



lingoda

Latin and Greek roots

COMMUNICATION

LEVEL
Advanced

NUMBER
C1_2062X_EN

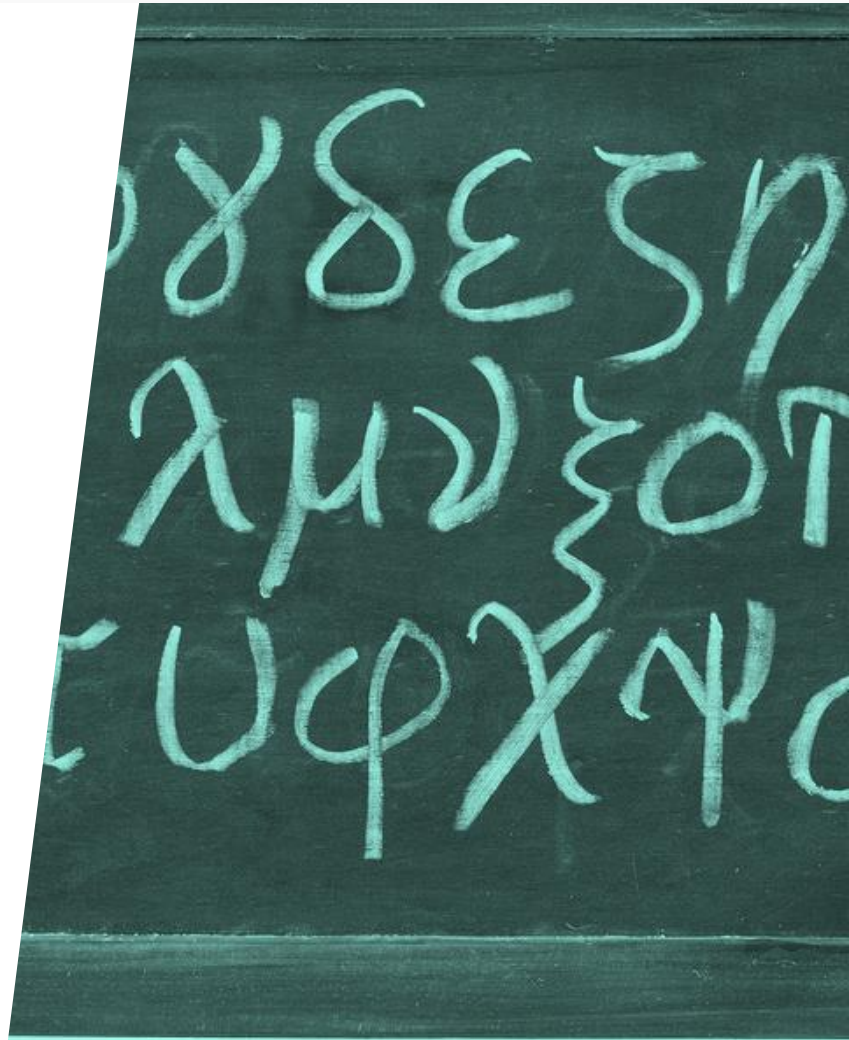
LANGUAGE
English

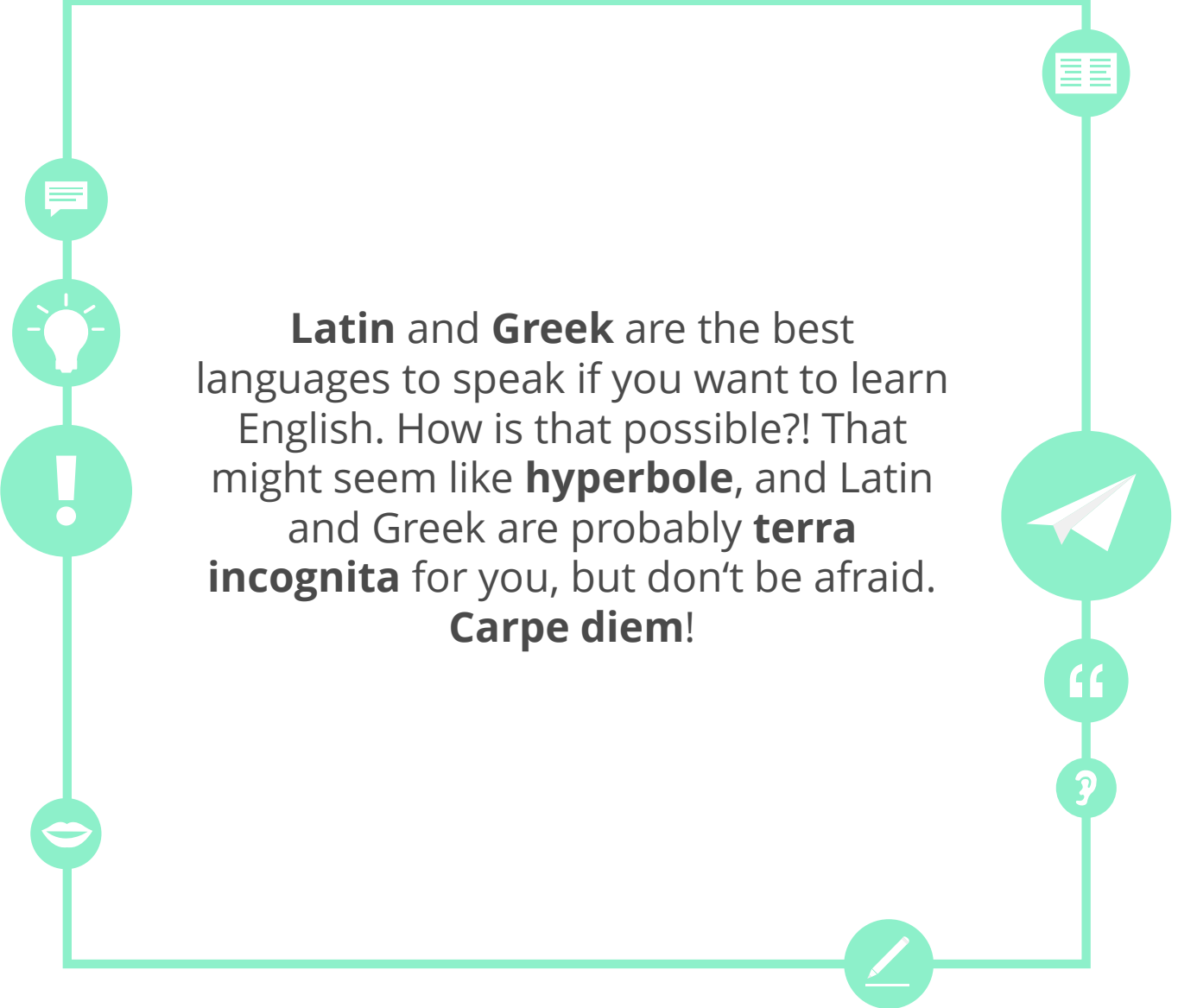




Goals

- Can identify and recall words of Latin and Greek origin that are used in academic writing.
- Can successfully use these words in more complex sentences and in an academic context.





Latin and **Greek** are the best languages to speak if you want to learn English. How is that possible?! That might seem like **hyperbole**, and Latin and Greek are probably **terra incognita** for you, but don't be afraid. **Carpe diem!**



Academic writing

What can you remember about academic writing? Can you give some examples?



3rd person

evidence

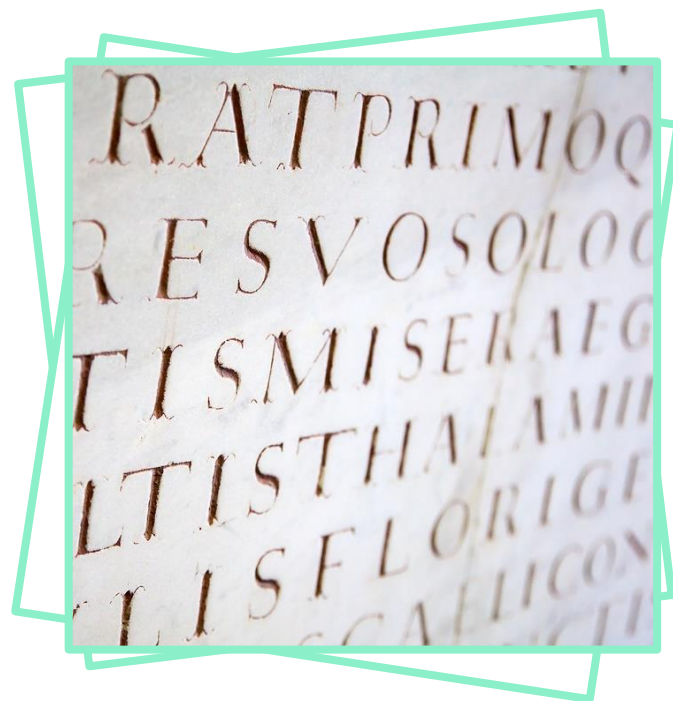
present tense

formal tone



Academic writing

Do you know any words which have Greek or Latin roots? Are there some in your language?



Words with Latin or Greek roots

If the **Latin** language is dead, why are we learning it?

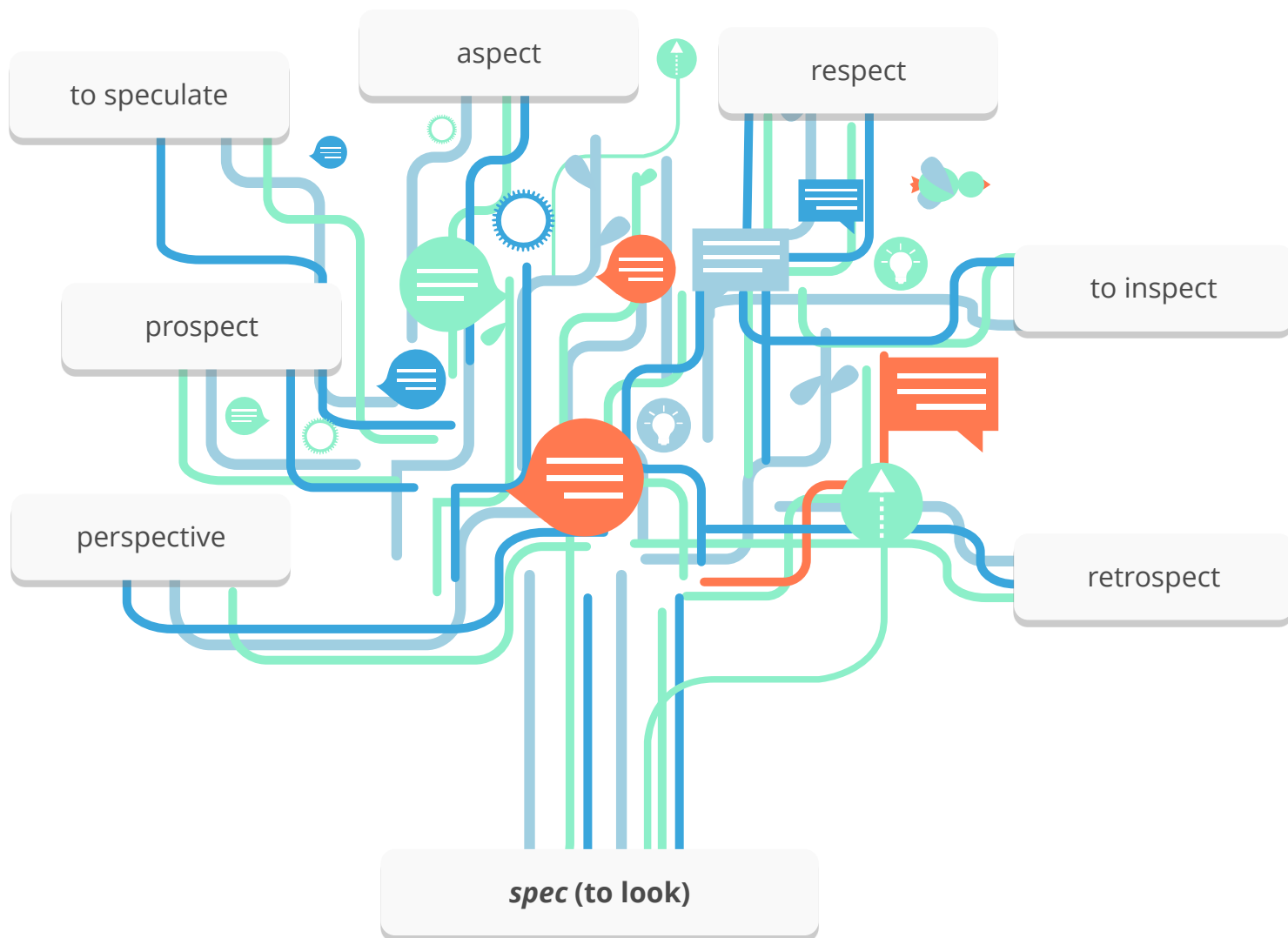
Many words in English have **Latin** or **Greek roots**. In fact, if you learn one Latin root, such as ***rupt***, which means to break or to burst, you can understand many more words, such as **interrupt** and **disrupt**.

In **academic writing**, Latin and Greek become even more important. Social scientists, scientists, and medical professionals are all groups who use a multitude of words with classical roots in their writing.

Don't **interrupt** me while I'm explaining something!



Vocabulary tree: *spec* (Latin)





Words with *spec*

to speculate

We may **speculate** on his reasons but we will never know them.

respect

My father is the person I look up to the most; I have a great deal of **respect** for his opinions.

aspect

One **aspect** of Darwin's Theory of Evolution was that all creatures evolved from a few animals.

to inspect

If we **inspect** the idea more closely, we begin to see its failings.

prospect

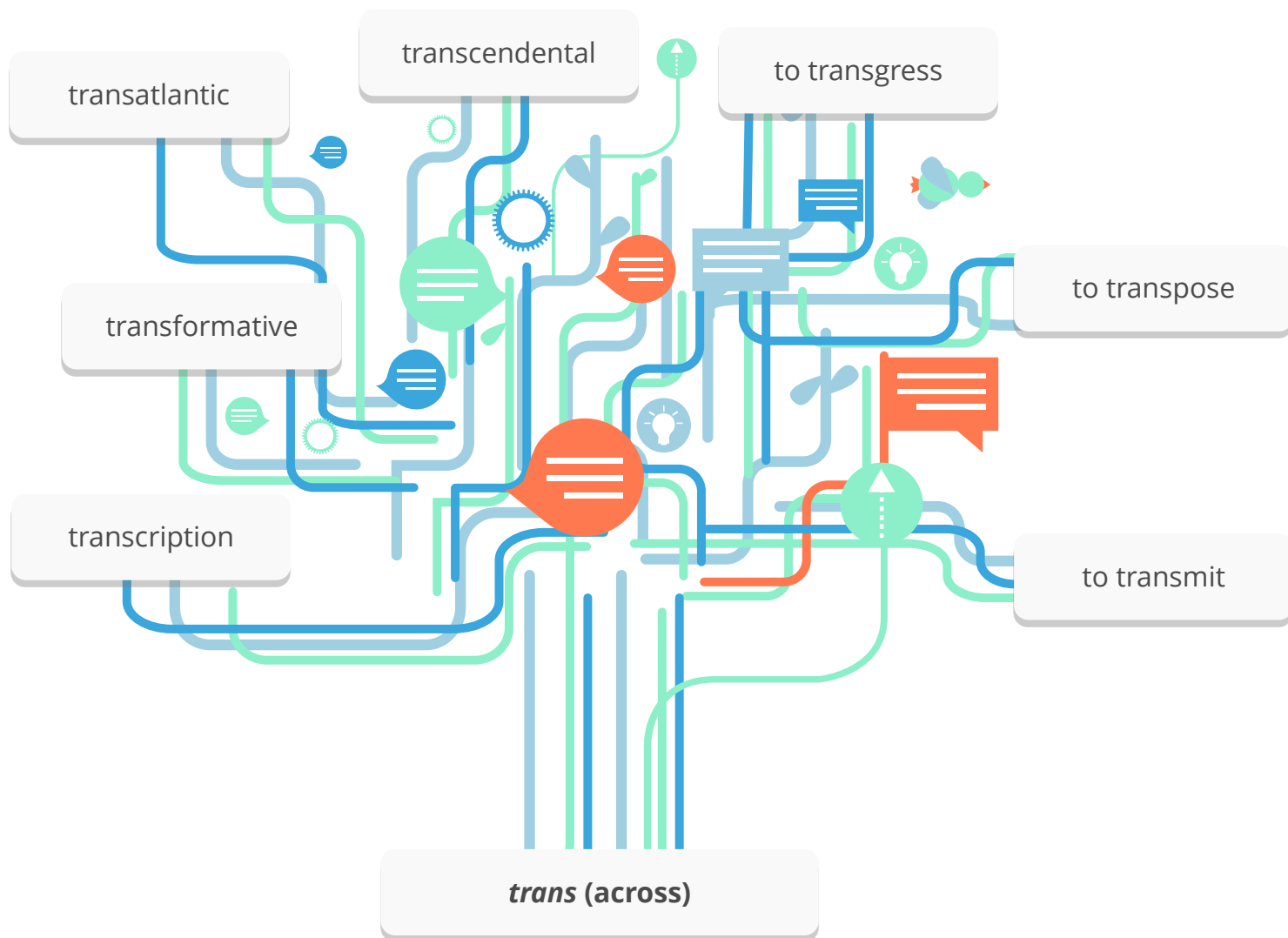
We face the **prospect** of having to begin our research over again.

expectation

Our **expectations** are met by this wonderful work of fiction.



Vocabulary tree: *trans* (Latin)





Words with *trans*

transformative

Tolstoy's *War and Peace* was written during a **transformative** period in Russia.

to transcend

Shakespeare's writing manages to **transcend** national and cultural barriers.

to transgress

The rule of law must be upheld and those who **transgress** will be punished.

to transpose

Films of *Romeo and Juliet* often **transpose** the work to other settings or eras.



More words with Latin roots

- Below are two more examples of words with Latin roots.

contra- (against)	inter- (between/among)
That contradicts his earlier statement.	Psychologists have carried out an international study.
His actions contravened the law, and he is now in prison.	Sociologists study how humans interact .
Certain texts have been considered contraband in some societies.	His work shows the interrelated problems of poverty and health.
He paints the divisive contrast between rich and poor.	His work is interspersed with metaphors and allusions.
Most countries saw a contraction in their economies during the recession.	A study of multiculturalism shows an interdependence between countries.



Synonyms

Find synonyms for these words with Latin roots.

prospect

assumption

to mutate

conflict

aspect

contradiction

chance

expectation

to collaborate

to transform

condition

to interact



Guess the meanings

Can you guess what these Latin root words mean? Try to think of some more examples and put one or two into a sentence.



circum-
(circumnavigate)

re-
(reset)

bene-
(beneficial)

extra-
(extraordinary)

tri-
(tricycle)

bi-
(bicycle)



Describe the picture

Using the prompts at the side as a starting point, describe what is happening in the picture in as academic a tone as possible. Use the words on the previous pages, and your imagination.

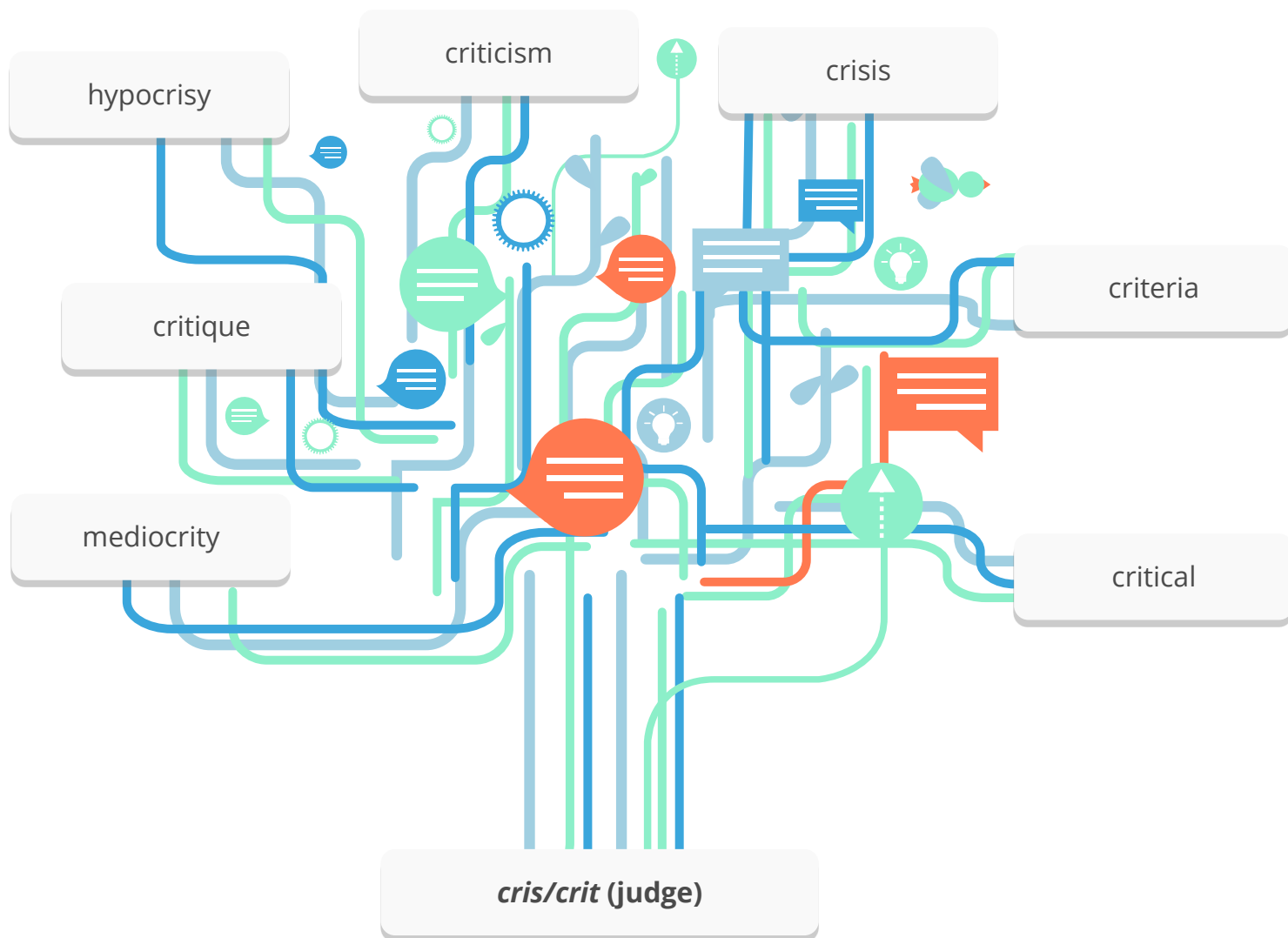


They're watching...

Maybe she...



Vocabulary tree: *cris/crit* (Greek)





Words with *cris/crit*

mediocrity

Only the surprising conclusion rescues the work from **mediocrity**.

criticism

There has been much **criticism** of Freud's work in the years since his death.

criteria

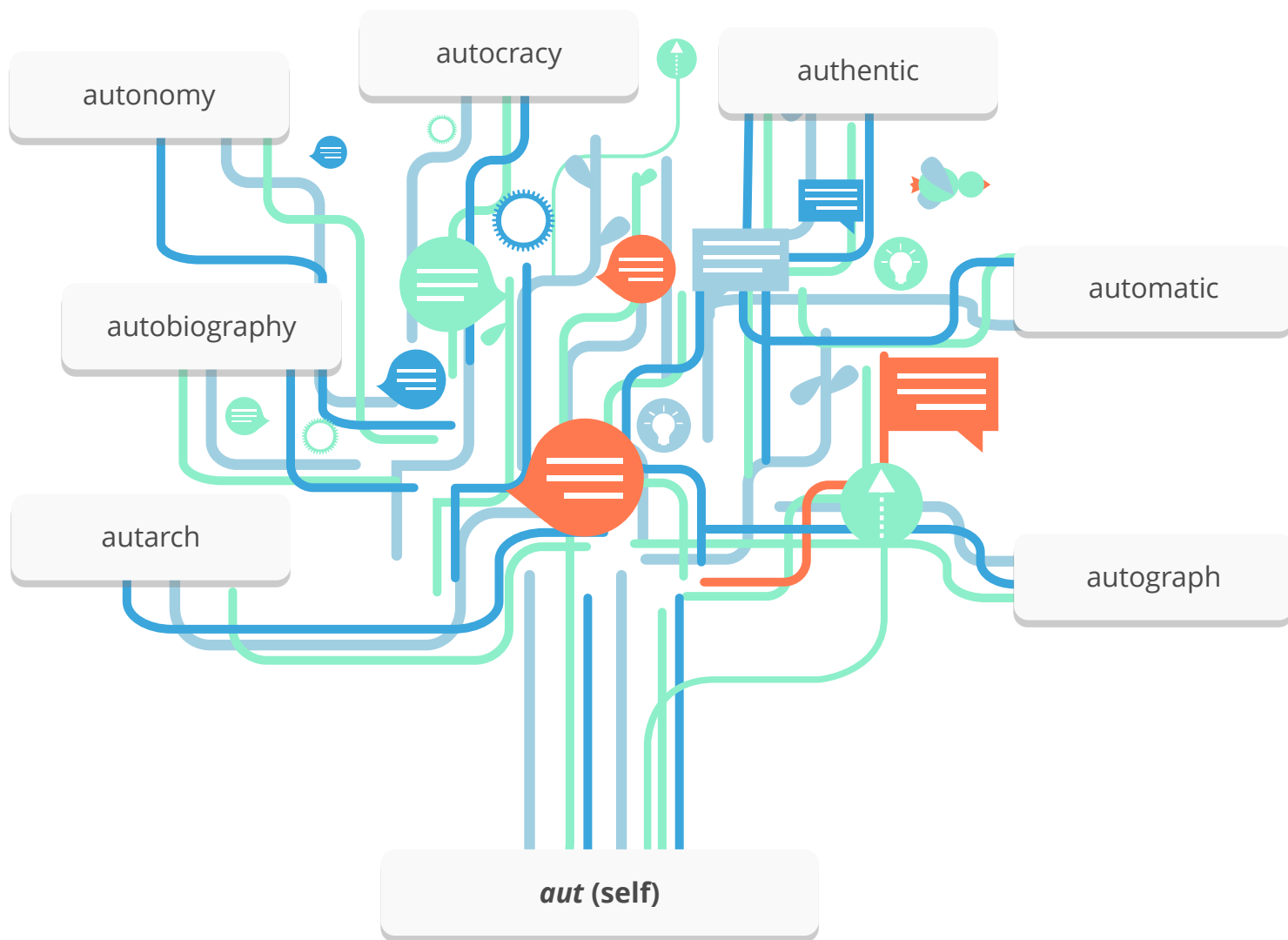
The **criteria** upon which we judge scientific research must be stringent.

hypocrisy

Politicians are often accused of **hypocrisy** when they say one thing and do another.



Vocabulary tree: *aut* (Greek)





Words with *aut*

autonomy

Many scientists have great **autonomy** in their work.

autocracy

In 2017, North Korea is considered to have an **autocratic** government.

automatic

My **automatic** response to the question was shock and horror.

autobiography

He glided over some indelicate incidents in his **autobiography**.

autarch

The **autarch** ruled over his people with an iron fist.

autograph

The rock star signed **autographs** for his fans.



More words with Greek roots

- Below are two more examples of words with Greek roots.

mono- (one)	hyper (excess)
He has a monopoly in the market.	Film reviews are often full of hyperbole .
His speeches are boring because his voice is monotone .	He is hypersensitive to criticism.
Most western religions are monotheistic .	When children eat too much sugar they may become hyperactive .
Stonehenge is a series of monoliths .	Post-war Germany suffered a period of hyperinflation .



Replace the words

Replace the words in bold with words with Greek roots in the boxes.

hyperbole

autonomy

criticism

authentic

criteria

1. I can't believe what harsh **judgement** she received from the audience.
2. What are the **benchmarks** for determining if a society is civilised?
3. She has the **freedom** to determine her own destiny.
4. It's such **an overstatement** – surely there can be no evidence for his claim.
5. It's definitely **real** – I had it tested myself.





Guess the meaning

Can you guess what these Greek root words mean? Try to think of some more examples and put one or two into a sentence.



micro-
(microchip)

hemi-
(hemisphere)

pan-
(pan-European)

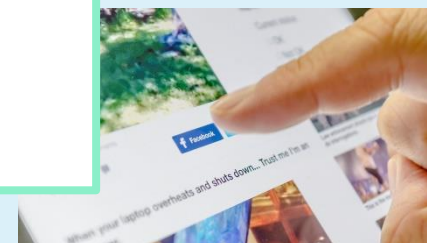
geo-
(geology)



Change the text

Change this text to make it sound more academic. You can use some of the Greek root words you just studied.

There have been many new developments in recent years, but few have gripped society in the same way as social media. Though it may be exaggeration, people have been saying bad things about social media and its power over us. It is difficult to know whether we have complete control over what we post on social media as there are so few rules in place to protect whatever information we share about ourselves online.





Words with Latin roots

Here are some more words with Latin roots.

ante/pre- (before)	uni- (one)
I should attend antenatal classes this month.	Germany was hugely changed after the fall of the Berlin Wall and subsequent unification .
The USA was deeply divided during the antebellum period.	Love is a topic of universal interest.
He is prepared to defend his rather controversial opinions.	It was a unique opportunity to read the original manuscript.
He was not well predisposed to the idea, though I convinced him eventually.	They are holding a summit to discuss fiscal union .



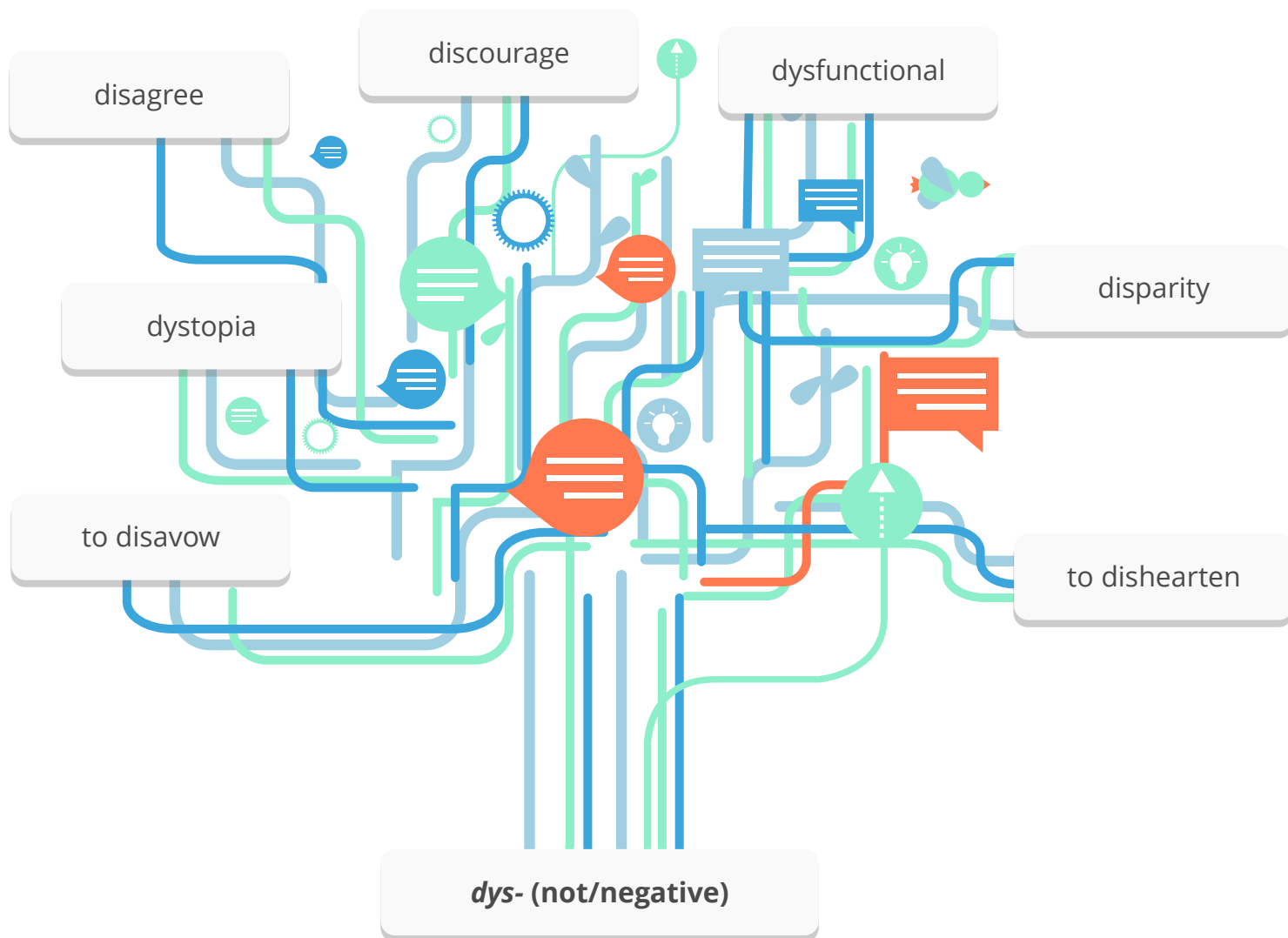
Words with Latin roots.

And... some more.

co/com/con- (with)	sub- (below)
Despite their hatred for one another, they managed to coexist .	The sales of the book have unfortunately been subpar .
His ideas are compatible with those of the state, thus he was published.	People can spend up to a year working on a submarine .
Rugby is a contact sport.	The subtext of the film is an implicit criticism of the government.
He combined his family life and his work well.	He was subservient to his master all his life.



Vocabulary tree: *dys/dis* (Greek)





Words with *dis/dys*

disparity

His work exposed the income **disparity** in the country.

discourage

He was deeply **discouraged** by what he saw as society's apathy.

to disavow

The president explicitly **disavowed** the statements of her interviewer.

dystopia

George Orwell wrote a **dystopia** called *Nineteen Eighty-Four*.

to dishearten

The student was **disheartened** by the results of his exam.

dysfunctional

He came from a **dysfunctional** family.



Words with Greek roots

Here are some more words with Greek roots.

anti- (against)	-logy (work or thought)
Unfortunately in the end it was an anti-climax .	All politicians need an ideology for their supporters to rally behind.
There was huge antipathy towards him for his unconventional views.	Medusa is a famous figure in mythology .
He was the antithesis of his sister.	There are many Greek and Latin root words used in sociology .
Doctors today believe antibiotics are overprescribed.	He studied theology before becoming a writer.



Match the synonyms. Try to use some of the Greek root words in a sentence

ideology

antithesis prepared

sole discourage

put off opposition

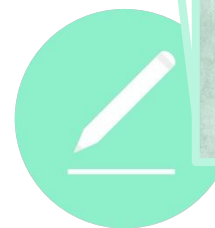
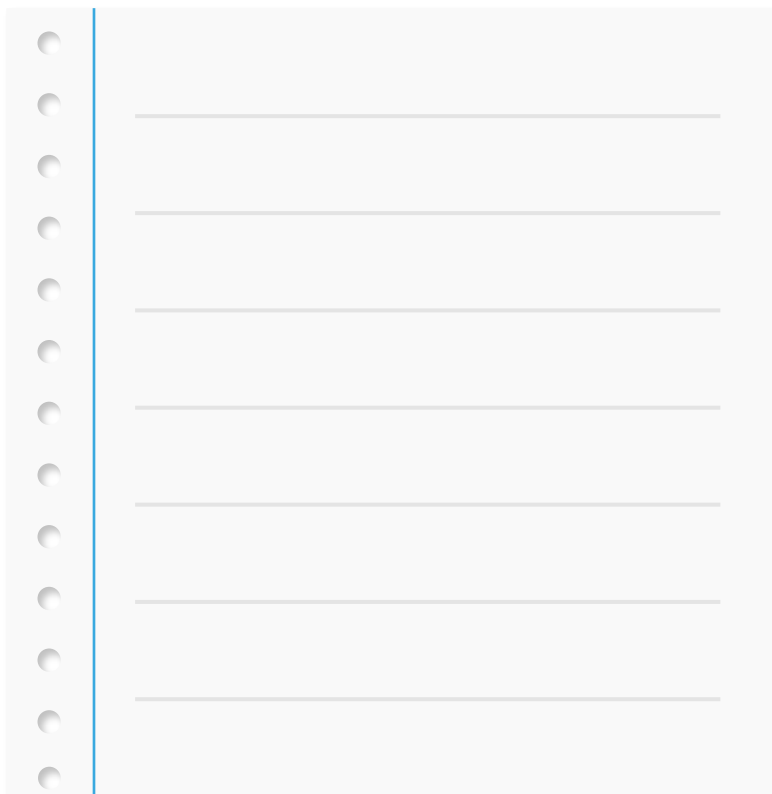
ready creed

unique



Writing

Write a short text about the spread of Latin and Greek words into English. The text should be in an academic style.





Reflect on the lesson

Take a moment to review any new **vocabulary, phrases, language structures** or **grammar points** you have come across for the first time in this lesson.

Review them with your teacher one more time to make sure you don't forget!





Answer key

Exercise p. 12

prospect – chance; aspect – condition; expectation – assumption; contradiction – conflict; to interact – collaborate; to transform – mutate

Exercise p. 13

circum = around, re = again, bene = good, extra = outside, tri = three, bi = two

Exercise p. 20

1. criticism, 2. criteria, 3. autonomy, 4. hyperbole, 5. authentic

Exercise p. 21

micro = small, hemi = half, pan = all, geo = earth

Exercise p. 22

accept any good answers

Exercise p. 28

prepared - ready, unique - sole, ideology - creed, antithesis - opposition, discourage - put off

Exercise p. 29

demo = people, homo = same, philo = love, graph = write, prima = first, aqua = water, amica = friend, terra = earth





anti	ante
spec	contra
logy	bene
aut	hyper
mono	sub



Find the Greek or Latin synonyms for these words

before birth	_____
exaggerate	_____
around	_____
many	_____
one	_____
not	_____
against	_____
under	_____
look	_____





Homework answer key

Exercise p. 34

Latin: ante, spec, contra, bene, sub
Greek: anti, logy, aut, hyper, mono

Exercise p. 35

antenatal, hyperbole, circum, poly, uni, dys/dis, contra/anti, sub, spec



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