

LESSON 6

Exploring Distant Places

The root *tele* as in *television* means “far away.” The root *astr* as in *astronomer* means “star; outer space.” In each of the following key words, underline the root.

Key Words

astronaut
astronomical

astronomy
telecast

teleconference
telegraph

telemarketing
telescope



Using ROOT CLUES

The roots *tele* (far) and *astr* (outer space) give you clues about meaning. When you spot one of these roots in a word, you have a key to the word’s meaning. Use the underlined root clues to help you match the following columns:

- | | |
|-------------------------------|--|
| 1. _____ <u>telescope</u> | A. selling from <u>afar</u> , not face-to-face |
| 2. _____ <u>astronaut</u> | B. science of <u>outer space</u> |
| 3. _____ <u>telemarketing</u> | C. traveler in <u>outer space</u> |
| 4. _____ <u>astronomy</u> | D. device for seeing <u>far</u> -away objects |

The root clues did not give you complete definitions as the following dictionary listings will. But they got you started by giving you *part* of the meaning. Sometimes that *part* helps you to figure out the word.

TELE (from the Greek word *tele* meaning “distant; far away”)

Familiar Words with Root TELE

telephone
television

1. telecast (te' li kast)

n. A broadcast by television.

In 1969, a telecast of the first landing of human beings on the moon was viewed around the world.

Challenge Words with Root TELE

telecommunication

telepathy

telethon

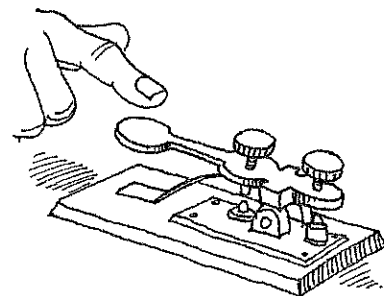
2. teleconference (te'li kən' fə rə(t)s)

n. A meeting at which people see and talk to each other using long-distance devices, such as telephones, televisions, and computers.

During the teleconference, students in our school could talk with students in London.

3. telegraph (te'lə graf)

n. An instrument invented in 1837 by Samuel Morse that used electricity passing through wires to send messages over distances.



By the 1860s, the telegraph had become the fastest way to send a message from one city to another.

4. telemarketing (te lə mār' kə ting)

n. Selling by telephone.

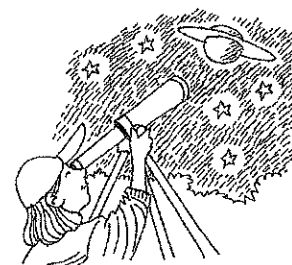
While telemarketing has been popular with businesses, the people receiving the phone calls are not always so pleased.



5. telescope (te'lə sköp)

n. An instrument for making distant objects look closer and larger.

Through her telescope, Olivia could see the rings around Saturn.



ASTR (from the Greek word *aster* and the Latin word *astrum* meaning "star; outer space")

6. astronaut (as' trə not) [also derived from the Greek *nautilus* meaning "sailor or traveler"]

n. Space traveler.

In 1983, Sally Ride became the first female astronaut to complete a mission to outer space.

7. astronomical (as' trə nă' mi kəl)

adj. 1. Extremely large, huge.

The distance among the stars in the Milky Way is astronomical.

Familiar Words with Root ASTR

astronomer

disaster

Challenge Words with Root *ASTR*

asterisk
asteroid
astral
astrodome
astrolabe

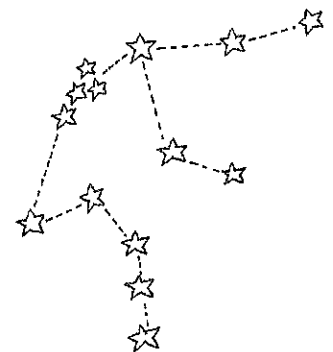
2. Related to astronomy.

Light-year, the measurement of the distance light travels in a year, is a term used often in astronomical discussions.

8. **astronomy** (ə strä' nə mē)

n. The branch of science for the study of planets, stars, and space.

After her course in astronomy, Tameka could point out the stars in the constellation Aquarius.



NOTA BENE

In your social studies textbook, you may have met another word with the *astr* root: *astrolabe*. Long ago, sailors used an astrolabe to determine their location at sea by measuring the altitude of the stars.



EXERCISE A: SYNONYMS

Write the letter of the best **SYNONYM** (the word or phrase most nearly the same in meaning as the word in bold-faced type).

1. _____ learning about **astronomy**
a. space travel b. science of space c. space scientist d. starship
2. _____ a long **teleconference**
a. meeting b. series c. announcement d. view
3. _____ an **astronomical** figure
a. distant b. important c. medium d. huge
4. _____ to send by **telegraph**
a. horse b. train c. electrical currents through wires
d. fax machine
5. _____ the job of **telemarketing**
a. writing b. editing c. mailing d. phoning



EXERCISE B: MEANING IN CONTEXT

Use these words to fill in the blanks in the following paragraph.

astronaut telecast astronomy teleconference telescope

Miguel turned on the television to watch the (1) _____ he had been waiting a week to see. Tonight two of his heroes were going to be interviewed for an hour. They were an engineer who had worked on moon landings and an (2) _____ who had traveled to the moon. Miguel had a (3) _____ in his backyard, and he often looked at the moon's changes. He hoped that someday he could walk on its surface. Last year, his science teacher had set up a (4) _____ so that he and other members of the (5) _____ club could ask questions of scientists at the local university. But tonight, Miguel would be able to hear someone who had actually been on the moon.



EXERCISE C: EXTEND YOUR VOCABULARY

The "instrument" root: *scope*

The word *telescope* has two meaningful parts: *tele* and *scope*. You know that *tele* means "far away." *Scope* is derived from the Greek word *skopein* meaning "to see." A *telescope* helps you see objects in space that are *far away*.

Here are some more instruments that include *scope*. Match each of them with what it helps you see.

- | | |
|-------------------------|---|
| 1. _____ microscope | A. changing patterns in a tube that you can twist |
| 2. _____ periscope | B. very tiny items |
| 3. _____ kaleidoscope | C. the inside of the eye |
| 4. _____ ophthalmoscope | D. things that are above, as from a submarine |

Below each of the following pictures, write the name of the correct "scope."

