Name _____ Date _____

Latin Roots bene, mal and cred: Root Words in Real-World Sentences

Directions: Learn the Latin roots bene, mal and cred. Then use them to decode new words. If a question gives the meaning of another word part, put it together with the root, and make sure the meaning fits the sentence.

1. Match each Latin word part (bene, mal, cred, vol and ible) to its meaning.
Write the letter of the matching answer on each line.

1. _____ bene
2. _____ mal
3. _____ cred
4. _____ vol
5. _____ ible

A. good or well
B. to believe or trust
C. able to be
D. a man or boy
E. to wish
F. bad or badly
G. to see

2. Fill each blank with a word from the bank. Read the whole sentence first, because one bank word fits none of them.

Word bank

malice • credible • malfunction • beneficial • malevolent • benevolent

Even when her plans failed and helped no one, the _____ queen always wished the best for her people. In the story, the _____ wizard cast spells to ruin the villagers' crops, just because he enjoyed causing harm. The judges found Omar's results _____, since he had repeated his experiment ten times and gotten the same answer each time. If the smoke alarm's battery dies, the alarm may _____ and stay silent during a fire. Eating fruits and vegetables is _____ to your health, because they are full of vitamins.

3. "The *malodorous* garbage truck made everyone on the sidewalk hold their noses."

Odor means smell. What does *malodorous* mean?

A. Moving very slowly
B. Making a loud noise
C. Having a bad smell
D. Having a sweet smell

4. An unknown *benefactor* paid for new library books for every classroom in the school. *Fact* comes from a Latin word meaning to do or make, and *or* means a person who. Who is a benefactor?

A. A person who causes trouble
B. A person who does good by giving help or money
C. A person who borrows library books
D. A person who writes books

5. After Dev clicked a strange link, *malware* slipped onto his laptop and began deleting his files. The word *malware* puts *mal* in front of *ware*, the last part of the word *software*. What is malware?

A. A new kind of laptop
B. Harmful software that damages a computer
C. A program that protects a computer
D. A broken laptop screen

6. "Mom gave Max an *incredulous* look when he said he had cleaned his whole room in two minutes."

In means not. What does *incredulous* mean?

A. Sleepy and bored
B. Showing that you do not believe something
C. Proud and pleased
D. Thankful for help

7. "The animal shelter was the *beneficiary* of the bake sale, receiving every dollar the students raised."

What is a beneficiary?

A. A table where baked goods are sold
B. Someone who loses money
C. Someone or something that receives a benefit
D. The person who bakes for a sale

8. "After a dry summer, the apple tree grew small, *malformed* apples with twisted, lumpy shapes."

What does *malformed* mean?

A. Fully ripe and sweet
B. Badly shaped
C. Grown in a greenhouse
D. Perfectly round

9. "Before the new nurse could start work, the hospital checked her *credentials*, including her license and her nursing degree."

What are credentials?

A. The patients a nurse cares for
B. The tools a nurse uses
C. Proof that a person can be trusted to do a job
D. The hours a nurse works

10. The *malicious* rumor spread quickly, and it hurt Lena's feelings because it was meant to embarrass her. What does *malicious* mean?

A. Meant to cause harm
B. Easy to forget
C. Completely true
D. Kind and helpful

11. "The new photos *discredited* the rumor that a monster lived in the lake, since they showed it was only a floating log."

Dis can mean the opposite of. What did the photos do to the rumor?

A. They proved it was true.
B. They helped it spread faster.
C. They turned it into a song.
D. They made people stop believing it.

12. "The island's *benign* climate, with mild winters and gentle summers, lets oranges grow all year."

Based on its root and the sentence, what does *benign* mean here?

A. Harsh and stormy
B. Very dry and dusty
C. Favorable and pleasant
D. Changing every hour