

The *Odyssey*, Part 2 by Homer

Build Vocabulary

Spelling Strategy When adding a suffix beginning with a vowel to words that end in silent *e*, drop the *e* and add the suffix: *bemuse + ing = bemusing*.

Using the Root *-equi-*

A. DIRECTIONS: Use what you know about the root *-equi-*, meaning “equal,” to determine the meanings of the italicized words in the following sentences.

1. A traveler wants to find a town *equidistant* from his home and his destination in which to spend the night. That town will be _____.
2. If you were a careful fruit vendor who sells fruit by the pound, you would likely *equilibrate*, or _____ your scales regularly.
3. Because you are a very nervous person, your friends recommend that you strive for some *equanimity*, or _____, in your life.
4. As an architect studying weight-bearing structures, you are particularly interested in constructions that include *equilateral*, or _____, triangles.

B. DIRECTIONS: Match each word in the left column with its definition in the right column. Write the letter of the definition on the line next to the word it defines.

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|---------------------|-----------------------------------|
| ____ 1. dissemble | a. stupefying or muddling |
| ____ 2. lithe | b. conceal with false appearances |
| ____ 3. incredulity | c. supple, limber |
| ____ 4. bemusing | d. tearfully sentimental |
| ____ 5. glowering | e. condition of being despised |
| ____ 6. equity | f. inability to believe |
| ____ 7. maudlin | g. staring with anger |
| ____ 8. contempt | h. fairness, justice |

Recognizing Antonyms

C. DIRECTIONS: Each Word Bank word is followed by four words or phrases. Choose the word or phrase that is most nearly *opposite* in meaning to the word from the Word Bank.

- _____ 1. lithe
a. rough
b. enormous
c. stiff

- _____ 2. maudlin
a. amazed
b. cheerful
c. angry

- _____ 3. contempt
a. bored
b. dissatisfied
c. regard