

LESSON 5

Looking at Our Planet

The root *aqua* as in *aquarium* means "water." The root *terr* as in *terrarium* means "land." In each of the following key words, underline the root.

Key Words

aquaculture	aquatic	subterranean	terrain
aquamarine	Mediterranean	terrace	territory

Using ROOT CLUES

The roots *aqua* (water) and *terr* (land) 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. _____ sub <u>terranean</u> | A. color of sea <u>water</u> |
| 2. _____ <u>aquaculture</u> | B. under the <u>land</u> |
| 3. _____ <u>territory</u> | C. large area of <u>land</u> |
| 4. _____ <u>aquamarine</u> | D. farming <u>water</u> creatures |

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 figure out the word.

AQUA (from the Latin word *aqua* meaning "water")

Familiar Words
with Root AQUA

aquarium
Aquarius

1. **aquatic** (ə kwä' tik)

adj. Living in, or having to do with, water.

Whales, dolphins, shrimp, and guppies are all aquatic creatures.

**Challenge Words
with Root AQUA**

- aqueduct
- aqueous
- aquifer

2. aquamarine (ä' kwə mə rēn)
adj. A bluish-green color.

We watched as the artist mixed small amounts of both blue and green paints to make just the right shade of aquamarine for the seascape.



3. aquaculture (ä' kwə kəl chər)
n. The science of raising plants and animals in water.

To see how aquaculture worked, we visited an oyster farm on the coast of Maine.

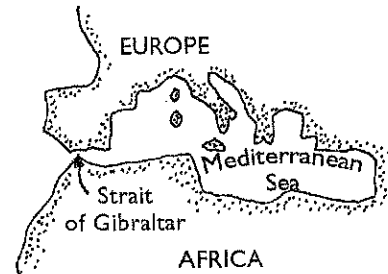
TERR (from the Latin word *terra* meaning "land")

**Familiar Words
with Root TERR**

- extraterrestrial
- terranium

4. Mediterranean (me də tə rā' nē ən)
n. A large sea between two continents, southern Europe and northern Africa.

At the western end of the Mediterranean Sea is the Strait of Gibraltar.



**Challenge Words
with Root TERR**

- terrazzo
- terrestrial

NOTA BENE

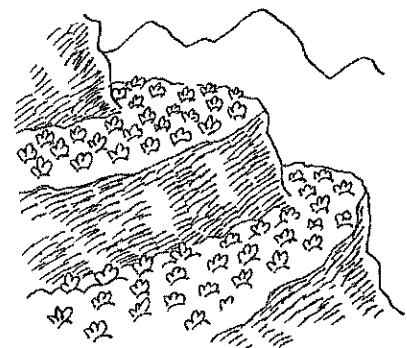
The Mediterranean Sea was the center of civilization in the period of the Roman Empire when Latin was widely spoken. As you can see from the map above, this sea was truly in the middle (*medius*) of two huge lands (*terrae*).

5. subterranean (səb tə rā' nē ən)
adj. Under the earth.

New York City's subway trains travel through hundreds of miles of subterranean passages.

6. terrace (ter' əs)
n. 1. An area of ground on the side of a hill that has a flattened top in order to grow things.

We could see terraces all the way up the hillside where farmers had planted their crops.



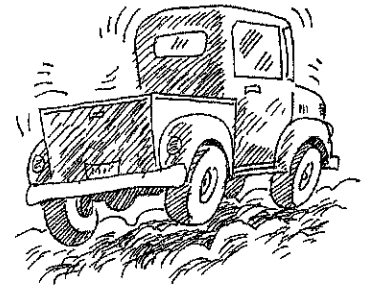
2. A platform built out from a house; a patio.

In good weather, our family often eats outside on the terrace.

7. terrain (tə rān')

n. Land or ground.

The truck bumped along on the rough terrain of the field until it reached a paved road on the other side.



8. territory (ter' ə tōr ē)

n. A large area of land, a region; a settlement or colony.

In 1803 the United States purchased the Louisiana Territory, which added about eight hundred thousand square miles of land to the country.



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. _____ **subterranean** oil

- a. expensive b. thick c. underground d. dark

2. _____ an **aquaculture** business

- a. diving b. flying c. hiking d. farming in water

3. _____ a wooden **terrace**

- a. fountain b. outdoor platform c. house d. sign

4. _____ **aquatic** plants

- a. in the air b. on land c. in water d. in caves

5. _____ a large **territory**

- a. region b. ocean c. continent d. river



EXERCISE B: MEANING IN CONTEXT

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

aquatic

terrain

aquamarine

Mediterranean

The lands around the (1) _____ Sea have a variety of features. Some have soil that is good for farming, while others have rocky hills and rough

(2) _____ where planting anything would be difficult. From some points on the seacoast, the water looks clear; in other places it appears to be a deep shade of (3) _____. In shallow spots, you can see (4) _____ plants growing underwater.



EXERCISE C: EXTEND YOUR VOCABULARY

The "sea" root: *marin*

One of the key words in this lesson is *aquamarine*. It has two meaningful parts, *aqua* and *marine*. *Marine* is derived from the Latin word *marinus*, meaning "belonging to the sea" or "of the sea." So the meaning of *aquamarine* can be pieced together as "water of the sea." Seawater sometimes seems to have a blue-green color, which explains the definition of *aquamarine*.

The root *marin* also appears in other words connected with the sea.

Match the words with the root *marin* with their meaning.

- | | |
|----------------------------------|------------------------|
| 1. _____ person guiding a ship | A. <u>marina</u> |
| 2. _____ underwater ship | B. <u>marine</u> plant |
| 3. _____ place for docking boats | C. <u>submarine</u> |
| 4. _____ seaweed | D. <u>mariner</u> |
5. Use two of the words with the root *marin* in sentences of your own.
