

# GETTING TO THE ROOT OF IT

## Common Greek and Latin Roots and Affixes

	Prefix	Meaning	Example	Root	Meaning	Example	Suffix	Meaning	Example
<b>Level 1</b>	dis-	not	disappear	anni	year	anniversary	-er, -or	one who	teacher, actor
	mis-	bad	misuse	bibl	book	bibliography	-ful	notable for	thankful
	pre-	before	preview	cycl	wheel	bicycle	-y	characterized by	salty
	re-	again, back	redo	dict	say	diction			
	un-	not	unfinished	equi	equal	equitable			
				graph	write	autograph			
				multi	much, many	multiply			
			typ	print	typewriter				
<b>Level 2</b>	auto-	self	autopilot	auto	self	automatic	-ed	past tense	walked
	bi-	two	bicycle	deca	ten	decade	-est	most	fastest
	co-	with, together, as	copilot	dynam	power	dynamic	-ic, -ical	pertaining to, having to do with	mythic, musical
	de-	off, away from, down	depart	fin	end	finish	-ist	one who practices	violinist
	e-	out	erase	form	shape	formation	-ite	forming adjective or noun	finite
	il-, im-, in-, ir-	not, without	illegal, immoral, inconsiderate, irresponsible	gress, grad	move, step, go	progress, graduate	-ive	having the nature of	creative
	mid-	middle	midway	ject	throw	project	-less	without	careless
	non-	not, without, opposite	nonstick	mar	sea	marina	-ly	in some way	sadly
	pro-	forward	project	oper	work	operate	-ment	condition of	argument
	semi-	half	semicircle	phon	sound	phonics, telephone	-ness	state of being	happiness
	sub-	under	submarine	scrib, script	write	inscribe, script	-ous	full of	joyous
tri-	three	tricycle	tele	far off	telephone	-s, -es	more than one	kids, houses	
uni-	one	unicorn							

	Prefix	Meaning	Example	Root	Meaning	Example	Suffix	Meaning	Example
<b>Level 3</b> Focus for grade 6	audio-	hear	auditory	act	do	action	-able, -ible	capable of being, can do	presentable, edible
	bene-	good	benefit	aero	air	aeronautics	-acy	state or quality	privacy
	circum-	around	circumvent	agri	farming	agriculture	-ant	one who	participant
	dia-	through, across	diameter	alter	other	alternate	-ate	become	populate
	fore-	before, in front of	forefront	am	love	amiable	-ify, -fy	make or become	terrify
	hemi-	half	hemisphere	brev	short	abbreviate	-ion	act of	perfection
	hypo-	under, below	hypodermic	dem	people	democracy	-ious, -ous	characterized by	nutritious, adventurous
	in-	not, without	inappropriate	grav	heavy, weighty	gravity	-ing	the result of	teaching
	legis-	law	legislation	hydr, hydra, hydro	water	dehydrate	-ity, -ty	quality of	captivity, modesty
	mal-	bad	malicious	juven	young	juvenile	-ize, -ise	become	civilize, televise
	mono-	one	monotype	leg	of the law	legality	-ship	position held	fellowship
	pan-	all	pandemic	liter	letters	literature			
	peri-	about, around	perimeter	log	thought, study	logic			
	psych-	the mind	psychology	meter	to measure	diameter			
	retro-	backwards	retrofit	ped	child	pediatrician			
	super-	above	superior	ped, pedi	feet	pedestrian			
	sym-	same	symbol	port	carry	export			
	trans-	across	transmit	rect	straight	erect			
				sens, sent	feel	resent, sensitive			
				soni	sound	supersonic			
			therm	heat	thermometer				
			tox	poison	toxic				
			vent	come	venture				
			viv	alive, life	survive				
<b>Level 4</b> Focus for grade 7	a-	not	atypical	acro	top, height	acrobat	-dom	state of being	kingdom
	a-, ab-, abs-	from, away	absent	ambul	walk	ambulance	-en	become	heighten
	a-, an-	without	anarchy	arid	dry	aridness	-ess	female	lioness
	ad-	to, toward	adhere	aud	hear	audible	-ish	having the quality of, somewhat like	childish

**Level 4**  
(cont.)  
Focus  
for  
grade 7

Prefix	Meaning	Example	Root	Meaning	Example	Suffix	Meaning	Example
ant-	against	antagonist	bene	good	benefit, benign	-ology	study of	biology
contra-	against	contradict	bio	life	biography, biology	-sion, -tion	state of being	concession, transition
di-	apart	divide	capit, capt	head	capital, captain	-ward	in the direction of	westward
ego-	self, I	egocentric	ced	go	intercede			
ex-, ef-	out of, former	extract, ex- president	chrom	color	monochrome			
hyper-	over, more	hyperactive	civ	citizen	civilization			
il, im-, ir-	not, without	illegal, immoral, irresponsible	clam, claim	cry out	exclamation, proclaim			
in-	not, without; into	inappropriate; insert	cosm	world	cosmos			
macro-	large	macroeconomy cs	cred	believe	credible			
micro-	small	microscope	crit	separate, choose	critical			
omni-	all, every	omniscient	fug	flee	fugitive			
tele-	distance	telephone	liber	free	liberty			
			loc	place	location			
			mort	death	mortality			
			nat	born	natural			
			nomin	name	nominate			
			ortho	straight, correct	orthodontist			
			pater	father	paternity			
			photo	light	photograph, photon			
			sequ	follow	sequence			
			stru, struct	build	structure			
			the	god	monotheism			
			vac	empty	evacuate, vacate			
			voc	call	vocalize			

**Level 5**  
Focus  
for  
grade 8

Prefix	Meaning	Example	Root	Meaning	Example	Suffix	Meaning	Example
bio-	life	biology	acu	sharp	acute	-al	act or process	refusal
com-, con-	with, together	companion, contact	amphi	both	ampibian	-al	pertaining or belonging to	magical
en-	put into	enclose	aster, astro	star	asteroid, astronomy	-dom	place or state of being	kingdom, freedom
extra-	beyond, more than	extracurricular	cord	heart	cordial	-hood	state of being	brotherhood
foli-	leaf	foliage	crat	rule	democratic	-ism	doctrine, belief, practice	communism
frater-	brother	fraternity	derm	skin	dermatology	-ory	a place for	dormitory
geo-	earth	geography	dorm	sleep	dormitory			
neo-	new	Neolithic	fract, frag	break	fragment			
post-	after	postmortem	gen	give birth, create	generate			
syn-	same time	synchronize	geo	earth	geography, geology			
vid-, vis-	see	visible, video	medi	half, middle, between	medieval			
			nov	new	novice			
			omni	all	omnivorous			
			phob	fear	phobia			
			poly	many	polytheism			
			present	state of being, now	presently			
			rupt	break	disrupt			
			scop	view	telescope			
			spec, spect, spic	look, appear	spectacles			
			tempo	time	contemporary			
			terr	earth	terrain, territory			
			tom	cut	anatomy			
			tract, tra	draw, pull	tractor			
			turb	disturb	turbulent			
			ultima	last	ultimate			
			vad, vas	go	invade			
			vict, vinc	conquer	victor, convince			
			vid, vis	see	visible, video			



	Prefix	Meaning	Example	Root	Meaning	Example	Suffix	Meaning	Example
<b>Level 7</b> Focus for grades 11-12	ante-	before	antecedent	buc	rural, rustic	bucolic			
	arch-	chief	archetype	camer	chamber	bicmeral			
	dys-	not normal	dystopia	clud, clus	close, shut	cluster			
	epi-	upon, beside, among	epidemic	cresc	rise, grow	crescendo			
	iso-	equal	isometric	curr, curs	run	current			
	meta-	change, transform	metamorphosis	duc	lead, make	deduce, produce			
				fer	bear, carry	transfer			
				loqu, loque	talk, speak	loquacious			
				morph	form	metamorphosis			
				phil	love	philosophy, bibliophile			
				qui, quit	quiet, rest	acquit, tranquil			
				trib	pay, bestow	tribute			
				troph	nourishment	autotrophic			
			ver	truth	verify				
			zo	animal	zodiac				