

Greek and Latin Root Words

Root	Meaning	Sample Words
act	do	action, actor, react, transact
aero	air	aerobics, aerodynamics, aerate
alt	high	altimeter, altitude, alto
ambul	walk/go	ambulance, ambulatory, preamble
andr/anthr	man	anthropology, philander, polyandry
anim	life/spirit	animate, animal, inanimate
aqua	water	aquarium, aquatic, aquamarine
art	skill	artisan, artist, artifact, artificial
ast	star	asterisk, astronaut, astrology
aud	hear	audience, auditorium, audio, audible
auto	self	autograph, automobile, autocratic
belli	war	belligerent, bellicose, rebellion
bene	good	benefit, benediction, benevolent
bi/di	two	bisect, bicycle, bilateral, diverse, dihydrogen
bi/di	two	bisect, bicycle, bilateral, diverse, dihydrogen
biblio	book	bibliography, Bible, bibliophile
bio	life	biology, autobiography, biochemistry
cap	head	captain, capital, decapitate
cardi	heart	cardiac, cardiology, cardiogram
chron	time	chronological, chronograph, synchronize
cide	kill	suicide, homicide, genocide
cis	cut	incision, excise, scissors
co	with	collaborate, coauthor, coeducational
crat	rule	democrat, aristocrat, autocratic
cred	believe	credit, incredible, credence
cycl	circle/ring/wheel	bicycle, cyclone, encyclopedia
de	down/away	destroy, destructive, descend, detract
dem	people	democracy, epidemic, demographics
dic	speak	dictionary, dictate, predict
doc	teach	doctrine, document, doctor
duc	lead	conduct, educate, aqueduct
ex	out	exit, expel, extract
fac/fic	make/do	factory, manufacture, sufficient

flect/flex	bend	reflex, reflection, flexible, deflect
form	shape	uniform, transform, reform
frag/fract	break	fracture, fragment, fraction
gen	birth/race/family	generation, genealogy, genocide
geo	earth	geography, geology, geometry
gram/graph	write	telegram, photograph, grammar, biography
hydra	water	hydraulics, dehydrate, hydrant
ify/ize	to make	magnify, magnetize, justify, traumatize
ist	one who practices	biologist, geologist, dramatist
jud/jus	law	judge, justice, justify, judicial
lab	work	labor, collaborate, laboratory
loc	place	locate, location, allocate
log	word	dialogue, prologue, apology
luc/lum	light	illuminate, lucid, translucent
mal	bad	malicious, malignant, maladapted
man	hand	manual, manuscript, manufacture
mand	order	command, demand, mandate
mania	madness	maniac, pyromania, maniacal
meter	measure	thermometer, centimeter, metrics
micro	small	microscope, microorganism, micrometer
mis	wrong	mispronounce, mistake, misfortune
miss/mit	send	mission, transmit, missile, admit
mort	death	mortuary, mortal, mortician
multi	many	multitude, multitalented, multiply
nat	born	native, nation, innate
nom/nym	name	binomial, anonymous, nomenclature
ology	study of	biology, geology, graphology
onym	name	synonym, anonymous, pseudonym
ortho	straight	orthodontist, orthodox, orthopedist
path	feeling/suffer	sympathy, pathetic, empathetic
ped/pod	foot	pedal, pedestrian, tripod, podium
phon	sound	telephone, symphony, microphone
photo	light	photograph, telephoto, photosynthesis
poly	many	polynomial, polygamy, polygon
pop	people	population, populate, popular
port	carry	transport, portable, import

post	after	posttest, postoperative, preposterous
pre	before	pretest, prediction, premonition
psych	mind	psychology, psycho, psychopath
pul/pel	force	compel, compulsion, pellet, impel
quad	four	quadruple, quadruped, quadrilateral
ques	ask/seek	question, request, quest, inquest
re	again/back	revise, restore, remit, remind
rupt	break	erupt, interrupt, rupture
scop	see	microscope, telescope, scope
scrib/script	write	scribe, inscription, prescribe
sect	cut	dissect, section, intersection
sim	like	simulation, simultaneous, simile
sol	alone	solo, solitary, soliloquy
spec	see	spectator, spectacle, inspection
spec	see	spectator, spectacle, inspection
struct	build	construct, structure, instruction, destruct
sub	under	submarine, substandard, substitute
super	above	supervise, superintendent, superb
super	above	supervise, superintendent, superb
tele	far away	telephone, telescope, teleport
term	end	terminate, terminal, term
terr	land	terrain, terrestrial, territory
therm	heat	thermos, thermometer, thermal
tract	pull	extract, traction, attractive
trans	across	transmit, transfer, transport
tri	three	tripod, triangle, triathlon
un/im/in	not	unmoved, insensitive, immobile
uni	one	uniform, unicycle, universe
urb	city	urban, suburbs, urbane
vac	empty	vacation, vacate, evacuate, vacuum
vict	conquer	victory, conviction, victim
vid/vis	see	video, visual, evidence, vista
viv/vit	life	vivid, vivacious, vitamin, vitality
voc	voice/call	vocal, vocation, invocation