

Root Words List

Expanding Your Vocabulary



Root Word	Meaning	Examples
Aqua	Water	Aquarium, Aquatic
Bio	Life	Biology, Biography
Chron	Time	Chronology, Synchronize
Dict	Say	Dictate, Contradict
Geo	Earth	Geography, Geology
Graph	Write	Autograph, Graphology
Hydro	Water	Hydrate, Hydroplane
Logy	Study of	Biology, Geology
Meter	Measure	Thermometer, Kilometer
Path	Feeling, Disease	Pathology, Empathy
Phil	Love	Philosophy, Bibliophile
Phobia	Fear	Claustrophobia, Acrophobia
Photo	Light	Photograph, Photosynthesis
Port	Carry	Transport, Portable
Psych	Mind	Psychology, Psychopath
Scope	Look	Telescope, Microscope
Tele	Far	Telephone, Telegraph
Therm	Heat	Thermometer, Thermal

Root Word	Meaning	Examples
Auto	Self	Autobiography, Autopilot
Aero	Air	Aerodynamics, Aeronautics
Arch	Chief, Primary	Monarch, Archaeology
Biblio	Book	Bibliography, Bibliophile
Cide	Kill	Pesticide, Homicide
Cracy	Rule	Democracy, Theocracy
Derm	Skin	Dermatology, Epidermis
Ethno	Race, Culture	Ethnography, Ethnocentric
Gastro	Stomach	Gastronomy, Gastroenterologist
Gen	Origin, Race	Generation, Genealogy
Helio	Sun	Heliotrope, Heliocentric
Herb	Grass	Herbivore, Herbal
Loco	Place	Location, Relocate
Mania	Madness	Kleptomania, Pyromania
Morph	Form	Metamorphosis, Morphology
Neo	New	Neolithic, Neonatal
Ortho	Straight	Orthodontist, Orthopedic
Pan	All	Panorama, Pantheism
Penta	Five	Pentagon, Pentagram
Poly	Many	Polygamy, Polygon
Proto	First	Prototype, Protozoan
Pseudo	FALSE	Pseudonym, Pseudoscience
Psycho	Soul	Psychiatry, Psychosomatic
Pter	Wing	Pterodactyl, Helicopter

Root Word	Meaning	Examples
Pyro	Fire	Pyrotechnics, Pyromania
Soph	Wisdom	Philosophy, Sophomore
Sphere	Ball	Atmosphere, Biosphere
Theo	God	Theology, Theocracy
Tox	Poison	Toxic, Antitoxin
Zo	Animal	Zoology, Protozoa
Centri	Center	Centrifuge, Egocentric
Chrom	Color	Chromatic, Monochrome
Cycl	Circle	Bicycle, Cyclical
Gam	Marriage	Monogamist, Polygamy
Gon	Angle	Pentagon, Octagon
Gyn	Woman	Gynecology, Misogynist
Lith	Stone	Monolith, Paleolithic
Matri	Mother	Matrimony, Matriarch
Mega	Large	Megabyte, Megaphone
Paleo	Old	Paleontology, Paleolithic
Path	Feeling	Pathetic, Empathy
Ped	Foot	Pedestrian, Pedal
Phono	Sound	Phonograph, Microphone
Pod	Foot	Podiatry, Tripod
Tact	Touch	Tactile, Contact
Typo	Print	Typewriter, Typography
Vid	See	Video, Evident