<table>
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Testing Morphological Relatives of <create>
To confirm all the words represented in the matrix for <create> belong in this matrix, they have to pass *both* the meaning test and the structure test.

Structure Test
Each of the word sums is structurally plausible with known affixes and suffixing changes.

pro + create/+ ion —> procreation
re + create/ + ion —> recreation
create/ + ive + ly —> creatively
un + create/ + ive —> uncreative

Meaning Test
All of the words constructed from these word sums *also* share a Latin root *cre(are)* for "make, bring forth, produce, beget."

Conclusion: The matrix for morphological relatives of <create> stands up

Etymological relatives
The following words share the Latin root *cre(are)* so they are etymological relatives of <create>:

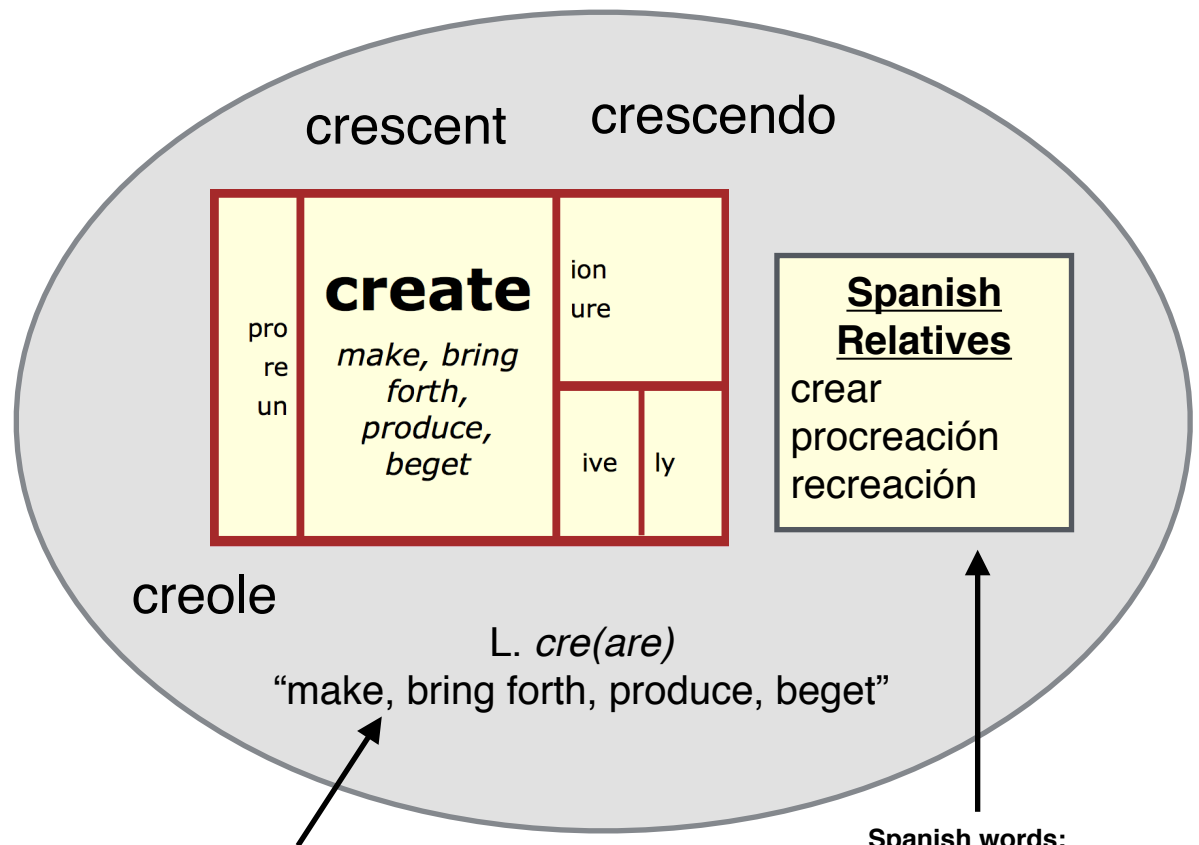<crescent>
<crescendo>
<creole>

Since no word sum could show them to share a base spelled <create> they are placed in the oval. This shows that they share the same *etymological* family, but cannot be included in a matrix with a base element <create>.

Questions / Observations next page…

</td></tr>
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A Structured Word Inquiry of <create>
Bringing forth new understanding of English orthography through scientific inquiry of a word family that seems to keep growing…

WARNING! This orthographic representation is incomplete. It is a valid first analysis, but please read on to see a deeper analysis!

crescent   crescendo

create
make, bring forth, produce, beget

pro
re
un

ion
ure

ive   ly

Spanish Relatives
crear
procreación
recreación

creole

L. *cre(are)*
"make, bring forth, produce, beget"

All of the English words represented within the perimeter of this oval (individually or in the matrix) are derived from from the Latin root *cre(are)* so they are all etymological relatives.

Spanish words: These words obviously cannot be included in an English matrix, but they do belong to the same etymological family, and so can be included in the same "etymological circle"

Semantic Connections / Observations

Morphological relatives
The orthographic denotation "make, bring forth, produce, beget" is clearly linked to words like <create>, <creation>, <creative>, and <procreation>.

My first association with the word <creation> was in the sense of "That piece of art is a creation of great beauty." The term "creation myth" only occurred to me after as the stories cultures have of how a the world came to be — how it was "produced".

The word <creature> is interesting in that it we can use this etymological connection to think of a "creature" is an animal that is "created". They are certainly "created" in "creation myths" cultures have.

Etymological relatives
My favorite semantic connections in this diagram are the etymological ones.

A **crescent** moon is a moon that is growing.
A **crescendo** is the music rising to a climax.

The word <**creole**> is my favourite. This word is used in a few ways. The one I knew about is that it is a type of language. Wikipedia defines it as "a language that *originated* (emphasis added) as a mixed language."

How did I find all these words?
I didn't have to think them up. All I had to do was investigate the word <create> in Etymonline and follow the trail to the root origin *creare.*

All I had to do was paste that spelling <creare> in the search engine, and most of the word in my diagram came up for me to analyze.

(Note: Etymonline doesn't use the parentheses I like to use to show Latin suffixes. In this case I use them to show the infinitive suffix in the root *cre(are).*

What about the Spanish words?
Do these Spanish words really belong in the circle? Yes!

The only criterion for a word belonging in this circle is that it shares the root. With a Spanish etymological dictionary we can search the Latin root *creare* and find Spanish words that derive from the same root.

Questions for further study

1) Could a Spanish matrix be constructed that included these and/or other Spanish words?

2) Although <ea> sequence in <creature> *seems* like a digraph for the /iː/ phoneme, the <ea> can *not* be a digraph in <create>. *One* grapheme cannot represent the phoneme /iː/ and the phoneme /eɪ/ in <create>. There seems to be a problem with <create> as a base!

3) Does the Latin root *cre(are)* suggest that a deeper analysis of <create> is possible?
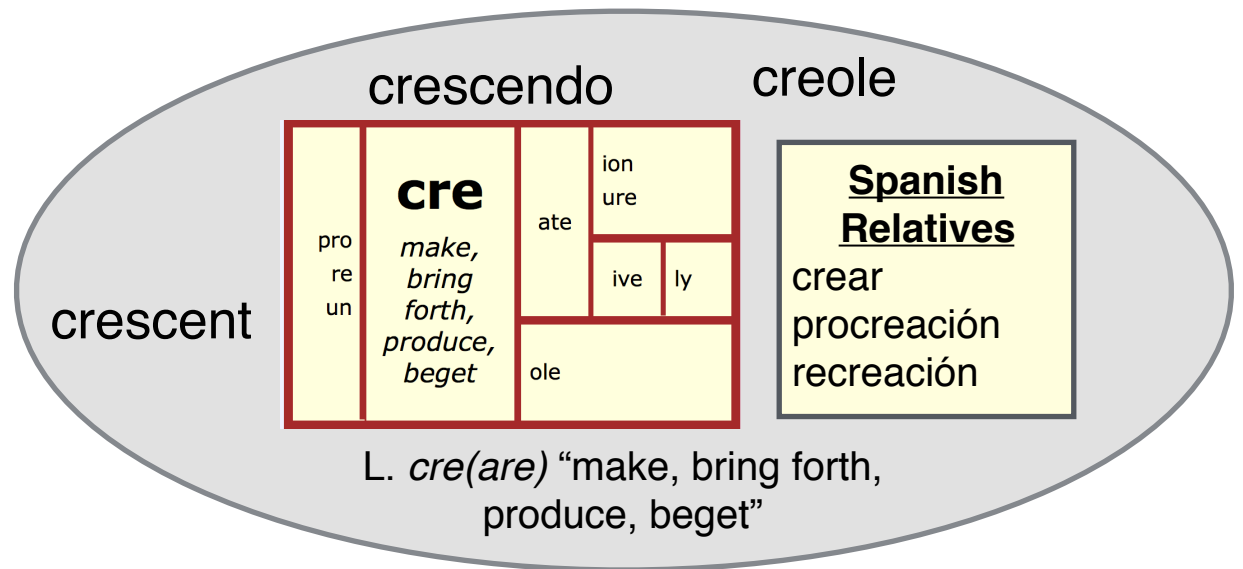
Scientific inquiry seeks the deepest structures that account for the greatest number of cases.

Removing the infinitive suffix in the Latin root *cre(are)* leaves us with the Latin root *cre* which suggests that the English base that derived from that root could be <cre> instead of <create>.

We know <-ate> is a common suffix, so the structure <cre + ate> is possible.

That analysis would also resolve the phonological problem for the hypothesis of <create> as a base. With this morphology, the <e> grapheme of the <cre> base can represent the /iː/ phoneme in <create> *and* <creature>. The <a> grapheme in the <-ate> suffix can represent the /eɪ/ phoneme, but there is no need for the <a> to represent a phoneme in <creature>.

The above is enough evidence to support the hypothesis of the <cre> base in this morphological family. However, the word <creole> that was initially analyzed as an etymological relative could be included in our matrix now that we have analyzed the <-ate> suffix as not part of the base! We have found a *deeper structure that accounts for a greater number of cases.*

crescendo   creole

crescent

pro re un	**cre** *make, bring forth, produce, beget*	ate	ion ure
			ive	ly
		ole	

Spanish Relatives
crear
procreación
recreación

L. *cre(are)* "make, bring forth, produce, beget"

New questions for further study
- Can we find evidence of <-ole> acting as a suffix in other word families? What is the semantic force of this element if it is a suffix?
- The second analysis proposes that the <a> in the <-ate> suffix represents the /eɪ/ phoneme in <create>, but *no pronunciation* in <creature>. Is it really possible for a grapheme to represent no pronunciation?
- Is it possible that there is an <-sce> suffix? if so, perhaps we could expand our matrix to include <crescent> and <crescendo>!
- My friend Gail has put forward a hypothesis that there may be an <-esce> suffix (<luminescence>) and <-isce> suffix (<reminisce>), and an <-sce> suffix (<crescent>).

Lots of rich pathways to investigate!

Click HERE for a tutorial film from Real Spelling (screen shot at right) that shares my investigation of this word years ago. It even includes an embarrassing picture! I'm still learning new things from this same word!

The
MORPHOLOGY
of
<create> / <creature>