

# 120 Roots that You Should Know

(Along with a few affixes)

	Root	Meaning	Examples
1	quis, quer	ask	query, inquisition,
2	meta, met	behind, between	metacognition—behind the thinking
3	dox	belief, opinion	orthodoxy, paradox, heterodoxy
4	cred	believe	credible, credulous, credibility, credit, credo
5	hemo, hema, hem	blood	hemophilia, hematology, hemoglobin
6	corp	body	corpus, corpse, corporal
7	biblio	book	bibliography, bibliophile
8	amphi	both ends or all sides	amphibian
9	spir	breathe	inspire, respiration, conspire, perspiration
10	frater	brother	fraternal, fraternize
11	voc	call	revoke, invocation, vocal, evocative, convocation
12	port	carry	portable, transport, portage, report,
13	mut	change	mutant, mutability, mutate
14	arch	chief, leader, ruler	archangel, monarch, archaic, archenemy
15	scent, scend	climb	ascend, ascent
16	spir	coil	spiral
17	chrom-	color	chromatic, monochrome, polychrome
18	ven, vent	come, go	intervene, convene, contravene
19	cord/chord	cord	harpsichord
20	sciss	cut	scissors
21	sec, sect	cut	dissect, section
22	mor, mort	death	mortal, mortician, immortality
23	schizo, schiz	division, split	schizophrenic
24	geo-	earth	geopolitical, geology, geography, geothermal
25	terr	earth	subterranean, terrain, terrestrial, disinter
26	vac	empty	vacation, vacuum, vacuous, vacant
27	equ	equal	equal, equity, equanimity, equate, equidistant
28	iso	equal, identical	isolate
29	pater	father	paternal, paternity, patricide, patrilineal, patriotic
30	sens, sent	feel, be aware	sensible, sentient
31	path	feeling, suffering	sympathy, apathy, empathy, telepathy, pathology
32	pod	feet	podiatrist
33	pugna	fight	pugnacious, pugilist
34	plan	flat	planar, plantation, plane
35	sequ, secu	follow	sequence, sequel, consecutive
36	ped, pod	foot	pedal, pedometer, centipede, gastropod
37	morph	form, structure	metamorphosis, amorphous, morphology
38	dei	god	deity, deify
39	theo	god, deity	theology, polytheism, atheist, monotheism
40	culp	guilt	culpable, culprit
41	man	hand	manufacture, manual, manuscript
42	pend	hang, weigh	pendulum, pendant, suspend, pending
43	therm-	heat	thermal, thermos, thermometer
44	crypt	hidden	cryptogram, cryptology, cryptic

45	<b>ten, tent</b>	hold	tentative, tenable, tenuous
46	<b>anthrop</b>	human, man	anthropology, anthropomorphic, misanthrope
47	<b>arthro</b>	joint	arthritis
48	<b>jud</b>	judge	judicial, judge, adjudicate
49	<b>cogn, sci</b>	know	recognize, cognitive, incognito, scientific
50	<b>magn</b>	large	magnify, magnate, magnificent
51	<b>duc, duct</b>	lead	induce, deduce, seduction, conduct, abduct
52	<b>liter</b>	letter	literature, illiterate, literal
53	<b>bio-</b>	life	biography, autobiography, biology, antibiotic
54	<b>vit</b>	life	vital, revitalize, vitamin
55	<b>luc</b>	light	lucid, elucidate
56	<b>spec, spic</b>	look, see	spectacles, spectator, inauspicious, prospect
57	<b>ami, amic-</b>	love	amiable, amicable
58	<b>pneum</b>	lung	pneumatic
59	<b>fac</b>	make, do	manufacture, factory, benefactor
60	<b>gam-</b>	marriage	monogamy, polygamy, bigamy
61	<b>metri, meter-</b>	measure	geometric, thermometer, odometer
62	<b>carn</b>	meat	carnivorous, chili con carne
63	<b>mater</b>	mother	maternal, maternity, matriarchy, matricide
64	<b>mob, mot, mov</b>	move	mobile, automobile, motion, promote, movie
65	<b>nomen /nomin</b>	name	nominal, nominate, nomenclature
66	<b>neuro</b>	nerve	neurology, neurosis, neurobiology
67	<b>nov</b>	new	novel, renovate, innovation, novella
68	<b>alter</b>	other	alternate, alter ego
69	<b>mere</b>	part, segment	mere
70	<b>pac</b>	peace	pacify, Pacific Ocean, pacifist
71	<b>demo-</b>	people	demography, democracy, epidemic
72	<b>loc</b>	place	local, location
73	<b>dynam-</b>	power	dynamo, hydrodynamics
74	<b>pot</b>	power	potent, omnipotent, potentate
75	<b>spond, spons</b>	promise, answer for	respond, responsible
76	<b>pel, puls</b>	push	pulsate, repulsive, impulse, compel, propel
77	<b>leg, lect</b>	read, choose	legible, lectern, lecturer, election
78	<b>crac, crat</b>	rule, ruler	autocrat, democracy, bureaucrat, democracy
79	<b>simil</b>	same	similar, assimilate, simile, facsimile (fax)
80	<b>mar</b>	sea	marine, mariner
81	<b>ego</b>	self	egotist, egomania
82	<b>mit, miss</b>	send	permit, submission, mission, emit,
83	<b>serv</b>	serve, protect	service
84	<b>crusta</b>	shell	crustacean
85	<b>brev</b>	short	brief, abbreviate
86	<b>sed, sess</b>	sit	sedentary, session
87	<b>derm-</b>	skin	dermatology, epidermis, hypodermic
88	<b>min</b>	small	minority, minuscule, minute
89	<b>psych-</b>	soul, spirit, mind	psychology, psychic, psychobiography
90	<b>aud</b>	sound	auditorium, audible, audiologist, audiotape
91	<b>son</b>	sound	sonar, resonate, unison
92	<b>phon-, phono-</b>	sound, voice	telephone, euphony, cacophony, phonograph
93	<b>dic</b>	speak, say	dictate, predict, diction, indict
94	<b>stat</b>	stay, position	station
95	<b>grad, gress</b>	step	gradual, progression, transgression
96	<b>ortho-</b>	straight, correct	orthodox, orthodontist, orthopedic

97	<b>sol</b>	sun	solar
98	<b>cap</b>	take, seize	capture, captivate, capacity
99	<b>fil</b>	threadlike	filament
100	<b>ject</b>	throw	inject, reject, subject, projection
101	<b>chron-</b>	time	chronicle, chronology, chronometer, synchronize
102	<b>temp</b>	time	temporary, temporize
103	<b>dent, odonto</b>	tooth	dentist, dentifrice, dentin, orthodontist
104	<b>tang, tact</b>	touch	tactile, tangible
105	<b>ver</b>	truth	veracity, verify, verity
106	<b>siphon</b>	tube	siphon
107	<b>vert</b>	turn	introvert, irreversible, vertigo
108	<b>duo</b>	two	duo
109	<b>bell</b>	war	belligerent, bellicose
110	<b>mon</b>	warn	premonition, admonition
111	<b>aqua, aque, hydro, hydr</b>	water	aquatic, aquarium, dehydrate, hydraulics, hydroelectric
112	<b>holo</b>	whole, entire	holograph
113	<b>soph</b>	wisdom, knowledge	philosophy, sophisticated, sophomore (wise fool)
114	<b>gyn-</b>	woman	gynecologist, androgynous
115	<b>log</b>	word	monologue, epilogue
116	<b>nym, onym</b>	word, name	synonym, acronym, anonymous, pseudonym
117	<b>scrib, script</b>	write	manuscript, scribe, proscribe, scripture
118	<b>graph-</b>	writing, printing	graphology, biography, telegraph, geography
119	<b>ann, enni</b>	year	anniversary, annual, biennial, perennial
120	<b>ced</b>	yield, go	recede, secede, proceed, intercede, concession

	<b>Prefix</b>	<b>Meaning</b>	<b>Examples</b>
1	<b>a-, an-</b>	not, without	amoral, anesthetic, apolitical, asocial
2	<b>ab-</b>	away from	abduction, abstain, abnormal
3	<b>ad-</b>	to, toward	adjoin, adjacent (lying near to)
4	<b>ambi-</b>	both	ambidextrous, ambivalent
5	<b>ana-</b>	up, back, again	analogy, anatomy, anagram
6	<b>anti-</b>	against	antipathy, antiwar, antisocial
7	<b>apo-</b>	from, away from	apology, apologize
8	<b>auto-</b>	self	autobiography, automobile, autocracy, automaton
9	<b>bene-</b>	good	benediction benevolent benefactor
10	<b>cata-, cat-</b>	down, against	catastrophe--a turning down
11	<b>centro, centri-</b>	around, center	concentric, centrifugal
12	<b>circum-</b>	around	circumlocution circumference, circumvent
13	<b>com-</b>	with, together	communal, community
14	<b>con-</b>	with, together	connect, confide conspire
15	<b>contra-</b>	against	contradict, contravene
16	<b>de-</b>	down, away	descend, deject (cast down)
17	<b>dia-, di-</b>	through, across	diameter, division
18	<b>dis-</b>	apart, not	disengage, discord, discomfort
19	<b>dys-</b>	ill, difficult, bad	dysfunctional, dysentery
20	<b>e-</b>	out of, from	elect (choose out of), eject (throw out)
21	<b>ecto-</b>	on the outside	ectoderm--outer skin
22	<b>en-, em-</b>	in	empathy--feeling in
23	<b>endo-</b>	within, inside	endoscope--instrument for observing inside

24	<b>epi-</b>	upon	epitaph epidermis, epicenter
25	<b>eso-</b>	inward, within	esoteric--more inward, esophagus
26	<b>eu-</b>	well, good	euthanasia--good death
27	<b>ex-</b>	out of, from	exhume, exhale, exodus
28	<b>hetero-</b>	other, different	heterosexual, heterodoxy, heterodox heterogeneous
29	<b>homo-</b>	same	homosexual, homogeneous, homogenized
30	<b>hyper-</b>	over	hypertension, hypersensitive, hyperactivity
31	<b>hypo-</b>	under	hypotension, hypodermic
32	<b>il-</b>	not	illegitimate, illicit, illegal, illegible
33	<b>im-</b>	not	imperfect, impolite, impossible
34	<b>im-</b>	into	imbibe (drink in, take in)
35	<b>in-</b>	not	indiscreet, invisible
36	<b>in-</b>	into	incorporate (take into the body)
37	<b>inter-</b>	between	intervene (come between), interstate
38	<b>intra-</b>	within	intrastate, intramural
39	<b>ir-</b>	not	irregular, irrational, irredeemable
40	<b>macro-</b>	large	macrocosm, macroeconomics
41	<b>mal, male-</b>	bad, evil	malediction malevolent, malnutrition
42	<b>meta-</b>	beyond	metaphysical
43	<b>micro-</b>	small	microscope, microcosm, microeconomics
44	<b>mono-</b>	one, single	monologue, monotheism, monarchy, monogamy
45	<b>neo-</b>	new, recent	neologism, neo-liberal, neonatology. neolithic
46	<b>ob-</b>	against	object, obstruct (build against)
47	<b>palin-, pali-</b>	back, again	palindrome
48	<b>pan-</b>	all, every	pantheism, Pan-Hellenic, panorama, pandemic
49	<b>per-</b>	through	percolate (flow through) perforate (punch through)
50	<b>peri-</b>	around	perimeter, periscope
51	<b>phil-, philo-</b>	like, lover of	philosophy, Francophile, bibliophile, philanthropy
52	<b>poly-</b>	many, several	polygon, polygamy, polytechnic, polytheism
53	<b>post-</b>	after	postgraduate, posthumous postpone
54	<b>pre-</b>	before	precede, predict (tell before)
55	<b>pro-</b>	for, forward	promote, project
56	<b>pros-</b>	toward, in front	prospect—view in front, something coming up
57	<b>proto-</b>	first	prototype, protoplasm, protobiology
58	<b>pseudo, para-</b>	false, fake	pseudonym, pseudoscience, paramilitary, paralegal, parachute
59	<b>re-</b>	again, back	repeat, recede, regress (step back)
60	<b>retro-</b>	back	retrogression, retroactive
61	<b>se-</b>	away from	seduce (lead away), secede
62	<b>sub-</b>	under	submarine, subject, subhuman subterranean
63	<b>sur-, super-</b>	over, above	superhuman, superego, superintend, surpass
64	<b>syn-, sym-, syl-, sys-</b>	with, together	symphony, synonym, system, syllable
65	<b>tele-</b>	distant, far off	telephone, telepathy, television, telegram
66	<b>trans-</b>	across	transient, Transatlantic, transport (carry across)

	<b>Suffix</b>	<b>Definition</b>	<b>Examples</b>
1	<b>-agog, -agogue</b>	leader	demagogue, pedagogue
2	<b>-cide</b>	kill(ing)	patricide, infanticide, herbicide. suicide
3	<b>-ectomy</b>	cutting	appendectomy, splenectomy
4	<b>-ia, -y</b>	act, state	amnesia, mania, democracy, anarchy
5	<b>-ic, -tic, -ical, -ac</b>	having to do with	anthropomorphic, dramatic, biblical, cardiac
6	<b>-ics</b>	things having to do with	optics, physics
7	<b>-isk, -iscus</b>	small	asterisk--a little star
8	<b>-ism</b>	the belief in	pacifism, terrorism, socialism, communism
9	<b>-ist</b>	one who believes in	pacifist, terrorist, socialist, communist
10	<b>-ite</b>	one connected with	meteorite, polite, cosmopolite
11	<b>-logy</b>	study field of	biology, geology, etymology, cardiology
12	<b>-oid</b>	resembling, like-shaped	asteroid, spheroid
13	<b>-or, -er</b>	one who takes part in	doctor, actor, teacher, driver
14	<b>-phobia</b>	exaggerated fear	photophobia, claustrophobia, agoraphobia
15	<b>-sis</b>	act, state, condition of	analysis