

Name _____ Date _____

Word Origins

Focus

Recognizing and understanding **word origins** can help you determine the meaning of difficult and unfamiliar words. For example, the word *microscopic* appears in "The Mystery of Mars." It contains the Greek root *scop*. This root means "to look at." The prefix *micro* means "very small." Thus, *microscopic* means "too small to be seen."

Practice

The words in each of the following groups all contain the same Greek or Latin root. Write the common root after each word group.

1. incline, recline, decline

Write the common Latin root, which means "lean." _____

2. inscribe, describe, prescribe

Write the common Latin root, which means "write." _____

3. optic, optical, optometrist

Write the common Greek root, which means "eye." _____

4. admit, submit, transmit

Write common Latin root, which means "send." _____

5. inspect, spectator, spectacle

Write the common Latin root, which means "see." _____