



NEW

WORD-ANALYSIS:

OR,

SCHOOL ETYMOLOGY OF ENGLISH DERIVATIVE WORDS.

WITH PRACTICAL EXERCISES

IN

SPELLING, ANALYZING, DEFINING, SYNONYMS, AND THE USE OF WORDS.

BY WILLIAM SWINTON,

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printed by William Ivison New York, U.S.A.

PREFACE.

THE present text-book is a new-modeling and rewriting of Swinton's Word-Analysis, first published in 1871. It has grown out of a large amount of testimony to the effect that the older book, while valuable as a manual of methods, in the hands of teachers, is deficient in practicework for pupils.

This testimony dictated a double procedure: first, to retain the old *methods*; secondly, to add an adequate amount of new *matter*.

Accordingly, in the present manual, the few Latin roots and derivatives, with the exercises thereon, have been retained—under "Part II.: The Latin Element"—as simply a method of study.* There have then been

^{*} To teachers who are unacquainted with the original Word-Analysis, the following extract from the Preface to that work may not be out of place:—

[&]quot;The treatment of the Latin derivatives in Part II. presents a new and important feature, to wit: the systematic analysis of the structure and organism of derivative words, together with the statement of their

iv

added, in "Division II.: Abbreviated Latin Derivatives," no fewer than two hundred and twenty Latin rootwords with their most important English offshoots. In order to concentrate into the limited available space so large an amount of new matter, it was requisite to devise a novel mode of indicating the English derivatives. What this mode is, teachers will see in the section, pages 50–104. The author trusts that it will prove well suited to class-room work, and in many other ways interesting and valuable: should it not, a good deal of labor, both of the lamp and of the file, will have been misplaced.

primary meaning in such form that the pupil inevitably perceives its relation with the root, and in fact makes its primary meaning by the very process of analyzing the word into its primitive and its modifying prefix or suffix. It presents, also, a marked improvement in the method of approaching the definition, - a method by which the definition is seen to grow out of the primary meaning, and by which the analytic faculty of the pupil is exercised in tracing the transition from the primary meaning to the secondary and figurative meanings, - thus converting what is ordinarily a matter of rote into an agreeable exercise of the thinking faculty. Another point of novelty in the method of treatment is presented in the copious practical exercises on the use of words. The experienced instructor very well knows that pupils may memorize endless lists of terms and definitions without having any realization of the actual living power of words. Such a realization can only be gained by using the word, - by turning it over in a variety of ways, and by throwing upon it the side-lights of its synonym and contrasted word. The method of thus utilizing English derivatives gives a study which possesses at once simplicity and fruitfulness, - the two desiderata of an instrument of elementary discipline."

To one matter of detail in connection with the Latin and Greek derivatives, the author wishes to call special attention: the Latin and the Greek roots are, as keywords, given in this book in the form of the present infinitive, — the present indicative and the supine being. of course, added. For this there is one sufficient justification, to wit: that the present infinitive is the form in which a Latin or a Greek root is always given in Webster and other received lexicographic authorities. It is a curious fact, that, in all the school etymologies, the present indicative should have been given as the root, and is explicable only from the accident that it is the key-form in the Latin dictionaries. The change into conformity with our English dictionaries needs no defense, and will probably hereafter be imitated by all authors of school etymologies.

In this compilation the author has followed, in the main, the last edition of Webster's Unabridged, the etymologies in which carry the authoritative sanction of Dr. Mahn; but reference has constantly been had to the works of Wedgwood, Latham, and Haldeman, as also to the "English Etymology" of Dr. James Douglass, to whom the author is specially indebted in the Greek and Anglo-Saxon sections.

W. S.

New York, 1879.

CONTENTS.

PART I.

INTRODUCTION.		P	LGH
ı.	ELEMENTS OF THE ENGLISH VOCABULARY		1
II.	ETYMOLOGICAL CLASSES OF WORDS	*	5
III.	PREFIXES AND SUFFIXES RULES OF SPELLING USED IN FORMING DERIVATIVE WORDS		5
14.	ROLES OF DIELLING COMP IN TOXIMING PRINCE		
	PART II.		
THE LATIN ELEMENT.			
I.	LATIN PREFIXES		
II.	LATIN SUFFIXES DIRECTIONS IN THE STUDY OF LATIN DERIVATIVES		12
111.	LATIN ROOTS AND ENGLISH DERIVATIVES		23
	Division I. Method of Study		23
	Division I. Method of Study Division II. Abbreviated Latin Derivatives		50
	PART III.		
THE GREEK ELEMENT.			
			105
11.	Greek Prefixes	31	106
	GREEK ROOTS AND ENGLISH DERIVATIVES		107
	GREEK ALPHABET GREEK ROOTS AND ENGLISH DERIVATIVES DIVISION 1. PRINCIPAL GREEK ROOTS DIVISION II. ADDITIONAL GREEK ROOTS AND THEIR DE-		107
	DIVISION II. ADDITIONAL GREEK ROOTS AND THEIR DE-		T20
	RIVATIVES		120
	PART IV.		
THE ANGLO-SAXON ELEMENT.			
			125
TI.	Anglo-Saxon Prefixes		125
11.	Anglo-Saxon Suffixes Anglo-Saxon Roots and English Derivatives		127
	SPECIMENS OF ANGLO-SAXON		132
	Specimens of Semi-Saxon and Early English Anglo-Saxon Element in Modern English		135
	ANGLO-SAXON ELEMENT IN MODERN ENGLISH		130
	PART V.		
MISCELLANEOUS DERIVATIVES.			
T	WORDS DEPUTED FROM THE NAMES OF PERSONS		142
4.	I. Nouns		142
	1. NOUNS 2. ADJECTIVES WORDS DERIVED FROM THE NAMES OF PLACES		144
II.	Words derived from the Names of Places		146
III.	ETYMOLOGY OF WORDS USED IN THE PRINCIPAL SCHOOL STUDIE 1. TERMS IN GEOGRAPHY	.5	149
	2. TERMS IN GEOGRAPHY		150
	3. TERMS IN ARITHMETIC		154

WORD-ANALYSIS.

PART I. - INTRODUCTION.

I.-ELEMENTS OF THE ENGLISH VOCABULARY.

- 1. Etymology¹ is the study which treats of the derivation of words, that is, of their structure and history.
- 2. English etymology, or word-analysis, treats of the derivation of English words.
- 3. The vocabulary² of a language is the whole body of words in that language. Hence the English vocabulary consists of all the words in the English language.
 - I. The complete study of any language comprises two distinct inquiries,—the study of the grammar of the language, and the study of its vocabulary. Word-analysis has to do exclusively with the vocabulary.
 - II. The term "etymology" as used in grammar must be carefully distinguished from "etymology" in the sense of word-analysis. Grammatical etymology treats solely of the grammatical changes in words, and does not concern itself with their derivation; historical etymology treats of the structure, composition, and history of words. Thus the relation of loves, loving, loved to the verb love is a matter of grammatical etymology; but the relation of lover, lovely, or loveliness to love is a matter of historical etymology.

^{1 &}quot;Etymology," Greek et'umon, the true literal sense of a word according to its derivation, and log'os, a discourse.

^{2 &}quot;Vocabulary," Latin vocabula'rium, stock of words; from vox, vocis, a voice, a word.