

Mr. D.'s Diner: Word Work Using Caesar's English

In 5th Grade, *Caesar's English* chapters will be introduced on Wednesday and tested the following Wednesday. The learning activity menu for odd-numbered chapters (1, 3, 5 . . .) that introduce Latin stems includes . . .

APPETIZERS

This will be your first taste of the week's stems. They are assigned on Wednesday and checked on Wednesday. These appetizers must have **neat organization, legible handwriting, and correct spelling** in order to be useful study tools for Latin study this year and beyond. **Choose one type of appetizer for the week**; you are welcome to do the same appetizer every week, unless your quiz scores show the appetizer you've chosen isn't agreeing with you . . .

Stems in a Flash—using 3x5 note cards and the chapter's "Stem Talk" section, make 5 flashcards for the week's stems. The front side has the stem and one buzzword (example). The reverse side must have the **definition of the stem** and the **definition of the buzzword**. Entries may be in cursive or print lettering, or created using technology. This choice is a great one for kids who like to review by quizzing themselves or pairing with classmates.

Post postscript

after note added after a letter is finished.

Dictionary Debut—using lined notebook paper, create your own personal dictionary entry for each stem. It must begin with the stem, include the definition of the stem, and have three buzzwords that include the stem (**two may be from "Stem Talk,"** but the third has to be one you find using other sources). Each entry must be written 3 times in cursive. This item is a good match for students who learn by writing and rewriting, and who can use additional practice for their cursive writing.

Post - after. Postscript, Posterity, Posterior.

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Breaking Stems--use a graphic organizer to break apart five buzzwords (one for each stem) and show how the meanings of the prefix, root, and/or suffix combine to give the whole word meaning. This is for the visually-oriented learner.

after	earth	adjective			
<table border="1"><tr><td>post</td></tr></table>	post	<table border="1"><tr><td>hum</td></tr></table>	hum	<table border="1"><tr><td>ous</td></tr></table>	ous
post					
hum					
ous					
something no longer on earth					

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MAIN COURSE

Once you've created your appetizer (on the reverse of this page), you're ready to make something more filling that requires a little more creativity to show what you know . . .

Caesar's Comics--create an illustration and caption for **one buzzword** for **each of the 5 stems** that shows your understanding of the stems. This is for our young artists!



Ferdinand Magellan's expedition was the first to circumnavigate, or sail around, the world.

Stem Song—create a chant, rhyme, poem, word association, or song to serve as a memory aid for the stems and their meanings.

Ante means before, so it is our first verse;

Mal is bad. Malfoy in the Harry Potter stories really liked to curse;

Equi means equal—we get the same--no more, no less, the same;

Circum starts like “circle,” it means to go around, like water down the drain;

And finally, **Post** means after, like on a letter when we write “P.S.” on the last line, like this!

Stem Story--using 5 buzzwords (one from each stem), write a story (a minimum of one 5-sentence paragraph) that **shows your understanding of the stems**. The buzzwords should be underlined (if handwritten) or boldfaced (if word-processed). **No**

“What does **equilateral** mean?” she asked **serenely**.

passages, please! I want you to show you know the meaning of the word. This is for the creative young authors among us.

Ferdinand Magellan commanded a voyage that **circumnavigated** the world in three years. His expedition **antedated**, or came before, Francis Drake's voyage by 50 years. He crossed the equator, the imaginary line around the Earth **equidistant** from the north and south poles, twice on his journey. Many of his sailors suffered from sickness and **maladies** because of the lack of fresh food. Magellan died during the voyage, but when his ship returned to Spain his crew made sure his adventures would be remembered **posthumously**.