

Graduation Day

A Word Roots Lesson on *Grad* (“step” or “go”)



Although this year may be different, late spring is usually time for graduations. The word root **grad means “step” or “go.”** How does graduation capture this meaning?

Children enjoy solving riddles. Here are 5 *grad* words and three riddles. Ask your child/student to solve the riddles below and then to write riddles with the two extra words. Have fun!!

Words: *degrade*, *grade*, *gradual*, *graduate*, *graduated*, *graduation*

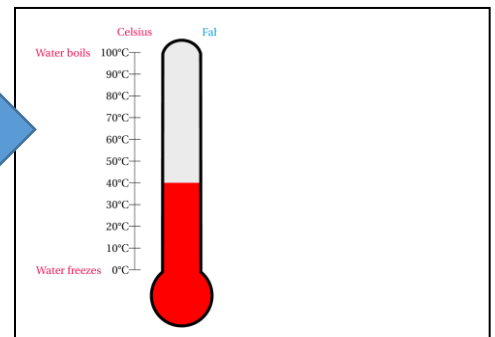
Riddles:

I am an adjective (a describing word).
I mean “little by little.”
I have three syllables.
I begin with a base that means “step” or “go.”
What am I?

I am a person.
I am someone who has finished a level of schooling.
I also have three syllables.
Who am I?

I am an action word.
To lower a person’s reputation a “step” at a time.
I have two syllables.
I begin with a prefix.
What am I?

Did you know that a **centigrade** or Celsius thermometer is made up of 100 *steps* or degrees.



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