

Etymology and the English Language

Unit Notes

Define and give TWO (2) examples:

Term	Definition	2 Examples
Etymology	Origins of words	Tortilla is Spanish; café is French
Eponym	Comes from proper noun	Teddy bear; hamburger
Portmanteau	Two words combined	Brunch; motel
Cliché	Overused phrases	Better safe than sorry; roses are red
Euphemism	Polite way to say something impolite	Passed on; ladies room
Idiom	Literal and figurative meaning	On thin ice; shot in the dark
Slang	Words used in a certain time	Bling; sweet
Dialect	Words used in a certain place	Jumper; buggy
Accent	Next page	

Accent	Words pronounced differently	
Literal	The word for word translation of what the phrase says	Actual cats and dogs falling from sky
Figurative	The understood meaning of the phrase	It's raining hard
Homophone	Same sound but spelled differently	Bear/bare; there/their/they're
Homonym	Same word: same sound and spelling	Bat/bat; glasses/glasses
Heteronym	Sounds different but same spelling	Tear/tear; wound/wound

Label the following as one of the above terms:

___ Idiom ___ Tonight we should hit the books.

___ Dialect ___ Let's have a picnic down by the crick.

___ Homophone ___ We took a field trip to the state capitol.

___ cliché ___ My mom told me she had it up to here after I was late to dinner again.

___ eponym ___ Did you notice that Bryce has sideburns this year?

___ portmanteau ___ Ben Roethlisburger is a ginormous man.

___ heteronym ___ There was a minute difference between each minute.

___ homonym ___ I found the remote in a remote location.

___ euphemism ___ My boyfriend told me he thinks we should take a break.

___ slang ___ Let's give him props for earning an A on his test.

Mark which words are Dialect (D), Accent (A), and Slang (S).

- Let's grab a ^Dhoogie and ^Dpop and tailgate before we ^Skick it at the ^AStiller game.

- The leftover ^Drubbish needs to go in the ^Dbin near the ^Ajag-u-are car when you finish your lunch, and no ^Sphotobombing.

Conjugations... you're gonna love 'em!

Noun	Adjective	Adverb	Verb
continuation	continuous	continuously	to continue
knowledge	knowing	knowingly	to know
addition	additional	additionally	to add
thought			
	correct		
	social		
		completely	
			to agree
		differently	
color			
	simple		
strength	strong	strongly	to strengthen

Hints: Nouns → full of _____
I have _____

Adj. → a _____ girl

Adv → take adj. and add "ly"

Verb → I decided to _____

Getting to the ROOT of the Problem

Root Word	Meaning	Ex from Class	New Example
Act	do		
Aud	hear		
Bio	life		
Chron	time		
Cide	kill		
Cred	believe		
Form	shape		
Graph	write		
Lab	work		
Log	talk		
Man	hand		
Mar	water		
Meter	measure		
Mob	move		
Mort	die		
Opt	eye		
Path	feel		
Phon	sound		
Port	carry		
Scope	watch/see		
Sim	same		
Sol	alone		
Sphere	ball		
Terr	earth		
Volve	spin		

Prefix	Meaning
A	Without
* anti	Against, opposite of
auto	Self, same, one
bene 😊	Good, positive
co	together
Extra	Outside of, beyond
il/im/in/ir	Not
macro	Small Big
mal 😞	Bad, abnormal
micro	Large Small
mis	Bad, wrong
mono	One
multi	many
poly	many
pre <i>prehistoric prewrite</i>	Earlier, before
* pro	For, in favor of
re	Again, back
sub	Under, inferior to
tele	Far from
trans	Across
un	Not, opposite of

HOMOPHONES

- accept, except
- affect, effect
- aisle, I'll, isle
- all ready, already
- all together, altogether
- allusion, illusion
- aloud, allowed
- bale, bail
- bare, bear
- be, bee
- beet, beat
- blue, blew
- bore, boar
- board, bored
- break, brake
- by, bye, buy
- capitol, capital
- cent, scent, sent
- chord, cord
- clause, Claus, claws
- close, clothes
- coarse, course
- college, collage
- compliment, complement
- counsel, council
- court, quart
- creek, creak
- deer, dear
- device, devise
- die, dye
- do, dew, due
- doe, dough
- dual, duel
- earn, urn
- erie, Erie
- envelop, envelope
- fair, fare
- feet, feat
- flee, flea
- flower, flour
- flu, flew
- foreword, forward
- for, four
- foul, fowl
- guessed, guest
- hail, hale

- hair, hare
- heal, heel
- heard, herd
- heir, here
- here, hear
- hole, whole
- horse, hoarse
- hour, our, are
- in, inn
- its, it's
- knead, need
- knew, new
- knight, night
- know, no
- knows, nose
- lead, led
- leak, leek
- loan, lone
- main, mane, Maine
- male, mail
- mall, maul
- moose, mousse
- morning, mourning
- not, knot
- one, won
- pail, pale
- pair, pear
- patience, patients
- peel, peal
- peer, pier
- piece, peace
- plane, plain
- poor, pour
- pray, prey
- prince, prints
- principle, principal
- raise, rays
- read, red
- read, reed
- real, reel
- rain, reign
- right, write
- road, rode
- role, roll
- rows, rose

- sale, sail
- scene, seen
- sea, see
- seam, seem
- sell, cell
- seller, cellar
- sight, site, cite
- size, sighs
- slay, sleigh
- so, sew, sow
- some, sum
- stake, steak
- stare, stair
- sun, son
- sure, shore
- stationary, stationery
- sweet, suite
- tail, tale
- tear, tier
- than, then
- there, their, they're
- through, threw
- to, two, too
- toe, tow
- vain, vein
- wait, weight
- way, weigh
- wear, where
- weed, we'd
- whether, weather
- whose, who's
- witch, which
- would, wood
- lose, loose

• most commonly missed
Study these extra!

Portmanteau Examples

Portmanteau is a French word meaning a large leather suitcase. Just as people squeeze clothes into luggage, some clever people squeeze words together to create new ones.

Portmanteau	Word(s) Created	Meaning
Breakfast + lunch	brunch	A late morning meal
Hungry + angry	hangry	
Jeans + leggings	jeggings	
Flutter + hurry	flurry	
iPod + broadcast	podcast	
Information + commercial	infomercial	
Friend + enemy	frienemy	
Motor + hotel	motel	
Television + marathon	telethon	
Brotherly + romance	bromance	
giant + enormous	ginormous	
man + nurse	murse	
Smoke + fog	smog	
Squirm + wriggle	squiggle	

See if you can do the opposite and break these apart:

- In movies, what is a "romcom" romantic + comedy
- In movies, what is a "docudrama" documentary + drama
- People who build things use "imagineering" imagination + engineer

LIST OF IDIOMS: *Examples*

- A Piece of Cake
 - Cost an arm and a leg
 - Back seat driver
 - Bite your tongue
 - Break a leg
 - Crack me up
 - Cup of Joe
 - Driving me up a wall
 - Lost your mind
 - Lost your marbles
 - Hit the hay
 - Hit the books
 - Hold your horses
 - Keep your eye on the ball
- Throw in the towel
 - Kick the bucket
 - Lend me a hand
 - Running around like a chicken with its head cut off
 - Pulling your leg
 - Put a sock in it
 - Raincheck
 - Green thumb
 - Tie the knot
 - Elbow grease
 - Bite the bullet
 - Bite the dust
 - Spill the beans