

Spelling/Vocabulary #4

The following stems and work are taken from The Word Within the Word by Michael Clay Thompson (Royal Fireworks Press 2003). The workbook is available for you to check out. Mr. Thompson suggests that students memorize 25 stems a week, but we felt it was more reasonable to really work with and know 10 stems a week.

I. Work with the stems below. Find three more words that contain this stem and that don't appear in this worksheet. (2)

1. **aqua** (Latin) WATER: Balthazar, the scuba diver, collects **aquatic** species.

a. Sample words: _____

2. **audi** (Latin) HEAR: The deaf moose had an injured **auditory** nerve.

a. Sample words: _____

3. **bell** (Latin) WAR: **Belligerent** nations gain nothing from their many wars.

a. Sample words: _____

4. **cap** (Latin) TAKE: The hostile island tribe captured **captives**.

a. Sample words: _____

5. **cise** (Latin) CUT: The design was **incised** into the oaken door with a knife.

a. Sample words: _____

6. **bio** (Greek) LIFE: **Biomorphic** abstract sculpture resembles living shapes.

a. Sample words: _____

7. **auto** (Greek) SELF: The general wrote a tedious **autobiography** about his exploits.

a. Sample words: _____

8. **port** (Latin) CARRY: The **porter** will carry your bags to the train.

a. Sample words: _____

9. **scrib** (Latin) WRITE: Please **inscribe** my yearbook.

a. Sample words: _____

10. **logy** (Greek) SCIENCE: Since he loved insects, he studied **entomology**.

a. Sample words: _____

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II. Answer three of the following questions in the space provided and **explain your reasoning**. (3)

1. Is **entomology** the science of human cultures?
2. Are **incisive** comments irrelevant and time-consuming?
3. Are **captious** questions designed to catch and embarrass you?
4. Are peaceful nations in a state of **belligerence**?
5. Explain how the pieces of the word **autobiography** total up into a logical meaning.
6. If you could make a **biomorphic** abstract sculpture, would you make one that was swimmy, or flappy, or toothy, or full of eyes, or what?

III. The following are analogies. You need to find the similarity between the first set of words and then find that same similarity in one of the second sets of words. Circle the correct answer. (4)

1. autobiography : biography :: a. malediction : benediction b. automobile : horse cart c. audiophile : audience d. murder : suicide	Using the stem “bell,” create your own analogy.
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