

Etymology list

Root, Prefix or Suffix	Meaning	Examples
a, ac, ad, af, ag, al, an, ap, as, at	to, toward, near, in addition to ,+by	aside ,accompany ,adjust ,aggression ,allocate, annihilate ,affix ,associate, attend, adverb
a, an	not, without	apolitical, atheist, anarchy, anonymous, apathy, aphasia, anemia
ab, abs	away from, off	absolve, abrupt, absent
-able, -ible	Adjective: worth, ability	solvable, incredible
ac, acr	sharp, sour	acid, acrimony, accurate
-ac	one who	maniac, insomniac
act, ag:	do, act, drive	active, react, agent, active, agitate
-acy, -cy	Noun: state or quality	privacy, infancy, adequacy, intimacy, supremacy
-age	Noun: activity, or result of action	courage, suffrage, shrinkage, tonnage
agogos	leader, leading	demagogue
-al	Noun: action, result of action	referral, disavowal, disposal, festival
-al, -ial, -ical	Adjective: quality, relation	structural, territorial, categorical
ali, altr	another	alias, alienate, inalienable, altruism
alter	other	alternate
am, ami	love, like	amorous, amiable, amicable
ambi, amphi	both	ambiguous, ambivalent, amity
ambl, ambul	to walk	ambulatory, amble, ambulance, somnambulist, perambulator
an	without	anarchy
-an	Noun: person	artisan, guardian, historian, magician
-ance, -ence	Noun: action, state, quality or process	resistance, independence, extravagance, fraudulence
-ancy, -ency	Noun: state, quality or capacity	vacancy, agency, truancy, latency
anglus	English	Anglo-Saxon, anglophile
anim	mind, life, spirit, anger	animal, animate, animosity
ann, annu, enni,	yearly	annual, annual, annuity, anniversary, perennial
ant, ante	before	anterior, anteroom, antebellum, antedate, antecedent antediluvian
-ant, -ent	Noun: an agent, something that performs the action	disinfectant, dependent, fragrant
-ant, -ent, -ient	Adjective: kind of agent, indication	important, dependent, convenient
anthrop	human	anthropology, philanthropic
anti	against	antiestablishment, antebellum
anti, ant	against, opposite	antisocial, antiseptic, antithesis, antibody, antichrist, antinomies, antifreeze, antipathy
-ar, -ary	Adjective: resembling, related to	spectacular, unitary
astron, aster, astro	star	astronomy, asterisk, astronaut
-ate	Noun: state, office, fuction	candidate, electorate, delegate

-ate	Verb: cause to be	graduate, ameliorate, amputate, colligate
-ate	Adjective: kind of state	inviolate
-ation	Noun: action, resulting state	specialization, aggravation, alternation
auc, aug, aut	to originate, to increase	augment, author, augment, auction
aud, audi, aur	to hear	audience, auditory, audible, auditorium, audiovisual, audition, auricular
auto	self	automobile, automatic, automotive, autograph, autonomous, autoimmune
belli, bell	war	belligerent, bellicose, rebellion, antebellum
bene	good, well, gentle	benefactor, beneficial, benevolent, benediction, beneficiary, benefit
bi, bine	two	biped, bifurcate, biweekly, bivalve, biannual
bibli, biblio	book	bibliophile, bibliography
bio, bi	life	biography, biology
bon	good	bonfire
brev	short	abbreviate, brevity, brief
burs	money, purse	reimburse, disburse, bursar
cad, cap, cas, ceiv, cept, capt, cid, cip	to take, to seize, to hold	receive, deceive, capable, capacious, captive, accident, capture, occasion, concept
cap, cid	head	captain, decapitate, capitulate, precipitous, precipitate
carn	flesh	carnal, carnage, carnivorous, incarnate, carnival, incarnadine
cat, cata, cath	down, with	catalogue, category, catheter
ceas, cede, ceed, cess	to go, to yield	succeed, proceed, precede, recede, secession, exceed, succession
cent	hundred	centennial, century, centipede
centr	center	eccentricity, centrifugal, concentric
chrom	color	chrome, chromatic, monochrome
chron	time	chronology, chronic, chronicle, chronometer, anachronism
cide, cis	to kill, murder, to cut	fratricide, suicide, incision, excision, circumcision
circum	around	circle, circumnavigate, circumflex, circumstance, circumcision, circumference, circumlocution, circumvent, circumscribe, circulatory
clam, claim	shout	acclaim, clamor, proclaim, exclaim
clin	lean, bend, slope	decline, incline, inclination
clud, clus, claus	to close, shut	include, exclude, clause, claustrophobia, enclose, exclusive, reclusive, conclude
co, cog, col, con, com, cor	with, together	cohesiveness, cognate, collaborate, convene, commitment, compassion, compress, contemporary, converge, compact, confluence, contrite, convenient, concatenate, concur, conjoin, combine, correct
cogn, gnos	know to know	recognize, cognizant, diagnose, agnostic, ignorant, prognosticate
com, con, col	fully	collage, complete, compel, conscious, condense, confess, confirm
contra, counter	against, opposite	contradict, counteract, contravene, contrary, counterspy, contrapuntal, contraband
corp	body	corporate, corpse, corpulent, incorporate
cort	correct	escort, cortege
cosmo	world	cosmopolitan, cosmos, microcosm, macrocosm
cour, cur, curr, curs	run, course	occur, excursion, discourse, courier, course
crac, cret	rule, power	democracy, bureaucracy, theocracy, autocrat, aristocrat, technocrat

cre, cresc, cret, crease	grow	create, crescent, accretion, increase
cred	to believe, trust	credo, credible, credence, credit, credential, incredible, credulity, incredulous
cresc, cret	grow	crescent, crescendo, accretion
culp	blame, fault	culprit, culpable, inculpable
curr, curs	run	current, concur, cursory, precursor, incursion
cycl	circle, wheel	bicycle, cyclical, cycle
de	from, down, away, to do the opposite, against	detach, deploy, derange, decrease, deodorize, devoid, deflate, degenerate, deice
dec	ten, tenth	decimal, decade, decalogue, decathlon, decimate
dec, dign	suitable	decent decorate dignity
dei, div	God	divinity, divine, deity, divination, deify
demo, dem	people	democracy, demagogue, epidemic, pandemic, endemic
derma	skin	dermatology, hypodermic
dexter	skilled	dextrose, ambidextrous
di	two	divide, diverge
di, dis, dys, dif	away, not, negative, opposite of, separate	dismiss, differ, digress, disallow, disperse, dissuade, distract, divide, disconnect, dysfunction, disproportion, disrespect, distemper, distrust, distaste, divert, disarray, dyslexia
di, dium	day,	diary
dia	through, across, between	diameter, diagonal, dialogue dialect, dialectic, diagnosis, diachronic
dic, dict, dit	say, speak	predict, verdict, malediction, dictionary, dictate, dictum, diction, indict
dit	give	
doc, doct	teach, prove	docile, doctor, doctrine, document
dog, dox	thought, idea	dogma, orthodox, paradox
dol	pain	condolence, doleful, dolorous, indolent
dom	home, rule	domicile, dominate
-dom	Noun: place, state of being	wisdom
dono	give	donate
droit	right handed	adroit
duc, duct	to lead, pull	produce, abduct, product, transducer, viaduct, aqueduct, induct, deduct, reduce, induce, seduce,
e, ex, ef, es, ec	out, away, from, fully	emit, expulsion, exhale, exit, express, exclusive, enervate, expel ,exceed, explosion
ecto	outside, external	ectomorph, ectoderm, ectoplasm
-ed	Verb: past tense	attained
-ed	Adjective: having the quality of	terraced
ego	self	egoist, egocentric
-en	Verb: to cause to become	moisten
-en	Adjective: material	silken
en, em	in, into	enter, entice, encumber, endemic, entreat, enthrall, entreat embellish, embezzle, embroil, empathy
en, em	put into, make	enamor, empower
endo	inside, within	endotoxin, endoscope, endogenous

-ent	Adjective suffix	magnificent
epi	upon, beside, over	epilogue
equ	equal	equidistance, equilateral
equi	equal	equidistant, equilateral, equilibrium, equinox, equitable, equation, equator
-er	Adjective: comparative Noun: one who	brighter lover, kisser
-er, -or	Noun: person or thing that does something Verb: action	porter, collector ponder, clamor
err	wander	erratic, aberration, errant
-escent	growing, becoming	pubescent, iridescent
-est	Adjective: superlative	strongest
eu	well, good	eulogy, euphemism, euphony, euphoria, eurhythmic, euthanasia
ev, et	time, age	medieval, eternal
ex, e	out, out of, from	exit, except, excommunicate, exculpate emit, evoke, evict, elicit, egress
exter, extra, extro	outside of, beyond	external, extrinsic, exterior extraordinary, extrabiblical extracurricular, extrapolate, extraneous, extrovert
extra	beyond, outside	extracurricular, extramarital
fa, fess	speak	fable, fabulous, fame, famous, confess, profess
fac, fact, fec, fic, fas, fea, fect, fy	make do, do	factory, facilitate, benefactor, fiction, beneficent, affect, confection, magnify, unify, vilify, difficult, fashion, feasible, feature, factory, fact, effect
fal, fals	deceive	false, infallible, fallacious
femto	quadrillionth	femtosecond
fer	bear, carry	fertile, infer, refer
ferv	boil	fervent, fervid, effervescent
fic, feign, fain, fit, feat	shape, make, fashion	fiction, faint, feign
fid	belief, faith	confide, diffident, fidelity
fig	shape, form	figurine, effigy, figure, figment
flect, flex	to bend	flexible, reflection, deflect, circumflex
flict	strike	affliction, conflict, inflict
flu, fluct, flux	flow	effluence, influence, effluvium, fluctuate, confluence, reflux, influx, fluid
-fold	Adverb: in a manner of, marked by	fourfold
for, fore	before	forecast, forebode, forestall, fortune, foresee
form	shape	format, formulate
fort	strength	effort, forte, fortifiable
fract, frag, frai	break	frail, fracture, fragment
frat	brother	fraternity
fuge	flee	subterfuge, refuge, centrifuge
-ful	Noun: an amount or quantity that fills	mouthful
-ful	Adjective: having, giving, marked by	fanciful
fus, fuse	pour	profuse, infusion, effusive, diffuse
-fy	make	rectify, solidify
gamos	marriage	monogamy, bigamy, polygamy

gauche	clumsy	gauche
gen, gin	to give birth, kind, class	generate, generally, generation, congenital, homogeneous, ingenious gingerly, indigenous
geo	earth	geography
geras	old age	geriatric
giga	billion	gigabyte, gigaflop
gor	to gather, to bring together	category, categorize
grad, gress	step	graduate, gradual, retrograde, degrade, graduation, gradient, progress, digress, transgress, ingress, egress
graph, gram, graf	to write, draw	biography, bibliography, polygraph, grammar, epigram, biography, graphite, telegram, autograph, lithograph, historiography, graphic
grat	pleasing	grateful, gratitude, gratis, ingrate, congratulate, gratuitous, gratuity
grav, griev	heavy	grave, gravity, aggregate, grieve, aggrieve, grievous
gree	to gather, to bring together	degree
greg	crowd, flock	segregate, gregarious, congregate, aggregate, egregious
gyne	woman	gynecology, gynecologist, misogyny
habit, hibit	have, hold	habit, inhabit, cohabit, habitat
hap	by chance	happen, haphazard, hapless, mishap
helio	sun	helium
her, hes	to stick	adhere, hesitate
hetero	other	heterodox, heterogeneous, heterosexual, heterodyne
hex, ses, sex	six	hexagon, hexameter, sestet, sextuplets
hol	whole	holocaust, catholic, holistic
hex, ses, sex	six	hexagon, hexameter, sestet, sextuplets
hol	whole	holocaust, catholic, holistic
homo	same	homogenized, homosexual, homonym, homophone
homo	man	homo sapiens, homicide
hydra	water	hydrant, hydrate, dehydrate
hyper	over, above	hyperactive, hypertensive, hyperbole, hyperbolic, hypersensitive, hyperventilate, hyperkinetic
hypo	too little, under	hypodermic, hypothermia, hypochondria, hypothesis, hypothetical
-ia	Noun: names, diseases	phobia
-ian, an	Noun: related to, one that is	pedestrian, human
-iatry	Noun: art of healing	psychiatry
-ible	can be, able to be	incredible
-ic	Adjective: quality, relation	generic
-ic, ics	Noun: related to the arts and sciences, quality relation to	arithmetic, economics generic, phobic
-ice	Noun: act	malice
ician	expert	physician, musician
-ify	Verb: cause	specify
-ile	Adjective: having the qualities of	projectile

in, im, il, ir, intro	in, into, on, near, toward	invade, introvert, ingress, infer, imbue, irrigate, irritate, instead, import
in, im, il, ir, ig	not	illegible, irresolute, irregular, ignorant, illicit, immutable, impotentiation, inviolate, innocuous, intractable, innocent, impregnable, impossible, imposter, ignoble, inept, illegal
-ine	like, descriptive of	
infra	beneath	infrared, infrastructure
-ing	Noun: material made for, activity, result of an activity	flooring, swimming, building
-ing	Verb: present participle	depicting
-ing	Adjective: activity	cohering
inter	between, among	international, intercept, intersect, interject, intermission, internal, intermittent, intervene
intra	within	interstate, intravenous, intrinsic, intramural
intro	into, within	interoffice, introvert, introspection, introduce
-ion	Noun: condition or action	abduction
-ish	Adjective: having the character of	garish
-ism	Noun: doctrine, belief, action or conduct	alcoholism, terrorism, formalism
-ist	Noun: person or member	podiatrist
it, iter	between, among	transit, itinerant, reiterate, transitory
-ite	Noun: state or quality	graphite
-itis	inflammation	sinusitis, neuritis
-ity, ty	Noun: state or quality	lucidity, novelty
ium	place where	atrium, auditorium
-ive	Noun: condition	native
-ive, -ative, -itive	Adjective: having the quality of	festive, cooperative, sensitive
-ize	Verb: cause	fantasize
-ize	verb suffix	popularize, colorize
ject, jet	to throw	reject, eject, project, trajectory, interject, dejected, inject, ejaculate, jettison
jour	day	journal, adjourn, sojourn
ject, jet	to throw	reject, eject, project, trajectory, interject, dejected, inject, ejaculate, jettison
jour	day	journal, adjourn, sojourn
jud	judge	judge, judicious, prejudice, adjudicate
jug, junct,	to join	junction, adjust, conjugal, injunction, subjugate
jur	swear, law	jury, adjure, conjure, perjure, jurisprudence
kakos	harsh, bad, ugly	cacophony, cacography
kardia	heart	cardiology, cardiovascular
labor	work	laborious
lect, leg, lig	choose, gather, select, read	collect, legible, eligible
-less	Adjective: without, missing	motiveless

lex, leag, leg	law	legal, college, league
lide	strike	
lingua	tongue	lingual, bilingual
loc	place, area	location, locally
locu, loqui	speak	elocution, loquacious, soliloquy
log	say, speech, word, reason, study	logic
logos(ology)	science, study, word	psychology, zoology, meteorology
luna	moon	lunar, lunatic
luc, lum, lust:	light	translucent, illuminate, illustrate
lude	play	
-ly	Adverb: in the manner of	fluently
mag	large, great	magnanimous
mal	bad, badly	malformation, maladjusted, dismal, malady, malcontent, malfunction, malfeasance, maleficent
man, manu	hand, make, do	manage, management
mania	madness	egomania, megalomania
mater	mother	matricide
medi	middle	
megam magna	great, million	megaphone, megaton, megaflop, megalomaniac, megabyte, megalopolis, magnanimous
mem	recall, remember	memory, commemorate
ment	mind	mental, mention
-ment	noun suffix attached to verb	excitement, judgment
-ment	Noun: condition or result	document
meso	middle	mesomorph, mesoamerica, mesosphere
meta	beyond, change	metaphor, metamorphosis, metabolism, metahistorical, metainformation
meter, metr	admeasure	thermometer, metronome
micro	millionth	microgram, microvolt
mill, kilo	thousand	millennium, kilobyte, kiloton
milli	thousandth	millisecond, milligram, millivolt
min	little, small	minute, minor, minuscule
mis	wrong, bad, badly	misconduct, misinform, misinterpret, mispronounce, misnomer, mistake, misogynist
mit, miss	to send	transmit, permit, missile, missionary, remit, admit, missive, mission
mob, mov, mot	move	motion, remove, mobile
mono	one	monopoly, monotype, monologue, mononucleosis, monorail, monotheist,
morph	shape	polymorphic, morpheme, amorphous
-mony	Noun suffix	Alimony
multi	many	multitude, multipartite, multiply, multipurpose
nano	billionth	nanosecond, nanobucks
nano	billionth	nanosecond, nanobucks
nasc, nat, gnant, nai	to be born	nascent, native, pregnant, naive
nautes	sailor	astronaut, aquanaut
ne, neg	negative	negative, negate, never

-ness	Noun: state, condition, quality	kindness, sharpness
nom, nym	name	nominate, synonym
non	nine	nonagon
non	not	nonferrous, nonsense, nonabrasive, nondescript
nov	new	novice, novelty
ob, oc, of, op	toward, against, in the way	oppose, occur, offer, obtain, obstacle
oct	eight	octopus, octagon, octogenarian, octave
odontos	tooth	orthodontist
omni	all	omnipotent, omnivorous, omniscient
oper	work	operate, opus
-or	Noun: condition or activity	valor
ortho	straight	orthodontist, orthopedic
-ory	Noun: place for, serves for	territory, factory
osteo	bone	osteopath, osteoporosis
-ous, -eous, -ose, -ious	Adjective: having the quality of, relating to	adventurous, courageous, verbose, fractious
over	excessive, above	overwork, overall, overwork
pair, pare	arrange	
par	equal	parity
para	beside	paradox, paraprofessional, paramedic, paraphrase, parachute
pat, pass, path	feel, suffer	patient, passion, sympathy, pathology
pathos	suffering, disease	pathology
ped, pod	foot	impede, pedestal, podium, pedestrian
pel, puls	drive, push	repel, pulse
pend, pond, pens	to hang, weigh	suspend, append
per	through, intensive	persecute, permit, perspire, perforate, persuade
peri	around, about	periscope, perimeter, perigee, periodontal, peripheral
phan, phas, phen, fan, phant, fant	show, make visible	phantom, fantasy
phe	speak	
phil	love	philosopher, bibliophile
phobia	morbid dread	hydrophobia, xenophobia
phon	sound	telephone, phonics, phonograph, phonetic, homophone, microphone
phot	light	photograph, photosynthesis, photon
psyche	spirit, mind, soul	psychotherapy, psychiatry,
pico	trillionth	picofarad, picocurie
pict	paint, show, draw	picture, depict
plac	please	placate
pli, ply	fold	reply, implicate, ply
plore	weep	
poly	many	polytheist, polygon, polygamy, polymorphous
pon, pos	put, place	postpone, position, posture
port	to carry	porter, portable, report, transportation, deport, import, export

post	after, behind	postpone, postdate, postmortem
pre, pur	before	precede, premonition
prim, prin	first	
This is not MLA Style as required. Use MLA style.	before	precede, premonition
prim, prin	first	
pro	for, forward	propel, proponent
pseudo	false, seeming	
psych	mind	psychology
pute	think	
quat, quad	four	quadrangle, quadruplets
quint, penta	five	quintet, quintuplets, pentagon, pentane, pentameter
quip	ship	
quir, quis, quest, quer	seek, ask	query, inquire, exquisite, quest
re	back, again	report, realign, retract, revise, regain, review, redeem
retro	backwards	retrorocket, retrospect, retrogression, retroactive
rex, regis	king	regal
rupt	break	rupture, corrupt, interrupt
sanct	holy	sanctify, sanctuary, sanction, sanctimonious, sacrosanct
sci, scio	to know	conscious, science
scrib, script	to write	inscription, prescribe, proscribe, manuscript, conscript, scribble, scribe
se	apart, move away from	secede, seclude
sect, sec	cut	intersect, transect, dissect, secant, section
semi	half	semifinal, semiconscious, semiannual, semimonthly, semicircle
sent, sens	feel, think	sentiment, sensation
sept	seven	septet, septennial
sequ, secut, sue	follow	sequence, consecutive, ensue
serve	keep	
-ship	Noun: status, condition	relationship
sist	to withstand, make up	insist
soci	to join, companions	sociable, society
sol	alone	solitary, isolate
sol	sun	solar, solarium
solv, solu, solut	loosen, explain	solve, absolute, soluble
sophos	wise	philosopher, sophistry
soror	sister	sorority
spect, spec, spi, spic,	to look, see	inspect, spectator, circumspect, retrospect, prospect, spectacle
sper	hope	
spir	breath, soul	respiration, inspire
stand, stant, stab, stat, stan, sti, sta, st, stead	stand	stature, establish, stance
-ster	person	
strain, strict, string, stige	bind, pull	constrict, restrain, stringent, prestige
stru, struct, stroy, stry	build	destroy, misconstrue, obstruct

sub, suc, suf, sup, sur, sus	under, below, from, secretly, instead of	sustain, survive, support, suffice, succeed, submerge, submarine, substandard, subnormal, subvert, surmount
super, supra	over, above	superior, suprarenal, superscript, supernatural, superimpose, supersede
sur	over, above, more	surcharge, surface, surmise
syn, sym	together, at the same time, with	sympathy, synthesis, synchronous, syndicate
tact, tang, tig, ting	touch	tactile, tactilely, tangible, contiguous, contingent
tain, ten, tent, tin	hold, keep, have	retain, continue, content, tenacious
tect, teg	cover	detect, protect, tegular, tegument
tele	distance, from afar	television, telephone, telegraph, telemetry
temp	time	contemporary, tempo
tend, tens, tend	stretch	contend, extensive
tele	distance, from afar	television, telephone, telegraph, telemetry
temp	time	contemporary, tempo
tend, tens, tend	stretch	contend, extensive
tera	trillion	terabyte, teraflop
term	end, boundary, limit	exterminate, terminal
terr	earth	territory, terrain
test	see, witness	attest, testify
theo, the	God	theology, theist, polytheist
therm	heat	thermometer, thermal
tire	draw, pull	
tor, tors, tort	twist	torsion, torment, contort
tract, trai, treat	to drag, draw, pull	attract, tractor, traction, extract, retract, protract, detract, subtract, contract, intractable
trans	across, beyond, change	transform, transoceanic, transmit, transport, transducer, transpose
trepid	to tremble	intrepid, trepidation
tri	three	tripod, triangle, trinity, trilateral
tribute	give	
-tude	Noun suffix	altitude, multitude
un	not, against, opposite	unceasing, unwelcome
uni	one	uniform, unilateral, universal, unity, unanimous, unite, unison
unti	before	until
urb	city	suburb, urban
-ure	Noun: act, condition, process, function	exposure, conjecture
vac	empty	vacant, vacuum
vade	go	
veh, vect	to carry	vector, vehicle, convection, vehement
ven, vent	come	convene, invent, prevent
ver	true	verify
verb, verv	word	verify, veracity, verbalize, verve
vert, vers	to turn, change	convert, revert, advertise, versatile, vertigo, invert, reversion, extravert, introvert
vi	way	
vid, vie, vis	see	visible, video, review, indivisible
vit, vita, viv	life	vital, vitality, vitamins, revitalize, revive

voc, voke	call, voice	vocal, revoke
volv, volt, vol	roll, turn	revolve, revolt, evolution
-ward	Adverb: in a direction or manner	homeward
-wise	Adverb: in the manner of, with regard to	timewise
with	against	
-y	Noun: state, condition, result of an activity	society, victory
-y	Adjective: marked by, having	hungry