



Common Prefixes, Suffixes, and Roots

Prefixes:

Prefix	Meaning	Example
a-	without	amoral, atheist
ad-	to, toward	administer, admonition
anti-	against	antibody, antimatter
circum-	around	circumnavigate
com-, con-, co-	with	coauthor, contact, compromise
counter-	against	counterplot, counteract
de-	down	defame, demerit
dis-	apart	discard, distance
equi-	equal	equivocal, equidistant
inter-	between	interstate, intersection
mal-	bad, badly	malpractice, malevolent
sym-, syn-	with	symmetrical, synthesis

Suffixes:

Suffix	Meaning	Example
-fy	make	purify, mollify
-ism	belief or practice in	realism, deism
-ous	full of	dangerous
-ship	condition, position, skill/ability	fellowship, lordship, leadership
-tion	skill/ability	starvation, rejection
-tude	action or state of being	magnitude, longitude

Roots:

Root	Meaning	Example
dic, dict	say, speak	diction, predict
graph	write/draw	autograph, graphic design
met/meter	measure	metric, kilometer
pan	all	pantheism, pandemonium
pseudo	false	pseudonym
vis	see, view	vision, visible