



Are you doing some professional reading that you'd like to tell us about? I am reading *Leaving Johnny Behind: Overcoming Barriers to Literacy and Reclaiming At-Risk Readers* by Anthony Pedriana

Check It Out ... Celebrating Literacy

Etymology:

What do Greek and Latin have to do with students learning French? In Madame B's French I class, "As soon as students sit down, they already know 30% of the language." That is because 30% of French and English share a common vocabulary (cognates) and since most modern English words originate in Greek and Latin roots understanding the connections between these different languages can provide life-long skills in using and understanding language. Madame B. has added a lesson on Greek and Latin root words to her daily lessons.

Examples:

The word *photos* is a Greek word meaning *light*.

English = photo

French = photo

The word *graph* is a Greek word meaning *to write or draw*.

English = graph

French = graphe

When students know root words, French and English words that contain those root words are more easily understood.

School/Real Life Connection in Careers and Fire and Emergency classes:

disparaging, scuttled her chances, meticulously, prospects, digital footprint, ubiquitous, erroneously, imposter, peruse,

Q: What do these words and phrases have in common?

A: They are all used in a New York Times article entitled, "They Loved Your G.P. A. Then They Saw Your Tweets" that Mrs. Becker's Careers class recently read and discussed.

The purpose for using this article was twofold. Students were exposed to rich academic vocabulary through close reading while learning a lesson about the power of social media. To quote from the article, "As certain high school seniors work meticulously this month to finish their early application to colleges, some may not realize that comments they casually make online could negatively affect their prospects."

One of the questions Mrs. Becker asked her students to consider was, "Do you think that colleges or employers should use information posted on social media to learn about prospective students or employees?" Regardless of their opinions about the practice, students came to realize that their social media footprints could impact their futures.

Mr. Nichols' s Fire and Emergency students are integrating tactical/practical applications with their lessons from the National Fire Protection Association's textbook. This includes participating in experiences that integrate the use of personal protective fire equipment, including learning how to use a self contained breathing apparatus to accomplish tactical tasks necessary on the fire-ground, employing fire service ladders in conjunction with tying appropriate knots, and demonstrating proper hoisting of tools needed for fire suppression and/or rescue at above first story heights.