The Word Within the Word

The Word Within the Word program focuses not on how to spell words, but on teaching you how to recognize word meanings through the knowledge of word roots, or stems, that come from older languages upon which the English language is based. It is a very demanding program and builds on itself; once a word root is introduced, it remains part of your list to study so you have to memorize all the roots and keep them in your head because each new test is cumulative. Don't worry-I wouldn't give you this work if I didn't know you are smart enough to handle it!

Student Instructions

- 1. Each student has received their latin for the year. All the lists are in a folder, inside sheet protectors. We want to reuse these folders next year, so please keep the lists inside the page protectors. Each list contains 25 word roots, the meaning of each root, several words that are built from that root, and the language of origin of the root.
- 2. On the first night, you are expected to study the list and make flash cards. Write the word root on one side of the index card, and the root meaning on the other side. I will give you a stack of index cards to start out with, but you may need to get more as you progress.
- 3. Read through the example words. Read them aloud to a parent or friend (preferably someone who could help you with pronunciation!) You will not be tested on the example words, but it will make you smarter if you at least read through them a few times and become familiar with them.
- 4. All through the week, study the roots and their meanings with your flash cards.
- 5. On Thursday, you will have a test. The test has a list of words with the root in capital letters. You will be asked to identify the meaning of the root. *Your answers must be spelled correctly or they will be marked off a ½ point.* You must get 90% or better to move on to the next level. If you get below a 90%, you may take the test again no earlier than the next Thursday. Tests are given on Thursdays only.
- 6. Don't throw away your flash cards!!! You will add the words from the next list to all your previous words. Each test builds on the previous weeks. Within a few weeks you will have a very big stack!