

# philia

## [FI li ah] love, friendship

philosopher - (sophia - wisdom) - one who loves wisdom  
 Philadelphia - (adelphos - brother) - city of brotherly love  
 philanthropist - (anthropos - man) - one who cares about his fellow man  
 phillumenist - (lumen - light) - one who collects match covers  
 philogynist - (gyne - woman) - one who loves women  
 philologist - (logos - word) - one who loves words  
 philtre - love potion  
 Anglophile - (Angli - English) - one who loves England  
 Francophile - (Francus - France) - one who loves France

### Teaching Notes:

Phillumenist - We have to be sure to remember two "l's" in this word. One for the phil- part and one for the -lumen part. In spelling it has always been a stumbling block to remember double letters. When we know the Latin and Greek parts which have been put together, it's much easier to remember how to spell the English derivatives.

### Extra Words:

Bibliophile (biblos - book) - A book lover. Philharmonic (harmonia - harmony or concord) - Lovers of harmony or sounds which agree well together. Philip - A man's name which, in Greek, was Philippos (philos - loving, hippos - horse) and so Philip means a man who loves horses. Philodendron (dendron - tree) - "Loving trees" - perhaps because they are climbing, clinging, vine-like.

# phobos

**[FOH boss] fear**

phobia - irrational fear

agoraphobia - (agora - field) - fear of open space

claustrophobia - (claustrum (L.) - lock or bolt) - fear of closed (locked or bolted) places

hydrophobia - (hydro - water) - disease which makes it difficult to swallow, thought to be fear of water

phobophobia - fear of fear itself

zoophobia - (zoon - animal) - fear of animals

toxikophobia - (toxikos - poison) - fear of poison

Phobos - a moon of the planet Mars

### Teaching Notes:

Agoraphobia - In ancient Greece, an agora was the large open space in a city kept as a market and meeting place. It served much the same purpose as the Roman Forum. It's interesting that the astronomer who discovered the two satellites of the planet Mars named them Phobos and Deimos - the Greek words for fear and terror. Perhaps he thought they should be afraid to be so close to Mars (The Roman god of war) or perhaps that fear and terror were the servants or constant companions of war. Hydrophobia is the name of a sickness which makes it hard for people to swallow. Ancient folks thought the sick people were afraid of water so they said they had "hydrophobia".

### Extra Words:

Bacteriophobia- Fear of germs. In 1676, a Dutchman from Delft named Anton van Leeuwenhoek (LAY-vun-hook), who was called the father of microbiology, was the first to observe bacteria with his primitive microscopes. He called them "animalcules" (tiny animals). He, or someone after him, described them as rod-shaped and named them "bacteria". The Greek word bakterion means a staff, rod, or walking stick, so if you haven't got a microscope to look at them yourself, you can imagine what they looked like to Anton! Pyrophobia (pyro - fire) - Fear of fire.



syn

**[SOON] (SIN) with, together**

sympathy - (pathos - feeling) - to feel with someone else  
 symphony - (phone - sound) - sounds that go together  
 synthesis - (thesis - put, place) - putting together  
 synthetic - material made by putting chemicals together  
 photosynthesis - (photo - light) - process by which light  
 puts plant nutrients together to make green chlorophyll  
 synonym - (onoma - name) - two words with same meaning  
 synagogue - (ago - bring) - place to bring people together  
 synchronize - (chronos - time) - to do things at the same  
 time. "Synchronize your watches!"

**Teaching Notes:**

Since syn is the actual word and sym is the assimilated form, it's a good idea to talk about the process of assimilation of prefixes. The "n" or "m" is used, depending on what sounds best with the letters following. In (meaning "not") assimilates as il in illiterate, as im in impossible, as ir in irresponsible, but they all are really in and they all mean "not". This helps in remembering where letters must be doubled in spelling.

**Extra Words:**

Syncopation (koptein - to strike or cut) - A rhythm in music in which an accent is put on an unexpected note, or a rest is substituted for an accented note. Perhaps the music teacher could suggest some syncopated music to play. George Gershwin used it and so did Leroy Anderson, the composer of "Syncopated Clock".

# thesis

**[TEH sis] (THEE sis) put, place, position**

**thesis** - a position taken in an argument supported by a set of reasons

**theme** - an essay or composition on a certain subject with a statement and supporting reasons

**parenthesis** - (para - beside) - statement beside (or inside) a main sentence

**synthetic** - (syn - together) - elements put together to make a material like a natural one (synthetic rubber)

**synthesizer** - (syn - together) - instrument which puts sounds together like real musical instruments

## Teaching Notes:

Thesis is a good word to use to begin a discussion of the kind of writing which will need to be done all through school. The ability to state a theme or position and then to present persuasive arguments, examples, and authorities as proof of the theme's truth or validity is a skill which can hardly be introduced too soon. A formal debate took place in the 2nd grade at one school, on the subject of the return of the Panama Canal to Panama. The students on each team, pro and con, conferred with the school librarian and their parents and came up with an impressive array of information. They gained considerable insight into the art of political persuasion and debate.

## Extra Words:

Antithesis (anti - against) - A position or point of view about a subject against the position under consideration.

# kinesis

## [KI nay sis] movement

kinetic - relating to movement of bodies

kinesiology - (logos - word or study) - study of human movement

kinescope - (skopeo - look at) - a machine which shows pictures of movement (old term for TV movies)

cinema - motion pictures (Greeks had no "c". They used "k".)

cinematographer - motion picture photographer

### Teaching Notes:

Kinetic - If you feel it is appropriate, you might broach the concepts, to be studied in physics, of kinetic energy vs. potential energy. Cinema - (The Greek alphabet had no letter "c". They used "k" - kappa.) When the British were looking for a new word for the new motion pictures, they thought "cinema" would be perfect! There is an Oscar awarded every year for the best cinematographer. Cinema is the abbreviated form of cinematograph. Note, too, that switching from "k" to "c" changed the first sound to "s" because, in English, "c" before "e", "i", or "y" says /s/.

### Extra Words:

Kinetophone (phone - sound) - An early movie machine which was synchronized (see syn) with a phonograph to produce sound motion pictures or "talkies"! Kinetogenesis (genos - race, origin) - A biological theory which says that animal structures evolved as a result of animal's movements (e.g., if a horse runs, his legs will get bigger and stronger).