4.7 Etymology and Word Formation: 10-minute Pack

about 10 minutes

Total Marks

Name: _____ Date: ____ / ____ / _____

Answer ALL questions.

1 English vocabulary has been shaped by many source languages. The table below gives six words.

Word	Meaning/use
house	a building where people live
democracy	rule by the people
beef	meat from cattle
sky	the space above the earth
circus	a travelling show with performers
parliament	the group that makes a country's laws

For each word, identify its most likely origin from the options given.

(a) house **(1)**

- ☐ A) Old English
- ☐ B) Greek
- ☐ C) French
- ☐ D) Old Norse

(b) democracy **(1)**

- ☐ A) Old English
- ☐ B) Greek
- ☐ C) French
- ☐ D) Latin

(c) beef **(1)**

- ☐ A) Old English
- ☐ B) Greek
- ☐ C) French
- ☐ D) Old Norse

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(d) sky **(1)**

- ☐ A) Old English
- ☐ B) Old Norse
- ☐ C) Latin
- ☐ D) French

(e) circus **(1)**

- ☐ A) Old English
- ☐ B) Greek
- ☐ C) Latin
- ☐ D) French

(f) parliament **(1)**

- ☐ A) Old English
- ☐ B) Old Norse
- ☐ C) French
- ☐ D) Greek

(Total for Question 1 is 6 marks)

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2 Identify the meaning of each prefix below, using the example word to help you.

Prefix	Example word
anti-	antibiotic
sub-	submarine
inter-	international
circum-	circumference
trans-	transport

(a) anti- **(1)**

- ☐ A) against
- ☐ B) before
- ☐ C) again
- ☐ D) under

(b) sub- **(1)**

- ☐ A) above
- ☐ B) under
- ☐ C) around
- ☐ D) between

(c) inter- **(1)**

- ☐ A) between
- ☐ B) beyond
- ☐ C) before
- ☐ D) across

(d) circum- **(1)**

- ☐ A) across
- ☐ B) under
- ☐ C) around
- ☐ D) after

(e) trans- **(1)**

- ☐ A) around
- ☐ B) across
- ☐ C) under
- ☐ D) against

(Total for Question 2 is 5 marks)

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3 The Greek prefix 'auto-' means 'self'. Invent ONE new English word that does not currently exist, using 'auto-' plus any suffix or root of your choice. Give its meaning and use it correctly in a sentence.

(Total for Question 3 is 3 marks)

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Mark scheme · 4.7 Etymology and Word Formation: 10-minute Pack

Question 1

(a) A) Old English **B1**

(a) Answer: A

(b) B) Greek **B1**

(b) Answer: B

(c) C) French **B1**

(c) Answer: C

(d) B) Old Norse **B1**

(d) Answer: B

(e) C) Latin **B1**

(e) Answer: C

(f) C) French **B1**

(f) Answer: C

Question 2

(a) A) against **B1**

(a) Answer: A

(b) B) under **B1**

(b) Answer: B

(c) A) between **B1**

(c) Answer: A

(d) C) around **B1**

(d) Answer: C

(e) B) across **B1**

(e) Answer: B

Question 3

invents a plausible new word that logically uses auto- to mean 'self' (any reasonable coinage accepted) **B1**

gives a clear definition that is consistent with the meaning of auto- and the rest of the word **B1**

uses the invented word correctly and grammatically within a full sentence **B1**

Answer: Sample answer (indicative, not the only acceptable response): 'autotidy (adjective): able to tidy itself without help. My little sister wished her bedroom was autotidy so she would never have to clean it.'

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