

COMMON WORD PARTS

Prefixes

<u>Prefix</u>	<u>Meaning</u>	<u>Examples</u>
a-	in, on, of, to	abed- in bed
a-, ab-, abs-	from, away	abrade—wear off absent—away, not present
a-, an-	lacking, not	asymptomatic—showing no symptoms anaerobic—able to live without air
ad-, ac-, af-, ag-, al-, an-, ap-, ar-, as-, at-	to, toward	accost—approach and speak to adjunct—something added to aggregate—bring together
ambi, amphi-	around, both	ambidextrous—using both hands equally amphibious—living both in water and on land
ana-	up, again, anew, throughout	analyze—loosen up, break up into parts anagram—word spelled by mixing up letters of another word
ante-	before	antediluvian—before the Flood
anti-	against	antiwar—against war
arch-	first, chief	archetype—first model
auto-	self	automobile—self-moving vehicle
bi-	two	bilateral—two-sided
bene-, ben-	good, well	benefactor—one who does good deeds
circum-	around	circumnavigate—sail around
com-, co-, col-, con-, cor-	with, together	concentrate—bring closer together cooperate—work together collapse—fall together
contra-, contro-, counter-	against	contradict—speak against counterclockwise—against the clock
de-	away from, down, opposite of	detract—draw away from
demi-	half	demitasse-half cup

di-	twice, double	dichromatic—having two colors
dia-	across, through	diameter—measurement across
dis-, di-	not, away from	dislike—to not like
dys-	bad, poor	dyslexia—poor reading
equi-	equal	equivalent—of equal value
ex-, e-, ef-	from, out	expatriate—one who lives outside is native country
extra-	outside	extraterrestrial—from beyond the earth
fore-	in front of, previous	forecast—tell ahead of time
geo-	earth	geography—science of the earth’s surface
homo-	same, like	homophonic—sounding the same
hyper-	too much, over	hyperactive—overly active
hypo-	too little, under	hypothermia—state of having too little body fat
in-, il-, im-, ir-	not	innocent—not guilty ignorant—not knowing illogical—not logical
inter-	between, among	interplanetary—between planets
intra-, intro-	within, inside	intrastate—within a state
mal-, male-	bad, wrong, poor	maladjust—adjust poorly
mis-	badly, wrongly	misunderstand—understand wrongly
mono-	single, one	monorail—train that runs on a single rail
neo-	new	neolithic—of the New Stone Age
ob-	over, against, toward	obstruct—stand against
omni-	all	omnipresent—present in all places
pan-	all	panorama—a complete view
peri-	around, near	periscope—device for seeing all around
pre-	before, earlier than	prejudice—judgment in advance
pro-	in favor of, forward, in front of	proceed—go forward prowar—in favor of war
re-	back, again	rethink—think again reimburse—pay back

retro-	backward	retrospective—looking backward
se-	apart, away	seclude—keep away
semi-	half	semiconscious—half conscious
sub-, suc-, suf-, sug-, sus-	under, beneath	subscribe—write underneath suspend—hang down suffer--undergo
super-	above, greater	superfluous—overflowing, beyond what is needed
syn-, sym-, syl-, sys-	with, at the same time	synthesis—a putting together sympathy—a feeling with
tele-	far	television—machine for seeing far
trans-	across	transport—carry across a distance
un-	not	uninformed—not informed
vice-	acting for, next in rank to	viceroys—one acting for the king
Suffixes		
<u>Suffix</u>	<u>Meaning</u>	<u>Examples</u>
-able, -ble	able, capable	acceptable—able to be accepted
-acious, -cious	characterized by, having the quality of	fallacious—having the quality of fallacy
-age	sum, total	mileage—total number of miles
-al	of, like, suitable for	theatrical—suitable for theater
-ance, -ancy	act or state of	disturbance—act of disturbing
-ant, -ent	one who	defendant—one who defends himself
-ary, -ar	having the nature of, concerning	military—relating to soldiers polar—concerning the pole
-cy	act, state, or quality of	dependence—state of being wise
-dom	state, rank, that which belongs to	wisdom—state of being wise
-ence	act, state, or quality of	dependence—state of depending
-er, -or	one who, that which	doer—one who does conductor—that which conducts
-escent	becoming	obsolescent—becoming obsolete

-fy	to make	pacify—make peaceful
-hood	state, condition	adulthood—state of being adult
-ic, -ac	of, like	demonic—of or like demon
-il, ile	having, characterized by	anxious—characterized by anxiety
-ion	act or condition of	operation—act of operating
-ious	having, characterized by	anxious—characterized by anxiety
-ish	like, somewhat	foolish—like a fool
-ism	belief or practice of	racism—belief in racial superiority
-ist	one who does, makes or is concerned with	scientist—one concerned with science
-ity, -ty, -y	character of state of being	amity—friendship jealousy—state of being jealous
-ive	of, relating to, tending to	destructive—tending to destroy
-logue, -loquy	speech or writing	monologue—speech by one person colloquy--conversation
-logy	speech, study of	geology—study of earth
-ment	act or state of	abandonment—act of abandoning
-mony	a resulting thing, condition, or state	patrimony—property inherited from one's father
-ness	act or quality	kindness—quality of being kind
-ory	having the quality of; a place or thing for	compensatory—having the quality of a compensation
-ous, -ose	full of, having	glamorous—full of glamour
-ship	skill, state of being	horsemanship—skill in riding ownership—state of being an owner
-some	full of, like	frolicsome—playful
-tude	state or quality of	rectitude—state of being morally upright
-ward	in the direction of	homeward—in the direction of home
-y	full of, like, somewhat	wily—full of wiles
	Roots	
<u>Root</u>	<u>Meaning</u>	<u>Examples</u>
acr	bitter	acid, acrimony
act, ag	do, act, drive	action, react, agitate
acu	sharp, keen	acute, acumen

agog	leader	pedagogue, demagogic
agr	field	agronomy, agriculture
ali	other	alias, alienate, inalienable
alt	high	altitude, contralto
alter, altr	other, change	alternative, altercation, altruism
am, amic	love, friend	amorous, amiable
anim	mind, life, spirit	animism, animate, animosity
annu, enni	year	annual, superannuated, biennial
anthrop	man	anthropoid, misanthropy
apt, ept	fit	apt, adapt, ineptitude
aqu	water	aquatic, aquamarine
arbit	judge	arbiter, arbitrary
arch	chief	anarchy, matriarch
arm	arm, weapon	army, armature, disarm
art	skill, a fitting together	artisan, artifact, articulate
aster, astr	star	asteroid, disaster, astral
aud, audit, aur	hear	auditorium, audition, auricle
aur	gold	aureate, aureomycin
aut	self	autism, autograph
bell	war	antebellum, belligerent
ben, bene	well, good	benevolent, benefit
bibli	book	bibliography, bibliophile
bio	life	biosphere, amphibious
brev	short	brevity, abbreviation
cad, cas, cid	fall	cadence, casualty, occasion, accident
cand	white, shining	candid, candle, incandescent
cant, chant	sing, charm	cantor, recant, enchant
cap, capt, cept, cip	take, seize, hold	capable, captive, accept, incipient
capit	head	capital, decapitate
carn	flesh	carnal, incarnate
cede, ceed, cess	go, yield	secede, exceed
cent	hundred	percentage, centimeter
cern, cert	perceive, make certain, decide	concern, certificate, certain
chrom	color	monochrome, chromatic
chron	time	chronometer
cide, cis	cut, kill	genocide, incision
cit	summon, impel	cite, excite, incitement
civ	citizen	uncivil, civilization
clam, claim	shout	clamorous, proclaim
clar	clear	clarity, clarion, declare
clin	slope, lean	inclination, recline
clud, clus, clos	close, shut	seclude, recluse, closet

cogn	know	recognize, incognito
col, cul	till	colony, cultivate, agriculture
corp	body	incorporate
cosm	order, world	cosmetic, cosmos, cosmopolitan
crac, crat	power, rule	democrat, theocracy
cre, cresc, cret	grow	increase, accretion
cred	trust, believe	credit, incredible
crux, cruc	cross	crux, crucial, crucifix
crypt	hidden	cryptic, cryptography
culp	blame	culprit, culpability
cur, curr, curs	run, course	occur, current, incursion
cura	care	curator, accurate
cycl	wheel, circle	bicycle, cyclone
dec	ten	decade, decimal
dem	people	demographic, demagogue
dent	tooth	dental, indentation
derm	skin	dermatitis, pachyderm
di, dia	day	diary, quotidian
dic, dict	say, speak	indicative, edict, dictation
dign	worthy	dignified, dignitary
doc, doct	teach, prove	indoctrinate, docile, doctor
domin	rule	predominate, domineer
dorm	sleep	dormitory, dormant
du	two	duo, duplicity, dual
duc, duct	lead	educate, abduct, ductile
dur	hard, lasting	endure, obdurate
dyn	force, power	dynamo, dynamite
ego	I	egomania, egotist
equ	equal	equation, equitable
erg, urg	work, power	energetic, demiurge
err	wander	error, aberrant
ev	time, age	coeval, longevity
fac, fact, fect, fic	do, make	facility, factual, perfect, artifice
fer	bear, carry	prefer, refer, conifer, fertility
ferv	biol	fervid, effervesce
fid	belief, faith	infidelity, confidant, perfidious
fin	end, limit	finite, confine
firm	strong	reaffirm, infirmity
flect, flex	bend	reflex, inflection
flor	flower	florescent, floral
flu, fluct, flux	flow	fluid, fluctuation, influx
form	shape	formative, reform, formation
fort	strong	effort, fortitude
frag, fract	reak	fragility, infraction

fug	flee	refuge, fugitive
fus	pour, join	infuse, transfuse
gam	marry	exogamy
ge, geo	earth	geology, geode, perigee
gen	birth, kind, race	engender, general, generation
gest	carry, bear	gestation, ingest, digest
gon	angle	hexagonal, trigonometry
grad, gress	step, go	regress, gradation
gram	writing	grammar, cryptogram
graph	writing	telegraph, graphics
grat	pleasing, agreeable	congratulate, gratuitous
grav	weight, heavy	gravamen, gravity
greg	flock, crowd	gregarious, segregate
habit, hibit	have, hold	habitation, inhibit, habitual
heli	sun	helium, heliocentric, aphelion
hem	blood	hemoglobin, hemorrhage
her, hes	stick, cling	adherent, cohesive
hydr	water	dehydration, hydrofoil
iatr	heal, cure	pediatrics, psychiatry
iso	same, equal	isotope, isometric
it	journey, go	itinerary, exit
ject	throw	reject, subjective, projection
jud	judge	judicial, adjudicate
jug, junct	join	conjugal, juncture, conjunction
jur	swear	perjure, jurisprudence
labor	work	laborious, belabor
leg	law	legal, illegitimate
leg, lig, lect	choose, gather, read	illegible, eligible, select, lecture
lev	light, rise	levity, alleviate
liber	free	liberal, libertine
liter	letter	literate, alliterative
lith	rock, stone	eolithic, lithograph
loc	place	locale, locus, allocate
log	word, study	logic, biology, dialogue
loqu, locut	talk, speech	colloquial, loquacious, interlocutor
luc, lum	light	translucent, pellucid, illumine, luminous
lud, lus	play	allusion, ludicrous, interlude
magn	large, great	magnificent, magnitude
mal	bad, ill	malodorous, malingering
man, manu	hand	manifest, manicure, manuscript
mar	sea	maritime, submarine
mater, matr	mother	matrilocal, maternal

medi	middle	intermediary, medieval
mega	large, million	megaphone, megacycle
ment	mind	demented, mental
merg, mers	plunge, dip	emerge, submersion
meter, metr, mens	measure	chronometer, metronome, geometry
micr	small	microfilm, micron
min	little	minimum, minute
mit, miss	send	remit, admission, missive
mon, monit	warn	admonish, monument, monitor
mor	custom	mores, immoral
mor, mort	death	mortify, mortician
morph	shape	amorphous, anthropomorphic
mov, mob, mot	move	removal, automobile, motility
multi	many	multiply, multinational
mut	change	mutable, transmute
nasc, nat	born	native, natural, nascent, innate
nav	ship, sail	navy, navigable
necr	dead, die	necropolis, necrosis
neg	deny	renege, negative
neo	new	neologism, neoclassical
nomen, nomin	name	nomenclature, cognomen, nominate
nomy	law, rule	astronomy, antinomy
nov	new	novice, innovation
ocul	eye	binocular, oculist
omni	all	omniscient, omnibus
onym	name	pseudonym, eponymous
oper	work	operate, cooperation, inoperable
ora	speak, pray	oracle, oratory
orn	decorate	adorn, ornate
orth	straight, correct	orthodox, orthopedic
pan	all	panacea, pantheon
pater, patr	father	patriot, paternity
path, pat, pass	feel, suffer	telepathy, patient, compassion, passion
ped	child	pedagogue, pediatrics
pel, puls	drive, push	impel, propulsion
pend, pens	hang	pendulous, suspense
pet, peat	seek	petition, impetus, repeat
phil	love	philosopher, Anglophile
phob	fear	phobic, agoraphobia
phon	sound	phonograph, photoelectric
phor	bearing	semaphore, metaphor
phot	light	photograph, photoelectric

pon, pos	place, put	component, repose, postpone
port	carry	report, portable, deportation
pot	power	potency, potential
press	pess	pressure, impression
prim	first	primal, primordial
proto, prot	first	proton, protagonist
psych	mind	psychic, metempsychosis
pyr	fire	pyrite, pyrophobia
quer, quir, quis, ques	ask, seek	query, inquiry, inquisitive, quest
reg, rig, rect	straight, rule	regulate, dirigible, corrective
rid, ris	laugh	deride, risible, ridiculous
rog	ask	rogation, interrogate
rupt	break	erupt, interruption, rupture
sanct	holy	sacrosanct, sanctify, sanction
sci, scio	know	nescient, conscious, omniscience
scop	watch, view	horoscope, telescopic
scib, script	write	scribble, proscribe, descriptive
sed, sid, sess	sit, seat	sedate, residence, session
seg, sect	cut	segment, section, intersect
sent, sens	feel, think	nonsense, sensitive, sentient, dissent
sequ, secut	follow	sequel, consequence, consecutive
sign	sign, mark	signature, designate, assign
sol	alone	solidarity, solo, desolate
solv, solu, solut	loosen	dissolve, soluble, absolution
somn	sleep	insomnia, somnolent
son	sound	sonorous, unison
soph	wise, wisdom	philosophy, sophisticated
spec, spic, spect	look	specimen, conspicuous, spectacle
spir	breathe	spirit, conspire
stab, stat	stand	unstable, status, station, establish
stead	place	instead, steadfast
string, strict	bind	astringent, stricture, restrict
stru, struct	build	construe, structure, destructive
sum, sumpt	take	pressure, consumer, assumption
tang, ting, tact, tig	touch	tangent, contiguity, contact, tactile, contiguous
tax, tac	arrange, arrangement	taxonomy, tactic
tachn	skill, art	technique, technician
tele	far	teletype, telekinesis

tempor	time	temporize, extemporaneous
ten, tain, tent	hold	tenant, tenacity, retention, contain
tend, tens, tent	stretch	contend, extensive, intent
tenu	thin	tenuous, attenuate
term	end	terminal, terminate
terr, ter	land, earth	inter, terrain
test	witness	attest, testify
the	god	polytheism, theologist
therm	heta	thermos, osotherm
tom	cut	atomic, appendectomy
tort, tors	twist	tortuous, torsion, contort
tract	pull, draw	traction, attract, protract
trib	assign, pay	attribute, tribute, retribution
trud, trus	thrust	obtrude, intrusive
turb	agitate	perturb, turbulent, disturb
umbr	shade	umbrella, penumbra, umbrage
uni	one	inify, disunity, union
urb	city	urbane, suburb
vac	empty	vacuous, evacuation
vad, vas	go	invade, evasive
val, vail	strength, worth	valid, avail, prevalent
ven, vent	come	advent, convene, prevention
ver	true	aver, veracity, verity
verb	word	verbose, adverb, verbatim
vert, vers	turn	revert, perversion
vest	dress	vestment
vid, vis	see	video, evidence, vision, revise
vinc, vict	conquer	evince, convict, victim
viv, vit	life	vivid, revive, vital
voc, vok	call	vociferous, provocative, revoke
vol	wish	involuntary, violation
volv, volut	roll, turn	involve, convoluted, revolution
vulg	common	divulge, vulgarity
zo	animal	zoologist, paleozoic