

# Rootwords

What is a root word?



A root word is the basic word after all the affixes of the word are taken away.

For example: The root word of 'disappear' is 'appear'. The affix is dis. The root word of 'misspell' is 'spell' and the affix is mis.



## I. Find the root word of the following.

1. dissatisfaction = \_\_\_\_\_
2. unhappiness = \_\_\_\_\_
3. nonsense = \_\_\_\_\_
4. mismanagement = \_\_\_\_\_
5. unbearable = \_\_\_\_\_
6. mismatch = \_\_\_\_\_
7. unpardonable = \_\_\_\_\_
8. rethink = \_\_\_\_\_
9. irresponsible = \_\_\_\_\_
10. wonderment = \_\_\_\_\_

## II. What are the affixes you took away from Exercise I?

1. \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_
7. \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_
8. \_\_\_\_\_
9. \_\_\_\_\_
10. \_\_\_\_\_

Here are some root words and their meanings which are taken from Greek or Latin.



aqua, aque = water  
arch = leader  
aud = sound  
bio = life  
chrom = color  
chron = time  
cogn = know  
dou = two

fac = make, do  
gam = marriage  
ped = foot  
hem = blood  
pater = father  
mater = mother  
liter = letter  
magn = large

man = hand  
min = small  
port = carry  
theo = god  
vac = empty  
ver = truth  
vit = life  
simil = same

## III. Look at the words below and find out what they refer to. Check the list above.



1. paternity = \_\_\_\_\_
2. pedicure = \_\_\_\_\_
3. cognitive = \_\_\_\_\_
4. literary = \_\_\_\_\_
5. vitality = \_\_\_\_\_
6. vacuum = \_\_\_\_\_
7. magnificent = \_\_\_\_\_
8. chromatic = \_\_\_\_\_
9. chronograph = \_\_\_\_\_
10. patriarch = \_\_\_\_\_

11. biology = \_\_\_\_\_
12. monogamy = \_\_\_\_\_
13. transport = \_\_\_\_\_
14. veracity = \_\_\_\_\_
15. audible = \_\_\_\_\_
16. maternal = \_\_\_\_\_
17. theology = \_\_\_\_\_
18. hemophilia = \_\_\_\_\_
19. aqueduct = \_\_\_\_\_
20. factory = \_\_\_\_\_

21. simile = \_\_\_\_\_
22. minimal = \_\_\_\_\_
23. vacation = \_\_\_\_\_
24. verify = \_\_\_\_\_
25. antibiotic = \_\_\_\_\_
26. revitalize = \_\_\_\_\_
27. duet = \_\_\_\_\_
28. pedal = \_\_\_\_\_
29. illiterate = \_\_\_\_\_
30. monarch = \_\_\_\_\_