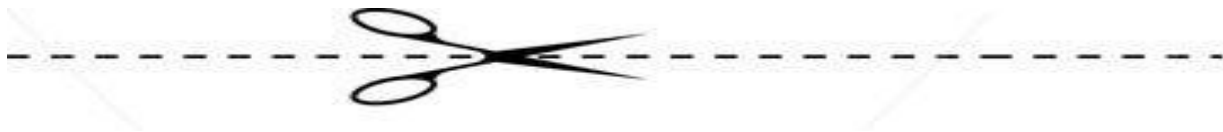


ROOT CARDS

To use role cards, the teacher identifies specific roles in a group that will help students in that group deepen and extend their knowledge of a vocabulary term. For example, a teacher creates the following four roles:

1. **Etymology expert**—This student looks for facts about where a term came from, such as its language of origin and how it came to have its current meaning.
2. **Root researcher**—This student identifies roots and affixes of a word and finds examples of other words with similar roots or affixes.
3. **Synonym/antonym explorer**—This student finds synonyms and antonyms for a word.
4. **Discussion leader**—This student makes sure that everyone has a turn to talk and summarizes the group's discussion for the class.

After explaining each role to students, the teacher groups the class into fours and passes out a different role card to each group member. Groups might have a list of terms to discuss or they might focus on one word. The teacher might also pass out the role cards in advance so that students have time individually to find information about their words before meeting with their group. Roles should be rotated so that students have the opportunity to perform each role.



Etymology Expert Your job is to look for facts about where a term comes from, such as its language of origin and how it connects to its current meaning.	Root Researcher Your responsibility is to identify the roots and affixes of a word and find examples of other words with similar roots and affixes.
Synonym/Antonym Explorer Your job is to find the synonyms and antonyms for the word.	Discussion Leader Your duty is to make sure that everyone has a turn to talk and take notes to summarize the group's discussion for the class.