

Latin and Greek Prefixes: Cata- and Ambi-/Amphi-

Many prefixes we use in English originally come from Greek or Latin words. The prefix *cata-* is from a Greek word meaning “down” or “completely.” The prefix *ambi-/amphi-* is from a Latin word and a Greek word meaning “both” or “around.” If you understand what the prefix means, it will help you understand the meaning of the whole word. For example, the ending *dextrous* means “right-handed.” Combine *ambi-* with *dextrous*, and it becomes the word *ambidextrous*. Based on its original meaning, *ambidextrous* means “both right-handed” or being able to use both hands equally.

Use the list in the bank to make five different English words out of *cata-* and *ambi-/amphi-*. You may add a suffix or change the spelling a little if needed. Write a sentence for each word you make and circle the word you made with the prefix. Be sure to use words for both *cata-* and *ambi-/amphi-*.

Sentences:

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.



Word Bank

bient
biguous
clysm
comb
ibian
logue
pult
strophe
theater
valent

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Sentences:

1. **Student's choice**
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.



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