

## **The Roots of Medical English**

### **Worksheet 4- Words with Greek roots**

*Find the similarities between the following words and guess what the part in common meant in Greek*

Kilogram, kilometre, kilobyte

Micron, microfilm, micrometer, microchip,

Meter, kilometre, odometer

Panorama, Pan American Airlines (Pan Am), to pan (cinema),

Aerobic (s), aerosol

Angina, anxious

Harmonica, harmony

Melanesia, melanoma

Homeopathy, homosexual

*Match to the meanings below*

To compress/ press/ strangle

to measure

agreement

the same

black

air

a thousand

small

all

*Find more words with the same parts below and guess the meaning*

anaerobic

melancholy

microscope

aeronautics

thermometer

microsecond

altimeter

microbe

pandemonium

to harmonize

*Match to the definitions*

1. Complete chaos (from the Greek “place of all the devils”)
2. not using air
3. an instrument that measures height above sea level
4. to make things match or work together
5. sadness (from the Greek for “black bile”, as sadness was thought to be caused by this substance in the body)
6. a popular name for a bacteria (made by combining the Greek words for “small” and “life”)
7. the science of mechanical flight (from the Greek for “air” and “sailing”)
8. an instrument for seeing very small things (from the Greek for “small” and “see”)
9. an instrument for measuring temperature (from the Greek for “hot” and “measure”)
10. one millionth of a second

## **Part Two**

### **Medical English**

*Find words below with the same roots as these words and try to guess the meaning of the roots*

Biopsy

Alphabet

Nostalgia

Anti

Atomizer

Helicopter

Mnemonic

(Data) analysis

Pathos

Mania

Bionic, biography, pathology, amnesia, maniac, electrolysis, biotechnology, atom, pathogen, psychopath, alpha male, manic depressive, antibiotic, alpha wave, amnesty, antihistamine, pathological, antidote, dipsomania, antiseptic, biology, alpha particle, kleptomaniac, helix, neuralgia, megalomania,

*Match the roots to the meanings*

Memory

Madness

To break/loosen

not+ count (cannot count)

pain

spiral

suffering

against/ opposite

(name of the first letter of the Greek alphabet)

Life

*Guess the meanings of the other words*

*Match the words to the definitions*

1. A drug that is given to stop the bad effects of a poison (from the Greek for “against” and “give”- “given against”)
2. A book with the story of your life (from Greek “life” and “write”)
3. A loss of memory (Greek for “no” and “memory”)
4. Using electricity to separate chemicals
5. A seriously mentally ill person, especially used for murderers and other criminals (from the Greek for “mind” and “suffering”)
6. A bacteria that causes disease
7. Electrical replacement body parts (shortened form from Greek “life” and “electronic”)
8. The science of disease (from the Greek for “suffering” and “science”)
9. The “study of life”
10. Nerve pain
11. The most important or macho man or male animal in a group
12. A drug that kills bacteria
13. A pardon for past offences, for example when prisoners are allowed to leave prison early (from the Greek for “oblivion”)
14. A mental illness that means you can’t stop drinking alcohol (from Greek “thirst” and “madness”)
15. A form of insanity in which the patient is mad on one subject only (from the Greek “single/ alone” and “madness”)
16. A mental illness which has periods of extreme happiness and energy, and extreme unhappiness
17. A person who can’t stop stealing due to mental disease (from Greek “thief” and “madness”)

**Answer key**

To compress/ press/ strangle: anxi-/ angi-

to measure: meter

agreement: harmon-

the same: homo-/ homeo-

black: mela-

air: aero-

a thousand: kilo-

small: micro-

all: pan-

1. pandemonium
2. anaerobic
3. altimeter
4. harmonize
5. melancholy
6. microbe
7. aeronautics
8. microscope
9. thermometer
10. microsecond

Memory: mne-

Madness: mania

To break/loosen: -lysis

not+ count (cannot count): atom

pain: -algia

spiral: heli-

suffering: patho-

against/ opposite: anti-

(name of the first letter of the Greek alphabet): alpha

Life: bio-

1. antidote
2. biography
3. amnesia

4. electrolysis
5. psychopath
6. pathogen
7. bionic
8. pathology
9. biology
10. neuralgia
11. alpha male
12. antibiotic
13. amnesty
14. dipsomania
15. monomania
16. manic depressive
17. kleptomania