

Impossible Mountain

Learn about the Latin root *vis* through a graphic-novel-style story.

About the Story

Learning Objective: to use Greek and Latin affixes and roots as clues to the meanings of words

Featured Skill: vocabulary acquisition

Standards:

The article and its suite of support materials support this Common Core anchor standard: L.4

For more standards information—including TEKS—go to Scope Online.



Your Teaching Package

Find your full suite of support materials at scope.scholastic.com.

Audio:

- Text-to-speech
- Read-aloud

Activity to print, project, or share digitally:

- Root Power: *vis*

Step-by-Step Lesson Plan

1. Prepare to Read (2 minutes)

- If students are unfamiliar with graphic novels, preview some basic graphic novel terminology and definitions:
 - **panels:** the square or rectangular boundaries that contain elements of the story
 - **gutters:** the space between panels, where the reader's imagination connects the elements between two panels to create a flowing storyline
 - **balloons:** where spoken or narrated words and sound effects are contained
- Have a volunteer read aloud the directions located beneath the story's title. Then locate the words in **purple** in the story and read them aloud together.

2. Read and Discuss (10 minutes)

- Read the story once through as a class, then have students reread it independently.
- To check comprehension, have students write a quick objective summary of the story on a sticky note.
- Using their knowledge of affixes and roots along with context clues, students can then turn and talk to a partner to discuss their preliminary understanding of the meanings of the words in **purple**.

3. Root Challenge (25 minutes)

- Have students take the **Root Challenge** at the bottom of the page in the printed magazine or at the bottom of the digital story page. Be sure to have digital or print dictionaries handy for students to verify their definitions. Optionally, have students complete this task using the **Root Power activity** found in your Resources tab at Scope Online. It contains a chart for recording definitions, an extra practice activity, and space to record their own *vis* word,

sentences, and illustration. Sample definitions and answers can be found in the **Answer Key**, which can also be found in the Resources tab at Scope Online.