



## Upcoming Meetings

At [ZAZA City Palette, 5<sup>th</sup> floor](#)

Sunday, February 14<sup>th</sup>, 1:30pm – 4:00pm

**Members:** Free - **Non-members:** ¥1,000

*By Kevin Demme*

# Introducing word roots in discussion classes

*An extensive number of English words have been borrowed from other languages. Hook (1975) estimated that over three-fifths of Modern English vocabulary has its roots in Greek, Latin, or other Romance languages. However, too often, native speakers take these everyday words for granted, and for non-native English learners, vocabulary can many times seem arbitrary, with few discernible patterns. In an effort to aid students in vocabulary acquisition, some researchers (Adams and Henry, 1997; Corson, 1997; Eskenazi, 2000; Nilsen and Nilsen, 2006; Kail, 2008) have advocated introducing word roots into English classes.*

*This workshop will present some practical activities that combine vocabulary and discussion, and can be used by teachers to introduce common word roots to intermediate and advanced learners of English. The origins and background of some historical references that are still in today`s lexicon (eg. the Battle of Marathon, the Assassins) will also be highlighted. It is hoped that these activities will help students see some of the patterns in English vocabulary, allow them to remember more of the words they study, and also give them practice speaking.*

*If you have questions, please check our [JALT website \(www.hamajalt.org\)](http://www.hamajalt.org), or contact Dan Frost at 053-460-7956 or you can also contact Dan at his e-mail: [danshonest@yahoo.com](mailto:danshonest@yahoo.com). See you in February!*