

Root or Prefix	Meaning	Examples
a, an	not, without	atheist, anarchy, anonymous, apathy, aphasia, anemia, atypical,
ab	away, down, from, off	absent, abduction, aberrant, abstemious, abnormal, abstract, absorb
acro	high, tip, top	acrobat, acrophobia, acronym
act	do, move	action, react, transaction, proactive, activity, activation, deactivate
ad	to, toward	admit, addition, advertisement, adherent, admonish, address, adhesive, adept, adjust
agon	to struggle	agony, protagonist, antagonist, agony, agonize,
alg	pain	neuralgia, analgesic, nostalgic,
alt	high	altitude, altimeter, alto, contralto, altocumulus, exalt
alter	other	alternative, alternator, alteration, altercation, alternate,
am	friend	amiable, amorous, amity, enamored, paramour, amicable
ambi	both	ambidextrous, ambivalent, ambiguous, ambient
ambul	to walk	ambulatory, amble, ambulance, somnambulist, preamble
anim	alive	animated, animal, inanimate, animator, anime, animation, reanimate
anima	soul, life	animation, inanimate, animal, anime, equanimity, animism, animus
ante	before	anteroom, antebellum, antedate antecedent,
anthrop	mankind	anthropology, anthropomorphic, philanthropy, anthropomorphic, philanthropy, misanthropy
anti, ant	against, opposite	antisocial, antiseptic, antithesis, antibody, antichrist, antinomies, antifreeze, antipathy,
arm	weapon	army, armament, disarm, rearm, armistice, armor, armory, arms
audi	to hear	audience, auditory, audible, auditorium, audiovisual, audition,
auto	self	automobile, automatic, autograph, autonomous, autoimmune, autopilot
be	thoroughly	bedecked, besmirch, besprinkled, begrudge, begrime, belie, bemoan
bell	war	belligerent, antebellum, bellicose, rebel
bene	good, well	benefactor, beneficial, benevolent, benediction, beneficiary, benefit
bi	two	bicycle, bifocals, biceps, billion, binary, bivalve, bimonthly, bigamy, bimetal,
bi, di	two	divide, diverge, diglycerides, bifurcate, biweekly, bivalve, biannual, billion
bio	life, living	biology, biography, biodiversity, bioavailability, bioflavonoid, biofuel,
cede, ceed, cess	to go, to yield	succeed, proceed, precede, recede, secession, exceed, succession, excess
cent	hundred	centennial, century, centipede, centillion
chron	time	chronology, chronic, chronicle, chronometer, anachronism
cide, cis	to kill, to cut	fratricide, suicide, incision, excision, circumcision, precise, concise, precision,
circum	around	circumnavigate, circumstance, circumference, circumvent, circulatory
clud, clus claus	to close	include, exclude, clause, claustrophobia, enclose, exclusive, reclusive, conclude,
commun	to share	commune, community, communism, communicable, communication, commonality, incommunicado
con, com	with, together	convene, compress, contemporary, converge, compact, confluence, conjoin, convert, compatible, consequence,
contra, counter	against, opposite	contradict, counteract, contrary, contraband, controversy, counterfeit, counterclaim, counterargument,
cred	to believe	credo, credible, credence, credit, credential, credulity, incredulous, creed, incredible
cycl	circle, wheel	bicycle, cyclical, motorcycle, cyclone
de	from, down, away	detach, deploy, derange, devoid, deflate, degenerate, descend, derail, depress, depart, decompose, destruction
dec	ten	decimal, decade, decalogue, decimate,
dei, div	God, god	divinity, divine, deity, divination, deify,
demo	people	democracy, epidemic, demographic
dia	through, across, between	diameter, diagonal, dialogue, dialect, dialectic, diagnosis, diachronic, diagram, diaphragm, dialysis, diarrhea
dict	speak	predict, verdict, malediction, dictionary, dictate, dictum, diction, indict, contradict
dis, dys, dif	away, not, negative	dismiss, differ, disallow, disperse, dissuade, disconnect, dysfunction, disproportion, disrespect, distaste, disarray,
duc, duct	to lead, pull	produce, product, transducer, viaduct, aqueduct, induct, deduct, reduce, induce
dyn, dyna	power	dynamic, dynamometer, heterodyne, dynamite, dynamo, dynasty
e, ex	out, away, from	emit, expulsion, exhale, exit, express, exclusive, enervate, exceed, explosion

ecto	outside, external	ectomorph, ectoderm, ectoplasm, ectopic
endo	inside, within	endotoxin, endoscope, endogenous
equi	equal	equidistant, equilateral, equilibrium, equinox, equitable, equation, equator
eu	good, well	euphoria, eulogy, euphemism, eugenics, eucalyptus, eukaryote, eurythmics, euthanasia
exter, extra	outside of	external, extrinsic, exterior, extraordinary, extracurricular, extraterrestrial, extrasensory, extravagant, extreme
flect, flex	to bend	flexible, reflection, deflect, inflection, reflex
flu, flux	flow	effluence, influence, effluvium, fluctuate, confluence, reflux, influx
fore	before, front	forecast, forefather, foreman, foreboding, forearm, forebear, forego, foreground, foremost, forerunner, foresee
giga	billion (10 ⁹)	gigabyte, gigaflop, gigahertz, gigawatt
graph, gram	to write	polygraph, grammar, graphite, lithograph, historiography, graphic, electrocardiogram,
hetero	other	heterodox, heterogeneous, heterosexual,
hex, ses, sex	six	hexagon, hexameter, sextuplets, sextillion
homo	same	homogenized, homosexual, homonym, homophone
hyper	over, above	hyperactive, hypersensitive, hyperventilate, hyperkinetic, hyperlink, hypertext,
hypo	below, less than	hypotension, hypodemic, hypoglycemia, hypoallergenic, hypothermia, hypothesis
in, im	not	intractable, impregnable, impossible
infra	beneath	infrared, infrastructure, infrasonic
inter, intro	between	international, intercept, intermission, interoffice, internal, intermittent, introvert,
intra	within, into	intranet, intracranial, intravenous, intramural, intramuscular, intraocular
jac, ject	to throw	eject, project, trajectory, interject, inject
log, logo, loc, loq	word, speech, speak	monologue, dialogue, locution, colloquial, elocution, soliloquy, ventriloquist, apology, epilogue, logic, eulogy,
mal	bad, badly	malformation, maladjusted, dismal, malady, malcontent, malfeasance, malevolent, malice, malaria, malfunction,
mega	great, million	megaphone, megalomaniac, megabyte,
mega	million (10 ⁶)	megabyte, megaton, megaflop, megawatt
meso	middle	mesomorph, mesoamerica, mesosphere
meta	beyond, change	metamorphosis, metabolism, metahistorical, metainformation, metacognitive
meter	measure	perimeter, micrometer, ammeter, multimeter, altimeter, geometry, kilometer
micro	small	microscope, microprocessor, microfiche, micrometer, micrograph
micro	millionth (10 ⁻⁶)	microgram, microwave, microsecond
mill, kilo	thousand (10 ³)	millennium, kilobyte, kiloton
milli	thousandth (10 ⁻³)	millisecond, milligram, millimeter, millipede
mis	bad, badly	misinform, misinterpret, mispronounce, misnomer, mistake, mistrial, misadventure, misanthrope, misread
mit, miss	to send	transmit, permit, missile, missionary, remit, admit, missive, mission
mono, uni	one	monopoly, monotype, monologue, monorail, unilateral, universal, unity, unanimous
morph	shape	polymorphic, morpheme, amorphous, metamorphosis, morphology, morphing
multi	many	multitude, multipartite, multiply, multipurpose, multicolored, multimedia
nano	billionth (10 ⁻⁹)	nanosecond, nanometer, nanomachine, nanotechnology
neo	new	neologism, neonate, neoclassic, neophyte
non	not	nonferrous, nonabrasive, nondescript, nonfat, nonfiction, nonprofit, nonsense,
non	nine	nonagon, nonagenarian, nonillion
oct	eight	octopus, octagon, octave, octillion, October
omni	all	omnipotent, omnivorous, omniscient, omnibus, omnirange, omnipresent
ortho	straight	orthodontics, orthodox, orthopedic, orthoscopic, orthostatic
pan	all, whole, general, completely	pantheism, pandemic, panacea, panoply, panchromatic, pandemonium, panorama
para	beside	paraprofessional, paramedic, paraphrase, parachute, paralegal, parallel, comparison
per	through, intensive	permit, perspire, perforate, persuade, perceive, perfect, permit, perform
peri	around	periscope, perimeter, perigee, periodontal
peta	quadrillion (10 ¹⁵)	petabyte
phon	sound	telephone, phonics, phonograph, phonetic, homophone, microphone

phot	light	photograph, photosynthesis, photon
poly	many	polytheist, polygon, polygamy,
port	to carry	porter, portable, report, transportation, deport, import, export
post	after	postscript, postconsumer, posterior, postgraduate, posthumous, postimpressionism, postpone, postproduction
pre	before, in front of	predict, prelude, predetermined, predisposed, preference, presumptuous, prevent, previous, pretentious, pretend
pro	forward	propel, proceed, promote, profess, proficient, profile, profound, progress, prologue, proponent, prosecute, provoke
proto	first, earliest	prototype, protoplasm, protohistory, protocol, protogalaxy, proton, prototypical, protozoa
quasi	approximately, resembling	quasiperiodical, quasiparticle, quasi-governmental, quasi-scientific, quasi-judicial, quasi-stellar, quasi-public
quat, quad	four	quadrangle, quadruplets, quarter, quadrillion
quint, penta	five	quintet, quintuplets, pentagon, pentane, pentameter, quintillion
re	back, again	report, realign, retract, revise, regain, reflect, rename, restate, recombine, recalculate, redo
retro	backwards	retrospect, retrogression, retroactive
sanct	holy	sanctify, sanctuary, sanction, sanctimonious,
scrib, script	to write	inscription, prescribe, proscribe, manuscript, conscript, scribble, scribe
sect, sec	cut	intersect, transect, dissect, secant, section
semi	half	semifinal, semiconscious, semiannual, semimonthly, semicircle
sept	seven	septet, septennial, septillion, September
spect	to look	inspect, spectator, circumspect, retrospect, prospect, spectacle
sub	under, below	submerge, submarine, substandard, subnormal, subvert, subdivision, submersible, submit
super, supra	above	superior, suprarenal, superscript, supercede, superficial, superimpose
syn	together	synthesis, synchronous, syndicate, synergy, snyopsis, syncretism
tele	distance, from afar	television, telephone, telegraph, telepathy
tera	trillion (10 ¹²)	terabyte, teraflop, terawatt
theo, the	God	theology, theist, polytheist, pantheism, atheist, monotheist, theophany
them, thermo	heat	thermal, thermometer, thermocouple, thermodynamic, thermoelectric
tract	to drag, draw	attract, tractor, traction, extract, retract, protract, detract, contract, intractable
trans	across	transoceanic, transmit, transport, transducer, transit, intransitive
tri	three	triangle, trinity, trilateral, triumvirate, tribune, trilogy, tricycle, trillion
ultra	beyond, extremely	ultraviolet, ultrasonic, ultramarine, ultrafine, ultrasensitive, ultrawide, ultrapure, ultraquiet
un	not	uncooked, unharmed, unintended, unhappy, unenlightened, unremarkable
under	beneath, below, too little	underestimate, underbid, underexpose, undercut, underhand, undermine, underneath, underpass, undertake,
veh, vect, vey	to carry	vector, vehicle, convection, vehement, convey, conveyance, conveyor
ven, vent	to come	convention, prevent, intervention, convent, advent, invent, inventory
verm	worm	vermin, vermicelli, vermiculture, vermicide, vermiform, vermilion
vert, vers	to turn	convert, revert, advertise, versatile, vertigo, invert, reversion, extravert, introvert
vita	life	vital, vitality, vitamins, revitalize
vita	life	vital, vitality, vitamins, revitalize
vol	to will	benevolent, volition, voluntary, malevolent

Suffix	Meaning	Examples
able, ible	able, can do	capable, agreeable, visible
ade	result of action	blockade, lemonade
age	act of, state of, collection of	salvage, storage, forage
al	relating to	sensual, gradual, manual, natural
algia	pain	neuralgia
an, ian	native of, pertaining to	American, Martian, antediluvian
ance, ancy	action, process, state	assistance, allowance, defiance
ant	performing, agent	assistant, servant
ary, ery, ory	relating to, quality, place where	dictionary, bravery, dormitory, aviary, ordinary
ate	cause, make	liquidate, segregate
cian	having a specific skill	magician, optician, physician
cule, ling	very small	molecule, miniscule,
cy	action, function	advocacy, hesitancy, prophecy, normalcy
dom	quality, realm, office	freedom, kingdom, wisdom, thralldom
ee	one who receives the action	employee, nominee, refugee
en	made of, make	silken, frozen, oaken, wooden, lighten
ence, ency	action, state of, quality	difference, conference, urgency
er, or	on who, that which	baker, carpenter, brewer
escent	in the process of	adolescent, obsolescent, convalescent
ese	a native of	Javanese, Vietnamese
esis, osis	action, process, condition	genesis, hypnosis, neurosis, osmosis
ess	female	poetess, goddess
et, ette	small one, group	midget, octet, baronet,
fic	making, causing	scientific, specific
ful	full of	frightful, beautiful, helpful
fy	make	fortify, simplify
hood	order, quality	neighborhood, motherhood
ic	nature of, like	metallic, heroic, poetic
ice	condition, state, quality	justice, malice
id, ide	something connected to or belonging to	fluid, fluoride, torrid, canid
ine	having the nature or characteristic of	feminine, masculine, medicine
ion, sion, tion	act of, state of, result of	contagion, infection, aversion
ish	origin, nature, resembling	Spanish, foolish,
ism	system, manner, condition	alcoholism, feminism, heroism, communism
ist	one who, that which	pianist, elitist
ite	nature of, quality of	dynamite, graphite, sulfite, neophyte
ity, ty	state of, quality	captivity, clarity
ive	causing	conclusive, festive, restive, abusive
ize	to make (like)	emphasize, anthropomorphize
less	without	worthless, mindless, guileless
ly	like	clearly, fearlessly
ment	act of, result	contentment, amendment
ness	state of	carelessness, uselessness
oid	like (often suggests flawed or partial resemblance)	asteroid, tabloid, anthropoid, rhomboid, ovoid
(o)logy	study, science, theory	biology