Vocabulary / Root List #4

**FORM**

Latin FORMARE, FORMATUM “to form, to establish”

(1) MISINFORMATION (n) Untrue or wrong information

L. mis, “wrong,” + in, “in,” + formare = *wrongly established*

The two warring countries constantly circulated *misinformation* to confuse each other.

(2) REFORM (v) To bring back to rightness, order, or morality

L. re, “again,” + formare = *to form again*

Many people think we need to *reform* our political system, but few know where to start.

*syn*: correct *ant*: ruin

(3) FORMATIVE (adj) Occurring at the time of most influence

During a *formative* period of Manny’s life, he was introduced to classical music; now he is a famous pianist.

**APT / EPT**

Latin APTARE, APTUM “to fit”

(4) INEPT (adj) Unskilled; clumsy

L. in, “not,” + aptum = *not suited*

Try as I might to comfort LaTonda, all my words seemed *inept* or just plain wrong.

*syn*: awkward *ant*: graceful

(5) ADEPT (adj) Skilled, expert at

L. ad, “toward,” + aptum = *suited towards*

T-Bone was *adept* at dealing with the arguments that often arose in his bible study group.

*syn*: masterful *ant*: incompetent

(6) APTITUDE (n) Skill or suitability for

Robbie did not discover his *aptitude* for piracy and crime until he was in college.

*syn*: ability

**POS / PON**

Latin PONERE, POSITUM “to put, place”

(7) POSIT (v) To put forth; assert

Abe *posited* his belief that all people should be treated fairly.

*syn*: propose

(8) IMPOSE (v) To forcibly place upon

L. in, “on, onto,” + positum = *to put into*

The new government tried to *impose* its ideas onto supporters of the old regime.

*syn*: inflict

(9) DISPOSITION (n) Attitude or mood

L. dis, “apart,” + positum

The pirate captain’s impatient *disposition* led him to throw away many lazy sailors to the sharks.

*syn*: character

**FIG**

Latin FINGERE, FICTUM “to shape”

(10) FIGMENT (n) Something invented or imaginary

Were the monsters only a *figment* of a feverish brain, or did they really exist?

*syn*: phantom *ant*: fact

(11) EFFIGY (n) A figure constructed in mockery

L. e, “out of,” + fictum = *to shape out of*

An *effigy* of the other team’s mascot was burned at the pep rally.

(12) PREFIGURE (v) To look like or predict a later thing or event

L. pre, “before,” + fictum = *to shape before*

The small riot outside City Hall *prefigured* a major uprising that occurred later that year.

*syn*: foreshadow