define the following words.

- | | |
|-----------------|----------------|
| (a) biodegrade | (h) intersect |
| (b) bipartite | (i) matter |
| (c) climacteric | (j) misology |
| (d) android | (k) perpetrate |

(e) engine

(f) gentle

(g) homophonous

(l) progeny

(m) proportion