Lesson 5
Writing
Roots: scrib, scrip, graph (write, record)
Prefixes: auto (self), bio (life)

1 postscript n. A note added after ending a letter.
   After signing her letter, Mia remembered more news and decided to add a postscript.

2 prescription n. An order for medicine or other treatment written by a doctor.
   When I developed asthma, Doctor Markus wrote a prescription for an inhaler.
   prescribe, v.

3 scribe n. Before the invention of printing, a person who wrote books by hand.
   In ancient times, the scribes who copied books often created beautiful designs with the first letters on a page.

4 script n. 1. The text of a play, movie, or broadcast.
   After reading the script of the play, Francisco boldly decided to audition for the part of the hero.
   n. 2. Handwriting
   The style of the script used to write the Declaration of Independence is hard to read today.

5 subscription n. An order for, or a pledge to pay for, regular copies of a publication, a group of plays or concerts, and so on.
   The library has subscriptions to many magazines and newspapers.
   subscribe, v.

6 autobiography n. A life story written by the person who lived it.
   In her autobiography, The Story of My Life, Helen Keller wrote about how she learned to read in spite of her inability to see.
   autobiographical, adj.

7 autograph v. To sign one's name.
   At the book signing, the author took out her pen and autographed copies of her new novel.

n. A signature.
   Through her life, my grandmother has collected the autographs of many famous people.

8 biography n. An account of someone's life, written by another person.
   A biography written by a friend may tell a different life story from one written by an enemy.

   biographical, adj.

9 geography n. The study of the features of different places on earth.
   When learning geography, we examine maps of many countries.
   geographical, adj.

10 paragraph n. A section of a piece of writing, dealing with one topic.
   To mark the beginning of a new paragraph, you indent the first word you write.
11 **graphic**  adj. vividly or clearly described.

*Unfortunately, the student gave a graphic description of when he was ill.*

12 **polygraph** n An instrument that simultaneously records changes in heartbeat, blood pressure, and respiration, often used as a lie detector.

*The investigator wanted the suspect to take a polygraph test because he just couldn’t believe that the man was eating ice cream while dressed as a vampire hanging upside down from a pair of gravity boots in his attic while the crime was taking place.*

13 **cartography** n. The art or technique of making maps or charts.

*When the small child drew a diagram of his house and yard, he had no idea he was practicing the ancient art of cartography.*

14 **ascribe** v. To consider as belonging, especially as a characteristic or trait.

*Many like to ascribe wisdom to the elderly.*