

UNIT TWO

POS, PON

Latin PONERE, POSITUM, "to place, to put"

COMPOSURE (kəm pōs' zər) *n.* Control over expression and action
 L. com, "together," + positum = *put together, staying together*
 Scott managed to sing three of the songs without laughing, but he lost his *composure* when he saw the goofy face his friend in the front row made.
syn: poise *ant:* agitation; worry

EXPONENTIAL (eks pō nen' shəl) *adj.* Steadily increasing
 L. ex, "out of," + ponere = *to place out of*
 The *exponential* growth of the deer population in the area made us wonder if most natural predators of deer had been eliminated.

IMPOSITION (im pə zi' shən) *n.* An unwelcome demand; a burden
 L. in, "on, onto" + positum = *putting onto*
 Because they liked the subject matter they were studying, most of the students did not consider Saturday classes an *imposition*.
syn: bother

REPOSITORY (rə poz' ə tōr ē) *n.* A place designated for storage
 L. re, "back," + positum = *place where things are put back*
 The building that was once the train station is now a *repository* for county records.

STAN, STAT

Latin STARE, STATUS, "to stand, stand something up"

INSTANTANEOUS (in stən tən' ē əs) *adj.* Happening immediately
 L. in, "on," + stare = *standing on*
 Current Internet connections are so fast that your knowledge of new information can be almost *instantaneous*.

REINSTATE (rē in stāt') *v.* To bring back into existence or authority
 L. re, "back," + in, "in" + status = *to stand (someone) back in*
 Fern's supporters marched down the main street of the city urging the local government to *reinstate* her as mayor.
syn: restore

■ The verb *expound* (ex, "out of," + *ponere*) means "to explain" or "to express more fully." A mathematical *exponent* expresses the power to which something is raised. For example, if we were asked to calculate three to the fourth power, the exponent would be four. We say something is growing or multiplying exponentially when it continues to get bigger over time.

INCONSTANT (in kon' stant) *adj.* Not lasting; not steady
L. in, "not," + con, "very, firmly" + status = *not standing firmly*
Just like the director's *inconstant* mind, the film shifts suddenly from one setting to the next.
syn: fickle *ant:* steadfast

THES, THET

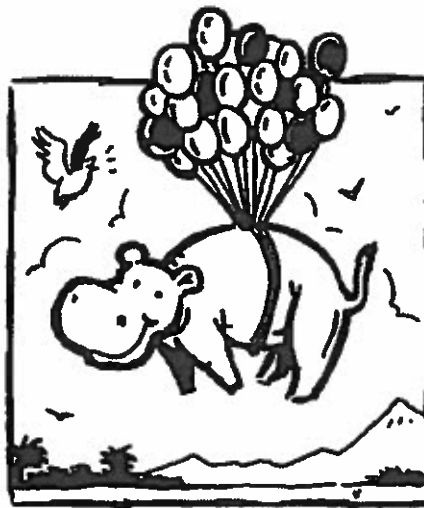
Greek **THESIS**, "placing"
THETOS, "having been placed"

SYNTHESIZE (sin' thə siz) *v.* To combine; to blend
G. *syn*, "together," + *thesis* = *placing together*
Cajun food manages to *synthesize* flavors from many different parts of the world and create something entirely new.
syn: integrate *ant:* analyze

PARENTHETICAL (pa rən that' i kəl) *adj.* Explaining the main idea or topic
G. *par*, "beside," + *en*, "in," + *thetos* = *placed in beside*
Paul added numerous *parenthetical* statements to his complicated instruction manual to make it easier to understand.
syn: incidental *ant:* relevant

HYPOTHESIS (hī poth' ə səs) *n.* Idea proposed as true; theory
Hilary's *hypothesis* was that water lilies would grow better when exposed to more direct sunlight.

ant: fact



The **HIPPOPOTAMUS** tested the **HYPOTHESIS** that he could fly.

III Someone who is constant stands firmly in the same place or position, while someone inconstant is always moving from one thing, idea, or place to another.

III Remember that a parenthetical statement is like a pair of parentheses; it contains additional information that explains the main subject.

III To one way of thinking, a hypothesis is the groundwork for an experiment of any kind—you must have a hypothesis before you can try to prove anything. Thus, the hypothesis is placed (thesis) under (hypo) the knowledge that you acquire.