

Going in Circles

The root *circ* as in *circle* means “around.” The root *cycl* as in *bicycle* means “revolving” (like the wheels of a bike). In each of the following key words, underline the root.

Key Words			
circuit	circulate	cyclone	semicircle
circular	cycle	recycle	unicycle



Using ROOT CLUES

The roots *circ* (around) and *cycl* (revolving) 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>circulate</u> | A. one <u>revolving</u> wheel |
| 2. _____ <u>unicycle</u> | B. to move <u>around</u> |
| 3. _____ <u>circuit</u> | C. <u>revolving</u> winds |
| 4. _____ <u>cyclone</u> | D. path <u>around</u> which electricity passes |

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.

CIRC (from the Latin word *circum* meaning “around”)

Familiar Words
with Root CIRC

circle
circus

1. circuit (sər' ket)

n. A closed route that goes around an object or area, such as the path along which an electric current flows.

Emily put two batteries in the flashlight to complete the circuit.

NOTA BENE

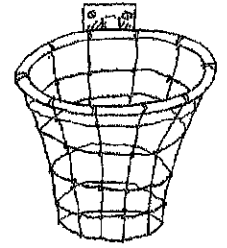
An electrical circuit is seldom *round*. So why does it have the root *circ* as in *circle*? A complete circuit is a path on which all points are connected with no breaks in the line. It is continuous, like the unbroken line of a circle.

**Challenge Words
with Root CIRC**

circlet
circuitry
circuitous

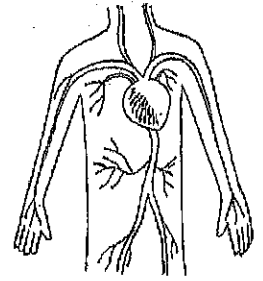
2. **circular** (sər' kyə lər)
adj. Having the shape of a circle.

The basketball fell through the circular opening of the hoop and gave our team the lead.



3. **circulate** (sər' kyə lāt)
v. 1. To move along a path and return to the same place.

The pumping of the heart makes the blood circulate through the body.

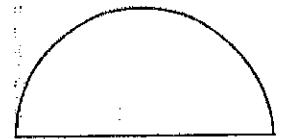


2. To move from person to person or from place to place.

Luis enjoyed meeting new people and often circulated from one group to another at parties.

circulation, n.

4. **semicircle** (se' mē sər kəl)
n. A half circle.



We sat in a semicircle facing the librarian as he explained where to find the books we would need for our reports.

CYCL (from the Greek word *kuklos* meaning "wheel")

**Familiar Words
with Root CYCL**

bicycle
cyclist
motorcycle
tricycle

5. **cycle** (sī' kəl)
n. A period of time during which events follow a certain pattern and repeat themselves.

The seasons change from one to another during a one-year cycle.

6. **cyclone** (sī' klōn)
n. A strong whirling windstorm.

Thunderstorms surrounded the center of the tropical cyclone as it moved toward the coast.

**Challenge Words
with Root CYCL**

cyclic
Cyclops
cyclorama

7. **recycle** (rē sī' kəl)
v. To treat or prepare in order to use again.

The factory recycled old newspapers to produce new paper products.

8. **unicycle** (yü' ni sī kəl)

n. A vehicle with one wheel, usually moved by pedals.

It takes lots of practice to keep your balance while pedaling a unicycle.



EXERCISE A: SYNONYMS

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

1. _____ a dangerous **cyclone**
 a. accident b. event c. windstorm d. wheel
2. _____ a **circular** route
 a. curved b. level c. short d. difficult
3. _____ a two-year **cycle**
 a. job b. journey c. school d. time period
4. _____ an electrical **circuit**
 a. circus b. shock c. breaker d. route
5. _____ to **recycle** glass
 a. collect b. distribute c. fix for reuse d. wash


EXERCISE B: MEANING IN CONTEXT

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

semicircle unicycle circular cyclone circulate

Members of our local One-Wheel Cyclists Club claim that anyone can learn to ride a (1) _____. The club members meet in a park that has both straight and (2) _____ paths for riding. Some of the more skilled members can pedal halfway around a circle and then pedal backwards over the same (3) _____. At the meetings, newcomers often (4) _____ among the long-term members to hear about some interesting and unusual experiences. One rider likes to tell beginners about the time she was almost caught in a (5) _____ and pedaled home as fast as she could while the wind and rain increased.



EXERCISE C: EXTEND YOUR VOCABULARY

The "one, two, three" prefixes: *uni-*, *bi-*, *tri-*

The numbers *one*, *two*, and *three* are connected with many words. In this lesson you met the word *unicycle*, and you learned that a unicycle has only one wheel. There are other words that start with *uni-*, and they also have a "one" connection. Look at the word *unify*, which means "to bring together as one."

In the box with Familiar Words, you see *bicycle* and *tricycle*. The prefix *bi-* has a "two" connection. A *bicycle* has **two** wheels. A *biped* has **two** feet. The prefix *tri-* has a "three" connection. A *tricycle* has **three** wheels. The dinosaur *triceratops* had **three** horns.

Underline the number prefix you see in each of these words. On the line beside the word, write the number and a short definition of the word.

1. triangle _____

2. united _____

3. bilingual _____

4. unicorn _____

5. triplets _____

The Dinner Party

by Mona Gardner

The country is India. A colonial official and his wife are giving a large dinner party. They are seated with their guests—army officers and government attachés and their wives, and a visiting American naturalist—in their spacious dining room, which has a bare marble floor, open rafters and wide glass doors opening onto a veranda.*

A spirited discussion springs up between a young girl who insists that women have outgrown the jumping-on-a-chair-at-the-sight-of-a-mouse era and a colonel who says that they haven't.

"A woman's unfailing reaction in any crisis," the colonel says, "is to scream. And while a man may feel like it, he has that ounce more of nerve control than a woman has. And that last ounce is what counts."

The American does not join in the argument but watches the other guests. As he looks, he sees a strange expression come over the face of the hostess. She is staring straight ahead, her muscles contracting slightly. With a slight gesture she summons the native boy standing behind her chair and whispers to him. The boy's eyes widen: he quickly leaves the room.

Of the guests, none except the American notices this or sees the boy place a bowl of milk on the veranda just outside the open doors.

The American comes to with a start. In India, milk in a bowl means only one thing—bait for a snake. He realizes there must be a cobra in the room. He looks up at the rafters—the likeliest place—but they are bare. Three corners of the room are empty, and in the fourth the servants are waiting to serve the next course. There is only one place left—under the table.

His first impulse is to jump back and warn the others, but he knows the commotion would frighten the cobra into striking. He speaks quickly, the tone of his voice so arresting that it sobers everyone.

* During the time this story takes place, India was a British colony. The **colonial official** works for the British government in India. The **government attachés** work for another country's embassy in India. Finally, a **naturalist** is someone who studies animals and plants.

"I want to know just what control everyone at this table has. I will count to three hundred—that's five minutes—and not one of you is to move a muscle. Those who move will forfeit fifty rupees. Ready!"

The twenty people sit like stone images while he counts. He is saying "... two hundred and eighty. . ." when, out of the corner of his eye, he sees the cobra emerge and make for the bowl of milk. Screams ring out as he jumps to slam the veranda doors safely shut.

"You were right, Colonel!" the host exclaims. "A man has just shown us an example of perfect control."

"Just a minute," the American says, turning to his hostess. "Mrs. Wynnes, how did you know that cobra was in the room?"

A faint smile lights up the woman's face as she replies: "Because it was crawling across my foot."

Name: _____

Date: _____

Grade: _____

BASIC ELEMENTS OF FICTION: SHORT STORY CHART

TITLE:		AUTHOR:
STORY ELEMENTS	INFORMATION IN THE TEXT	QUESTIONING BEYOND THE TEXT
CHARACTERS		
SETTING		
PLOT Problem & Solution		

Short Story 2: "The Future is Ours"

I love the sound of pennies falling on top of pennies, Vanessa thought, as she added another handful of coins into the giant jar on top of the kitchen cabinet. She had been saving her money for the World's Fair ever since the city announced that the biggest World's Fair in history would take place a few blocks from her own house in Queens, NY.

Vanessa remembered walking to school one morning, when she saw the paperboy toss a newspaper onto Giuseppe's stoop. The headline read, "The Future is Ours: World's Fair Coming to Flushing!" Vanessa opened Giuseppe's newspaper and read about how the great pilot Howard Hughes would fly around the world to invite people to the fair, and that the theme of the fair was the future. Vanessa hoped the future would be better; 1938 was a hard year for her family and for other families on her block. Her mother had been working triple shifts at Uncle Joe's Coffee Shop to make ends meet.

Vanessa worked hard that year. She read to Mr. Laugherty on 32nd Avenue. She bagged groceries at the corner store. She took out the neighbor's trash each week. At the end of the year, she had saved enough money to take her mother with her to the World's Fair. Vanessa wanted to give her mother hope for the future.

Every night she dreamed of a future that included smell-o-matic movies, something called air conditioning that made the air cold, even when it was summer, and photographs with color. The unthinkable was just around the corner, and she wanted to see it.

On April 28th, 1939, a few days before the World's Fair opened, Vanessa woke up to a crash. Then, she heard the sound she loved—pennies falling on pennies. She could also hear shuffling, whispers and the front door opening. Vanessa ran downstairs as quickly as she could and found the front door wide open. Her penny jar was broken in pieces with no pennies anywhere to be seen.

Vanessa ran upstairs, jumped into bed and began to cry. Even though her mom knocked on her door, she refused to show her face. *All of that hard work, for nothing,* she thought to herself. Vanessa felt the future falling out from under her.

Two days later, Vanessa heard her mother through her bedroom door say, "Vanessa Lugones, stop moping and come downstairs for breakfast." Vanessa called back, "No Ma! I don't feel hungry!" When her mother started counting down, she knew there was no choice but to come out of her room.

"Come with me."

Vanessa followed her mother past the breakfast table, which had no food on it and out the door.

"Where are we going, Ma?"

"You will see."

Vanessa and her mother walked onto the street. After a few blocks, the streets filled with cars and families headed in the same direction. She realized they were walking toward the World's Fair!

When they got to the entrance, Vanessa's mother took crisp dollar bills out of her bag, and said, "Two please." Vanessa looked up and asked, "But how?"

Vanessa's mom hugged her and answered. "I work so hard because I believe in you, and I believe in the future. I want you to have hope. In fact, I have been saving up for this day ever since they announced 'The Future is Ours!'"

Name: _____

Date: _____

Grade: _____

BASIC ELEMENTS OF FICTION: SHORT STORY CHART

TITLE:

AUTHOR:

STORY ELEMENTS

INFORMATION
IN THE TEXT

QUESTIONING BEYOND
THE TEXT

CHARACTERS

SETTING

PLOT
Problem & Solution

Genre Prediction Activity Directions:

1. Define each of the terms on top in your own words.
2. Write in each of the following Sub-genres underneath the Genre you think it belongs:

Autobiography

Biography

Comedy

Fable

Fairy Tale

Fantasy

Historical Fiction

Informational Writing

Legend

Myth

Persuasive Writing

Realistic Fiction

Science Fiction

Tall Tale

Tragedy

Genre Worksheet 1

Directions: Read the descriptions of the texts. Look for details that reveal the genre. Write the genre and subgenre on the lines and write a sentence explaining your answer.

1. The Hard Way Out by Terry Vaughn

In this novel, Brian struggles with living at his Aunt's house and sharing a room with his cousin while dealing with the grief of having lost both of his parents in a tragic car accident. Basketball is his only escape, but after getting benched for low progress report grades, Brian's world shatters. Does he have it in him to turn around his grades? Will Brian come to peace with his emotions? Can anyone help him?

Genre: _____ Subgenre: _____

Explain your Answer

2. Newton's Law by Morton Mallon

After a mostly unsuccessful life of studying and practicing the nano-transportation sciences, Professor Melton stumbles upon a major breakthrough on April 20th, 2042: he discovers a way to transport particles at light-speed across fixed distances, thereby allowing him to teleport from one location to another. But Professor Melton soon discovers that there is no such thing as a free lunch. He learns that the body ages relative to the distance travelled, not just the time, in effect causing a teleporting body to age very rapidly. Can Melton solve this problem before his time is up?

Genre: _____ Subgenre: _____

Explain your Answer

3. Intermediate Math Problems for Students by M. Colwell

This workbook text explains how to perform basic mathematical operations, like double-digit addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division. It also explains fractions and decimals..

Genre: _____ Subgenre: _____

Explain your Answer

4. "If a Tree Falls" adapted by Stan Tanner

This is the very short story of a buck that was admiring his horns in the water's reflection and feeling bad about his skinny legs. When a hunter tries to kill him, his big horns get stuck in some tree branches, but his skinny legs manage to pull him free. The moral is that what is truly valuable is often unappreciated.

Genre: _____ Subgenre: _____

Explain your Answer

5. The Tinfoil Key by Rob Burnside

When young Ian Bradley accidentally switches suitcases with an intergalactic space explorer at a coffee shop, he ends up going on the trip of a lifetime. Now that he's left holding the bag, Ian must deliver it to the light scientists on Gamma Outpost 9 in time, and every life-form in the galaxy is unknowingly depending on the success of his efforts.

Genre: _____ Subgenre: _____

Explain your Answer

6. Seeing More, Being More by Fletch Carpenter

"Dr. Fletch," gives readers a dose of hard medicine, arguing that most peoples' problems are caused by themselves. Fletch teaches readers to solve such problems as bullying, insecurity, and relationship troubles with a three-step strategy: letting go of ego, seeing the objective reality, and finding tangible roles. Some readers find Carpenter's ideas to be refreshing. Others are offended.

Genre: _____ Subgenre: _____

Explain your Answer

7. Bronze Star by Irwin Keene

World War II has been hard for Mama Conner. Her husband and three sons have been away at war and Mama Conner was left to keep the house together, raise money, and provide for Baby Maple. The mood in the town darkens suddenly when her neighbor Betsy loses one of her loved ones in battle. At Mama Conner's ladies club, several upstanding ladies of the town are on edge after hearing a garbled news report announcing that a man from their town was lost in battle, but as the man's name went unheard, the women are left to speculate as to whom will be the most affected. This novel ends in a surprising twist.

Genre: _____ Subgenre: _____

Explain your Answer

8. "Rapunzel" adapted by Craig Hooper

Once upon a time a young girl named Rapunzel was running an errand for her mother when an evil witch caught her and imprisoned her in the tower of a castle. After years in the tower, Rapunzel grew long, beautiful hair. Having seen nobody but the evil witch her whole life, Rapunzel is very lonely until one day a prince wanders by and climbs up her hair. The witch doesn't like this and action ensues, but eventually the prince and Rapunzel live happily every after.

Genre: _____ Subgenre: _____

Explain your Answer

Genre and Subgenre Worksheet 3

Directions: Read the descriptions of the texts. Look for details that reveal the genre. Write the genre and subgenre on the lines and write a sentence explaining your answer.

1. Fallen Walkers by Wells Taylor Dyson

Far below the surface of earth, a group of children in a secret government program are trained to pilot Mech-Walkers: giant mechanical insects that protect the earth from hostile space barbarians with their robo-insect powers. When Vander, the leader of the Mech-Walkers, disappears in combat, the Mech-Walkers need to find a new leader. When Seth, a boy from the surface, stumbles into Mech-Walkers while being chased by bullies, he becomes an unlikely candidate.

Genre: _____ Subgenre: _____

Explain your Answer

2. Super Fun Science Book for Kids by Pam Orbison

Have you ever wondered why a submarine can stay underwater for so long? How a web page shows up on a phone screen? Or how to build a robot that plays basketball? Science doesn't have to be dusty and boring. This functional science textbook teaches the fundamentals of science through descriptions of technologies that are interesting and relevant to young people. It is fully illustrated, contains 32 experiments that students can try at school or home, and has a vocabulary practice for each section.

Genre: _____ Subgenre: _____

Explain your Answer

3. From Athena to Zeus: The Greek Gods and Goddesses retold by Chris Reed

This book retells the epic stories of the gods, goddesses, and heroes in Ancient Greece. All of the classic stories are in this text: the adventures of Perseus, the battles of Heracles, Odysseus and the Trojan wars, and the voyage of Jason and the Argonauts. .

Genre: _____ Subgenre: _____

Explain your Answer

4. Diary Wanted by Gail Labors

Katie Oaks is one of the most trusted girls in her class. Maybe they like how Katie listens, or maybe they just feel comfortable around her, but all of the other girls tell their secrets to Katie. When Katie gets a diary for her birthday, she can't help but to write down the secrets that she learns, but when her diary goes missing, Katie finds herself in a tight corner.

Genre: _____ Subgenre: _____

Explain your Answer

5. Mr. Lincoln's Groceries by Curtis D. Davis

The year is 1835 and Bobby Pierce is trying to save up money for a new wagon wheel to repair his father's broken wagon. After rescuing a storeowner's dog from a runaway wagon, Bobby gets a job as a delivery boy at a local grocery store. During his tenure at the store, Bobby delivers groceries weekly to Abraham Lincoln, then a young state politician. The two get off to a rough start, but soon Bobby learns the wisdom of Lincoln's ways, and each offers the other advice when it is most needed.

Genre: _____ Subgenre: _____

Explain your Answer

6. Dog Soldiers: Warriors of the Cheyenne by M. D. Carroll

The Dog Soldiers were one of six elite military societies of the Cheyenne Indians. During the 1830s they played a strong role in repelling and pushing back American expansion in Kansas, Nebraska, Colorado, and Wyoming. The Dog Soldiers were known for their highly aggressive and effective attacks and their peculiar habit of "pinning down" their long tails to the ground, fighting to the death or until a tribe mate "unpins" the tail of the warrior. This text describes the Dog Soldiers' society and role in history.

Genre: _____ Subgenre: _____

Explain your Answer

7. John Henry retold by Elijah Newman

John Henry was born with a hammer in his hand and he came out swinging it. When he was a baby, he built his own crib. As a toddler, he got sick of sharing his bedroom with his sister, so he built his own house. As an adult he laid track for the railway and was renowned as the best steel driver in world. His abilities are put to the test when he is challenged to race against a steam-powered drill through a mountain.

Genre: _____ Subgenre: _____

Explain your Answer

8. Why Are They Booing? by Mr. Morton

In this candid and gripping account, Mr. Morton describes his real life career as a musician. After playing the trumpet in the school band for two years, Mr. Morton thinks that he has what it takes to make it big as a musician. He then quits his job teaching and starts making demo tapes in the studio, even though nobody has a cassette player anymore. Will Mr. Morton strike it big as a musician or will he crawl back to his principal begging for his old job? Find out in this compelling 940-page text written by Mr. Morton and about Mr. Morton.

Genre: _____ Subgenre: _____

Explain your Answer

LESSON 2

Balancing Evenly

The root *equ* as in *equivalent* means "same, even, equal." The root *pend* as in *suspenders* means "hanging; weighing in the balance." In each of the following key words, underline the root.

Key Words

dependent	equate	equidistant	pending
equality	equator	equilateral	pendulum



Using ROOT CLUES

The roots *equ* (same) and *pend* (hanging) 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>equidistant</u> | A. <u>hanging</u> onto for support |
| 2. _____ <u>pendulum</u> | B. <u>same</u> conditions or treatment |
| 3. _____ <u>equality</u> | C. <u>same</u> distance |
| 4. _____ <u>dependent</u> | D. <u>hanging</u> from a clock |

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.

EQU (from the Latin word *aequus* meaning "same, even, equal")

Familiar Words with Root EQU

- equal
- equally
- equivalent
- unequal

1. equality (i kwā' lə tē)

n. The state of being equal, as in having the same value, measure, or rights.

The students argued that there had to be equality in the computer and science equipment available in all of the schools.

**Challenge Words
with Root EQU**

equanimity
equilibrium
equinox
equitable

2. **equate** (i kwāt')
v. To treat as the same or equivalent.

Both student papers are the same length, but we cannot equate them because so much more work and thought went into one of them.

equation, n.

3. **equator** (i kwā' ter)

n. An imaginary line around the center of the earth, at the same distance from the North Pole and the South Pole.

The equator passes through many tropical countries, including Kenya in Africa and Brazil in South America.



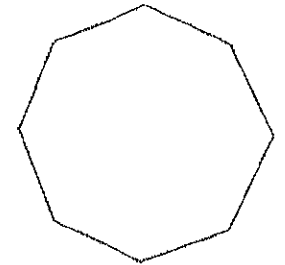
4. **equidistant** (ē kwē dis' tēt)

adj. Equally distant from two points.

Josh was pleased to learn that the ballpark was equidistant from both his home and his school, only two miles from each.

5. **equilateral** (ē kwē la' tē rēl) [also derived from the Latin *latus* meaning "side"]
adj. Having all sides equal in length.

Each side of the octagon was the same length, so the figure was equilateral.



PEND (from the Latin word *pendo* meaning "hang")

**Challenge Words
with Root PEND**

expendable
impending
pendant
pendulous
suspend
suspense

6. **dependent** (di pen' dent)

adj. Relying on another, looked after by someone else.

When Julia's baby brother cried and clung to her, she wished he was not so dependent.

7. **pending** (pen' ding)

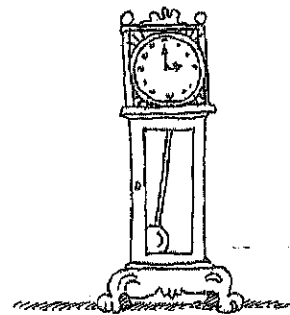
adj. Not yet decided; waiting to be concluded or finished.

The date for reopening the beach was pending, while the health department checked the bacteria level in the water.

8. **pendulum** (pen'jə ləm)

n. A weight, hanging from a point, that swings an equal distance from side to side; often used in clocks.

The pendulum in the old clock, swinging in a regular arc, still kept accurate time.



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. _____ an **equilateral** triangle
 a. equal sides b. right angles c. large d. yellow
2. _____ a **dependent** patient
 a. giving help b. needing help c. young d. angry
3. _____ working for **equality**
 a. liberty b. getting votes c. voting d. fairness
4. _____ the festival dates still **pending**
 a. undecided b. certain c. canceled d. posted
5. _____ to **equate** the situations
 a. describe b. make unfair c. treat as same d. criticize



EXERCISE B: MEANING IN CONTEXT

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

equator

depending

equidistant

pendulum

Rizzo's Clock Shop was easy to get to, right in the middle of the block, (1) _____ from each end. When I walked in, Mr. Rizzo was talking to a customer about a tall grandfather clock that had a long swinging (2) _____ and an unusual face. He said, "Many clocks have faces that are circular, like the (3) _____ that goes around our earth, but the face of this clock is shaped like an octagon. It is the only one of its kind, so I am (4) _____ on the person who buys it to treasure it."

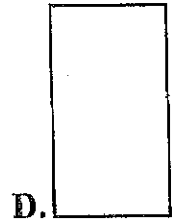
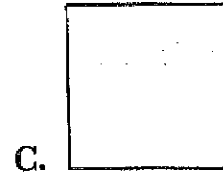
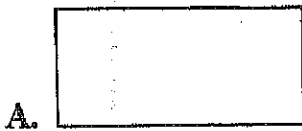


EXERCISE C: EXTEND YOUR VOCABULARY

The "four" prefix: *quadr-*

One of the key words in this lesson is *equilateral*, which means "having sides that are equal." Looking at the two meaningful parts of this word, you recognize *equi*, "equal," and *lateral*, "side." In your math textbook, you may have met the word *quadrilateral*. Now let's use what you already know about *equilateral* to extend your vocabulary to *quadrilateral* and to other words that start with *quadr-*. Answer these questions.

1. Which figure is equilateral? _____



2. How many sides do you see on each of the preceding figures?

3. The preceding figures are called *quadrilaterals*. You know that one part of the word *quadrilateral* means "side." What does the other part mean?

4. The word *quadruplets* refers to a certain number of babies. How many?

5. When you *quadruple* an amount, by what number do you multiply?
