Prefix-Suffix-Root List by Grade Level 2012-2013

The following lists are not all-inclusive. They are a minimum students at each grade level should read and understand how to use and apply by the current school year's end. Others may be added based on your classroom of students and units of study.

Prefix - A word part added to the beginning of a root or base word to create a new meaning,
Suffix - A letter or a group of letters added to the end of a root or base word to change its meaning,
Root - the form of a word after all affixes are removed
(Generally, prefixes and suffixes change the meanings of roots, but it is usually the suffix that denotes the part of speech.)

1st Grade

Prefix	Suffix	Definition	Examples	Origin	Additional Information
	-s, -es	plural, more than one	hats, pigs, books, plays, boxes, wishes, dishes, cliffs, roofs, beliefs knives, leaves, halves, selves	Anglo-Saxon	y after a vowel (s) words end in –s, -sh, -ch, -x, -z (-es) nouns ending –f or –fe (s) -f or –fe change –f to –v and add –es consonant followed by –o (-es) vowel followed by –o (-s)
	-ing	action or process	helping, skipping, running, seeing, thinking	Anglo-Saxon	Present participle of verb
	-ed	past tense	jumped, helped	Anglo-Saxon	Past tense verb
	-er	person connected with, comparative degree	teacher, writer, baker, bigger, colder, taller	Anglo-Saxon	

2nd Grade

Prefix	Suffix	Definition	Examples	Origin	Additional Information
un-		not, opposite of	unlock, unsafe, uncover	Anglo-Saxon	
re-		again, back	reread, rewrite, return	Latin	
	-er, or*	person connected with, comparative degree	teacher, writer, baker, bigger, colder, taller	Anglo-Saxon	
	-est	superlative degree	biggest, coldest, tallest	Anglo-Saxon	Usually an adjective
	-ful	full of	beautiful, painful	Anglo-Saxon	Usually an adjective
	-less	without	careless, helpless	Anglo-Saxon	

*review and amend from previous grade-level

3rd Grade

Prefix	Suffix	Root	Definition	Examples	Origin	Additional Information
in-			not	inactive, income	Latin	
im-			not	impossible, improper, import	Latin	im- used before roots beginning with b, m, p
dis-			not, opposite of	dislike, distrust, disagree	Latin	
pre-			before	pretest, preplan, premade	Latin	
tele-			far, distant	telephone, telegraph, television	Greek	
	-ies		plural, more than one	parties, babies, cries	Anglo-Saxon	y after a consonant
	-ied		past tense	cried, tried,	Anglo-Saxon	y after a consonant
	-ed*		past tense	stopped, hopped	Anglo-Saxon	doubling (CVC)
	-ing*		action, process	stopping, hopping	Anglo-Saxon	doubling (CVC)
	-ly		characteristic of	badly, friendly, quickly	Anglo-Saxon	Usually an adverb
	-y		characterized by, like	cloudy, fishy	Anglo-Saxon	
		bio	life	biology, biography, antibiotic	Greek	This Greek word continues to contribute new words to the English language nearly every year. It's meaning, 'life'. is so universally recognized, that BIOS is readily combined with other root words to coin new scientific terms.
		graph	write	telegraph, photograph, phonograph, autograph	Greek	Let someone present a research report on Thomas Edison's early days as a telegrapher.
		phone	sound	phonograph, symphony, telephone, microphone, phonics	Greek	The original sound recording machines had needles which 'wrote' (scratched or cut) sounds on a wax surface, so phonograph was a good word to describe the process.
		sk(c)ope	see, look, consider, examine	microscope, telescope, bishop, periscope, stethoscope, kaleidoscope	Greek	The Greek alphabet had no letter 'c'. They had a 'kappa' which made the same hard 'c' or 'k' sound we have in our alphabet.

*review and amend from previous grade-level

4th Grade						
Prefix	Suffix	Root	Definition	Examples	Origin	Additional Information
non-			not	nonfat, nonsense	Latin	
over-			too much, above	overdone, overhead	Anglo Saxon	
mis-			bad or badly wrong or wrongly	misbehave, misread, misspell	Latin	
de-			reduce down away from	defeat, deform, decrease	Latin	
under-			too little, below	underfed, underground	Anglo-Saxon	
bi-			two	bicycle, binocular	Latin	
tri-			three	tricycle, triangle	Latin/Greek	
quad-			four	quadrilateral, quadrant	Latin	
oct-			eight	octagon, octopus	Latin/Greek	
	-er, -or*		one who, that which	baker, boxer, conductor, survivor	Latin	Usually a noun Use –or with Latin roots for nouns (inventor, elevator) Use –er with Anglo-Saxon roots (heater, swimmer)
	-ation, -ion, ition, -tion		act of, state of, result of	attention, invitation, restriction	Anglo-Saxon	Usually a noun
	-al, -ial		related to characterized by	colonial, biennial, dental, betrayal	Latin	Usually an adjective
	-ness		condition, state of	darkness, fairness	Anglo-Saxon	Usually a noun
	-ment		act, process	enjoyment, replacement	Latin	
	-en		made of, to make	wooden, dampen, tighten,	Anglo-Saxon	
		rupt	break, burst	bankrupt, rapture, disruptive	Latin	FYI: Erupt means to explode. (The volcano erupted.) Irrupt means to rush or burst in. (The police irrupted into the hideout.)
		terra	land	terrain, territory, terrarium	Latin	A *terrier* is a small hunting dog trained to dig for burrowing animals
		geo	earth, ground, soil	geography, geology, geometry	Greek	The ancient Greeks were interested in the size of the earth and invented ways to measure it (*geometry*).
		photo	light	photograph, telephoto, photos	Greek	Discuss the process of *photography*.
		tract	pull, draw (drag)	tractor, attract, subtract, traction	Latin	A contract pulls two sides together
		meter, metron	measure	speedometer, geometry, metric, metronome, thermometer, perimeter, diameter, centimeter	Greek	The basis for the metric system. Originally, a *meter* was supposed to be one ten-millionth the distance around the earth.

*review and amend from previous grade-level

Prefix	Suffix	Root	Definition	Examples	Origin	Additional Information
en-, em-			to cause to be, to put into or onto, to go into or onto	encounter, enable, employ, embark, encircle	Latin	
sub-			under, beneath, below secondary	subway, subsoil, substitute	Latin	
fore-			before, earlier	forearm, foreword	Anglo-Saxon	
semi-			half	semicircle, semicolon	Latin	
anti-			opposite, against	antibiotic, antifreeze	Greek	
auto-			self	autograph, automatic	Greek	
multi-			many, much	multicolor, multifamily	Latin	
poly-			many, much	polygon, polysyllable	Greek	
deca- deci-			ten	decathlon, decade, decimal, decimeter	Latin/ Greek	
kilo-			1,000	kilogram, kilowatt	Greek	
milli- mille-			1,000	millennium, millimeter	Latin	
centi-			100	centimeter, centipede	Latin	
	-ation -ion -ition -tion*		act of/ state of/ result of	tension, attention, elevation, union	Anglo-Saxon	Usually a noun. The real suffix is –ion. Putting s or t in front of –ion is simply determined by the spelling of the root
	-able -ible		can be done	enjoyable, sensible, likable	Latin	-able ending words have roots that can stand alone.(enjoyable) -ible ending words have roots that can not stand alone. (sensible)
	-ive -ative -tive		inclined/ tending toward an action	festive, talkative, active, sensitive	Latin	Words that end with –de (intrude) change the –de to s then add –ive (intrusive). Words that end with silent e (create) drop the e then add –ive (creative).
	-logy -ology -ologist		science of, study of, one who studies	biology, chronology, anthropologist	Greek	
	-ence -ance		act or condition of	persistence, excellence, assistance, importance	Latin	Usually a noun –ence and –ance sound alike because of the schwa. –ence is used somewhat more often than –ance.
	-an, -ian		one having a certain skill, relating to, belonging to	electrician, magician, American, suburban	Latin	Usually a noun
		jacio, jactum (ject)	to throw	inject, objection, project, eject	Latin	The 'j' is pronounced as a 'y'. Romans didn't use a 'j' at all, they used an 'I'.
		struct	to build	construct, instructor	Latin	
		video (vid), visum (vis)	to see	vision, evidence, provide, providence	Latin	*Visit* means to go see someone in person.
		jur juris	judge, oath, law	jury, jurisdiction, juror	Latin	*Juris* means "of Law," from Roman Law.
		log logos logue	word or study	prologue, apology, dialogue, eulogy, monologue, logic	Greek	This root word, *logos*, meaning word or study, more than any other, shows the importance of a good vocabulary in the process of acquiring knowledge. To the Greeks, study meant talking or discoursing on a subject and sometimes writing down one's conclusions.
		pathos(path)	feeling, suffering	apathetic, pathology, pathetic, sympathy	Greek	*Pathos* is used both as a prefix (*patho-*) and a suffix (*-pathy*).
		astron (ast, astr)	star	astronaut, astronomy, disaster, asterisk, aster, asteroid	Greek	*Asteroids* aren't really star-shaped, but are very small planets which revolved around a star.
		mit, mitt, miss	to send	emit, transmit, admit, remit, missile, mission, admission, dismissed, commit	Latin	*Mit, mitt,* and *miss* come from the Latin mittere & missus meaning to *send*. The Latin Root accounts for the two spellings and the double letters in many English words.
		aud (audi, aus)	hear, listen	audience, auditorium, audiovisual, auditor, audition	Latin	
		dico, dictum (dict)	to say, tell, speak	diction, dictator, dictate, predict, verdict, contradict	Latin	We mustn't forget *dictionary,* a book which lists the words of a spoken language and their meanings.

*review and amend from previous grade-level

Incorporate prefix, suffix, and roots into working with words study.

6th Grade

Prefix	Suffix	Root	Definition	Examples	Origin	Additional Information
in-, il-, im-, ir-*			not	inability, impatient, irregular, illegal	Latin	il-used before roots beginning with "l" (illegible) im- used before roots beginning with b, m, p (immature, imbalance, impatient)
inter-			between	intercept, interview, interstate	Latin	
trans-			across/ change/ through	transformation, transportation, transfer	Latin	
super-			above/ on top of/ beyond	superfine, superhuman, supersonic	Latin	
micro-			small/ minute	microbiology, microscope	Greek	
uni-			one/ single	unicorn, unicycle, uniform	Latin	
	-ent -ant		an action/ condition	student, contestant, immigrant	Latin	Often a noun The suffix –ant often indicates a person noun.
	-ent -ant		causing a specific action	obedient, absorbent, abundant, elegant	Latin	Often an adjective -ent and –ant sound alike because of the schwa. –ent is used somewhat more often than –ant.
	-ity -ty		state of/ quality of	prosperity, equality	Latin	Usually a noun
	-ic		relating to/ characterized by	energetic, historic	Latin/Greek	Usually an adjective
	-ize		to make/ to cause to become	fertilize, criticize, apologize	Latin/ Greek	Usually a verb
	-age		result of an action/ collection	manage, drainage, acreage	Latin	
	-ous -eous -ious		full of/ characterized by	adventurous, nervous, mysterious, courteous	Latin	Words that end with –de (intrude) change the –de to s then add –ive (intrusive). Words that end with silent e (create) drop the e then add –ive (creative).
		port	to carry	portable, transport, export, portfolio, porter	Latin	Humans 'carry' things from one place to another all the time. **Port**ly humans, for instance, 'carry' a lot of body weight.
		scribe (scrib) scriptum (script)	to write	describe, manuscript, scriptures, inscribe, prescription, script	Latin	Verbs usually use scribe, as in prescribe; nouns usually use script, as in prescription.
		spectro spect spec	to see, watch, observe	prospect, respect, specimen, spectacle, spectrum, spectacular	Latin	At the heart of the word *aspect* is the Latin *specere* "look" (think *spect*acles).
		vac	empty	vacate, evacuate, vacancy, vacuum, vacuous	Latin	To us, *VACant* means *empty*, exactly as the Latin Root says. To the French and British it means freedom from the job, time off from the job.
		vocare (voc - vok)	to call or summon	vocal, vocabulary, vocation, vocational, voice, revoke, invoke	Latin	These root words voc and *vok,* which come from the Latin vox, vocis meaning *voice* and vocare meaning to *call*. From *voice,* we get words relating to human sounds.
		hydros (hydr)	water	hydrogen, hydrant, hydroplane	Greek	*Hydrogen* is one of the original elements listed on the periodic table of chemical elements.
		chronos (chron)	time	chronological, synchronize, chronicle, chronic, chronometer	Greek	*Chronic* seems to have a negative connotation. We speak of "chronic illnesses", for example, or "chronic tardiness" when it happens frequently or all the time.
		thermos (therm)	heat	thermometer, thermostat, thermos, thermal	Greek	An Englishman named Sir James Dewar invented the *thermos* bottle in 1885 and patented it in 1904.
		bene boun bon	good, well	benefit, benign, beneficial, Benedict, bonus, bonanza, bonbon, bounty	Latin	This is a combining form occurring in loanwords from Latin, where it meant "well", as in *benediction*.

Prefix	Suffix	Root	Definition	Examples	Origin	Additional Information
com-, con-			with, together	commune, community, conjunction, combine, conspire, confluence	Latin	
ex-, exo-			out of, from	exoskeleton, exterior, external	Greek	
pro-			forward	progress, proceed, produce	Latin	
se-			apart	separate, select	Latin	
retro-			back, backwards	retroactive, retrograde, retrospective	Latin	Adverb or adjective
	-fy		to make, to form into	fortify, solidify, liquify	Latin	Typically turns words to which it is added into verbs
	-hood		state, quality, condition of	neighborhood, childhood, brotherhood	Old English	A condition or state of being the thing or being in the role denoted by the word it is suffixed to, usually a noun.
	-ice		state or quality of	justice, service, accomplice, apprentice, injustice	Latin	Usually a noun
	-some		characterized by a thing, quality, state, or action	awesome, burdensome, winsome, quarrelsome	Old English	Usually an adjective
	-ward		in the direction of	forward, toward, westward	Old English	Adjective or adverb
	-ish		like, having the characteristics of, inclined or tending to	childish, girlish, impish, freakish, bookish, oldish	Old English	A suffix used to form adjectives from nouns or other adjectives.
	-less		without	tireless, childless, sleepless	Old English	Usually an adjective
		ad	to, toward	adequate, adhere, adjective, assimilates, accommodate, acknowledge, alliteration, appointment	Latin	Was used as both a prefix and preposition in Latin. Used only as a prefix in English. When the meaning is 'to' or 'toward', it tends to change the 'd' to a letter than best agrees with the first letter of the word to which it's affixed. i.e., *assimilates, accommodate, acknowledge, alliteration, appointment*
		amo amatum	love	amateur, amiable, amicable, amorous, enamored, enemy	Latin	For *enemy*, we have an interesting case. The prefix 'en-' is like 'in-', meaning 'not'. So, an enemy is one you do not love.
		aqua	water	aquarium, aqueduct, aquaculture, aquamarine	Latin	*Aqueduct* – notice the 'e'! It is commonly misspelled because we expect it to be spelled with an 'a' like its root.
		arbor arboris	tree	arboretum, grape arbor, arborvitae	Latin	Most cities have a public garden called an *arboretum* where trees are cultivated for enjoyment and study.
		bonus	good	bonus, bon bon, bonny, bounty, bonanza, boon	Latin	*Bonus* is one Latin word that the English language has adopted without change.
		cum	with, together	cooperate, collaborate, collect, combat, community	Latin	When this word became a prefix, it tended to keep its older form of 'com'. Like certain other prefixes (like *ad*), it will assimilate itself to the word to which it's attached: *co, col, con*
		dendron	tree	rhododendron, dendrophile, dendrometer, dendriform	Greek	*Rhododendrons* are spectacular shrubs which grow in temperate climates and happen to be Washington's state flower.
		dia	across, through	diabolical, diadem, diagnosis, diagonal, diagram, diameter	Greek	*Diabolical* is related to Spanish 'diablo' and French 'diable', both meaning 'devil. It means shot through by a devil or evil spririt.
		facio factum -fy -fier	make, do	factory, manufacture, deface	Latin	Some Latin words have contributed SO MANY English words that learning them as soon as possible is a tremendous advantage. *Facio* is one of these. The *Latin/English Derivative Dictionary* lists 258 English words based on *facio*.
		figo, fixum	attach	fix, fixture, crucifix, affix, prefix, suffix	Latin	*Affix* can be both a noun and a verb depending on which syllable is accented.
		helios	sun	Helios (sun god, aka Apollo or Phaethon), heliotrope, helium	Latin	Don't confuse *helios* with *helix,* which means 'spiral' and which is found in words like helicopter and double helix.
		ignis	fire	igneous, ignite, ignition	Latin	*Igneous Rocks*: In geology, we speak of rocks according to the way they were formed in the distant past. *Igneous rocks* are formed by fiery temperatures far below the earth's surface.
		inter	between	international, interject, interaction, intervene, intergalactic, interlude	Latin	*Webster's International Dictionary*, Second Edition, devotes 27 columns to words beginning with *inter*. It is so well integrated into the English language that we may forget that it was a separate Latin word long ago.
		jungo junctum	join	join, joint, conjunction, disjointed, junction, subjugate	Latin	*Join*, one of the most common derivatives from *jungo* has come into English through French.
		kinesis cinema	movement	kinetic, kinesiology, cinema, cinematographer	Greek	When the British were looking for a new word for the new 'motion pictures', they thought *cinema* would be perfect.
		luna	moon	lunar, lunatic, lunacy, clair de lune, lunambulist, lunation	Latin	The moon has historically been thought to bring on a kind of madness, so we have *lunacy* and *lunatic* all meaning somehow affected by the moon.
		magnus	large, big	magnify, magnifier, magnitude, magnificent, magnanimous	Latin	Someone always brings up the word 'magnet', so (preferably with a magnet in hand) you will want to explain that it is NOT from *magnus.* Rather, the original magnets were knows as 'Magnesian stones'.
		philia -phile	love	philosopher, Philadelphia, philanthropist, Francophile	Greek	*Philadelphia*, Pennsylvania is known as the City of Brotherly Love.

		phobos	fear	phobia, claustrophobia, hydrophobia, phobophobia	Greek	It's interesting that the astronomer who discovered the two satellites of the planet Mars (god of war) named them Phobos and Deimos – the Greek words for fear and terror.
		pono postum (pos, post)	put, place	pose, post, postage, position, deposit, depose, impose, component	Latin	*Post* first meant a stake driven into the ground. Then it meant something firmly fixed in place. It came to mean a military station where soldiers held a *position.* Then, it was also a station along a road where travelers could rest. Then, it was a place where riders, carrying messages in stages along the road could stop and change horses or hand letters to a fresh rider. (The Pony Express was an example)
		pyro	fire	pyrotechnics, pyre, pyromaniac, pyrometer, empyrean	Greek	The ancients thought the highest layer of the sky was the home of fire and, therefore, of light. So they called the heavens the *empyrean.*
		scio scitum (sci)	know	science, scientific, conscience, prescience, omniscience	Latin	It's useful to point out that we have kept the 'sc-' spelling in *science* (and in all these other derivative words) even though we don't pronounce the 'c' in English, because it helps us to see and recognize immediately the Latin word *scio* from which they all come.
		sol	sun	solar, solar system, solarium, solaster, parasol, solstice	Latin	Copernicus and Galileo led the world to realize that we live in a *solar system* in which the sun is at the center and the planets and their satellites all revolve around the sun.
		sonus	sound	sound, sonic, sonnet, sonovox, sonar, sonata, consonant	Latin	A *sonnet* is an Italian poetic form of 14 lines and was, at one time, as popular as 'raps' are today.
		stella	star	stellar, constellation, interstellar, stellascope, Stella	Latin	Wondering about the stars and trying to learn more about them is something we share with people of all ages in history. The constellations were given Latin names so people everywhere would know which stars or star groups were being discussed. Latin helps draw people together in their search for knowledge.
		syn, sym	with, together	sympathy, symphony, synthesis, synthetic, photosynthesis, synonym, synagogue, synchronize	Greek	Since *syn* is the actual word and *sym* is the assimilated form, it's a good idea to talk about the process of assimilation of prefixes. The 'n' or 'm' is used, depending on what sounds best with the letters following.
		tempus temporis	time	temporal, temporary, extemporaneous, contemporary, tempo	Latin	This Latin word is descended from an old Indo-European root word, *temp*, which meant 'stretch or extend'.
		thesis	put, place	thesis, theme, parenthesis, synthetic, synthesizer	Greek	*Thesis* is a good word to use to begin a discussion of the kind of writing which will need to be done all through school. The ability to state a theme or position and then to present persuasive arguments, examples, and authorities as evidence of the theme's truth or validity is a skill which can hardly be introduced too soon.
		trans	across	transport, transaction, transcript, transfer, transform	Latin	In English, this root is always used as a prefix.
		tropos	turning	tropics, tropical, phototropic, heliotrope	Greek	*Tropics* – a little geography lesson would help. The *Tropics* are the two circles on the globe at 23 degrees, 27 minutes latitude (north and south of the equator) called *Tropic of Cancer* and *Tropic of Capricorn.*
		verbum	word	verb, proverb, verbal, verbiage, verbose, verbatim, verbalize	Latin	We don't often stop to realize that the *verb* is the chief word in a sentence. In fact, in its imperative form, if can be the complete sentence all on its own. "Go!"
		verto versum	turn	reverse, advertise, universe, university, controversial, conversation, diversity	Latin	We use the Latin word *versus* (turned toward) in English in speaking of opponents in a contest. We abbreviate it *vs.* (Huskies vs. Ducks). The Latin *versus* (also meaning "turning of the plough; a furrow") gave us the derivative *verse*, meaning "a line of poetry".
		Vulcanus	god of fire	volcano, volcanic, vulcanize, vulcanite, volcanology	Latin	*Vulcanize* means to treat with heat and sulphur to make rubber hard and durable so it can be used for car, truck, and airplane tires.

Prefix	Suffix	Root	Definition	Examples	Origin	Additional Information
hom- homo-			same	homonym, homophone, homogeneous, homeostasis	Greek	This Greek prefix forms many scientific and other terms, often in opposition to *hetero-*. Don't confuse this Greek *homo-* element with the Latin **homo-** which means "mankind".
hype-			over, too much	hyperextension, hyperactive, hyperbole	Greek	A prefix appearing in loanwords from Greek, where it meant "over," usually implying excess or exaggeration.
mid-			middle	midsummer, midnight, midsection, midday	Old English	
neo-			new, recent, revived	Neolithic, neonatal, Neo-Nazi	Greek	Used in the formation of compound words
	-ide		chemical	pesticide, sulfide, oxide	German	Suffix forming nouns; A suffix used to form the names of various chemical compounds, especially the second part of the name of a compound that has two members (such as sodium *chloride*) or the name of a general type of compound (such as *polysaccharide*).
	-ways		in what manner	always, sideways, alleyways, airways	Old English	Suffix forming adverbs
		auto	self	autograph, automatic, autonomy	Greek	At the time the automobile was invented, people understood perfectly that the word 'automobile' was intended to mean 'horseless carriage'.
		annus	year	annual, anniversary, centennial, annals	Latin	Ancient Roman historians at first wrote *annal* in which they recorded important events, records of magistrates, events
		biblos	book	bibliography, Bible	Greek	Biblos was the word used by the Greeks for the papyrus scrolls or books which they imported from the Phoenician city of Byblos.
		bracchium	arm	bracelet, embrace, brace	Latin	There are several other kinds of *braces* to discuss: a set of suspenders for trousers; a support for a wall or anything that needs to be held up; a two-arm handle for rotating a drill bit.
		caput, capitis	head	capital, captain, decapitate, cabbage	Latin	Cabbages growing look like heads. As one's head governs one's body, a captain governs his troops.
		centum	hundred	century, centimeter, percent, centipede	Latin	Century, to us, usually means 100 years, but it can mean a set of one hundred anything: a collection of 100 poems, a group of 100 soldiers, etc.
		corpus	body	corps, corporation, corpse, corpulence	Latin	In anatomy it refers to the human trunk as distinguished from the head, arms, legs, etc. When we refer to a 'governing body' like Congress or the 'corpus of literature' on a subject, we generally mean the 'whole works.'
		decem	ten	decimeter, December	Latin	Romulus, Rome's founder, invented a ten-month calendar ending with December.
		demos	the people, the citizens	democracy, demography, epidemic	Greek	The word *demos* meant a great deal to the Greeks. More than any people in the history of the world before them, they though that *the people* were important.
		dens, dentis	tooth	dent, dentist, dental, indent	Latin	Open some books, examine the left margin of the printed lines, and find the *indentations* where someone 'took a bite.'
		digitus	finger, toe, inch	digit, prestidigitation	Latin	Since fingers were used for counting, it's no surprise that the Arabic numerals came to be called *digits.*
		dormio	sleep	dormitory, dormant, dormer window, dormouse	Latin	*Dormouse* – he's not a mouse who comes in your door; he hibernates during cold months
		duo	two	duet, duel, duplicate, duplicate	Latin	There are so many words with this root that your more avid readers had better plunder the unabridged dictionary.
		frater, fratris	brother	fraternal, fraternity, fraternize	Latin	In medieval times, orders of monks were called *fraternitas* or brotherhoods.
		liber, libri	book	library, librarian, libretto	Latin	*Liber* in Latin also means 'free' and we find it in such English derivatives as *liberty, liberal, liberation*, none of which have anything to do with books. You might argue that books, which make possible the free exchange of ideas, help the cause of liberty and freedom.
		lithos	stone	lithograph, monolith, Neolithic	Greek	A *monolith* is a large, single stone used as a monument or obelisk. A *megalith* is a really huge stone such as the ones used in the building of Stonehenge.

		manus	hand	manufacture, manifest, manuscript	Latin	*Manual* refers to one's hand(s) doing something – to operate *manual* controls on a machine rather than using automatic ones.
		mater, matris	mother	matriarch, maternal, matrimony	Latin	There have been societies in the world in which the women rule the families and societies. These are matriarchies.
		mille	thousand	mile, millimeter, millennium	Latin	A Roman mile was made up of 1,000 paces.
		nomen, nominis	name	nominate, denominator, nomenclature	Latin	In the sciences, the system of names by which things are classified in called *nomenclature*.
		novem	nine	November, novennial	Latin	*November* is the ninth month if you start counting from March, as the early Romans did.
		octo	eight	October, octopus, octagon, octogenarian	Latin	*Octopus* – This word is really a Greek derivative. The Greek word for 'eight' is *okto*.
		pater, patris	father	patriarch, patron, patriotism	Latin	The founding fathers of a society are thought of as the *patriarchs* of the whole society.
		pes, pedis	foot	pedestrian, pedicure, pedometer	Latin	A word about words like *pediatrician* which do NOT come from *pes, pedis*, but rather from the Greek *paidos = child* and *iatros = physician*.
		petros	stone, rock	petrified, petroleum, petroglyph	Greek	We speak of being *petrified* when we are frightened into rigidity – made stone-like by fear.
		polis	city	metropolis, political, policy	Greek	Since ancient Greek cities (polis) were really city-staes, the idea of *polis* to us can man government, not just of a city, but of a state (like Washington) or nation (like the U.S.A). This, along with *demos*, is a particularly valuable root word to acquire.
		populus	people	people, public, republic, popular	Latin	All the Romance languages (French, Spanish, Italian, Portuguese, Romanian – which were originally Latin or "Roman's Languages) have derivations from *populous* which are easy to recognize.
		prae (pre)	before, in front of	predict, preamble, precaution, precursor, prefer	Latin	A number of Latin words which use the 'ae' spelling, drop the 'a' when they come into English. *Aequalitas* becomes *equality*; *aether* becomes *ether*; *prae* becomes *pre*.
		pro	for, before, forward, in place of	profess, professional, problem, proboscis, prologue, proclaim, proceed, pronoun	Latin	It's important to learn all of the meanings for *pro* so one can figure out the meanings of the many English derivatives.
		quattuor	four	quadrilateral, quadruped, quadricycle	Latin	People have always loved learning to count in other languages. Latin is particularly valuable since all of its number words have many derivations in other languages.
		quinque	five	quintet, quinquennial, quintuplet	Latin	This is a combining word meaning "having five or consisting of five."
		septem	seven	September, septennial, Septuagint,	Latin	When Rome's second King, Numa Pompiliu, added two months to the beginning of the Roman calendar, September became the ninth month instead of the seventh month.
		sex	six	sexdigital, sexennial, sextet, sextuple	Latin	This root word (meaning six) always sets people to wondering (and sometimes asking) where the English word sex (not meaning six) came from. The answer is that there are two Latin words, *sexus* and *secus* (both meaning sex).
		tres (tri)	three	trio, tricycle, triangle, triceratops	Latin	The prefix *tri*, meaning three, comes from both the Greek and Latin. The Latin, *tres*, is spelled *treis* in Greek. *Tri* can be combined with either Greek or Latin root words.
		unus	one	unit, union, united, unicorn, unison	Latin	*Unique* is a French word from *unus* meaning one-of-a-kind.
		urbs, urbis	city	urban, suburb, urbanites	Latin	Smaller towns near our cities are *suburban* communities and we commute on *interurban* rapid transit.
		vivo, victum	live	vivid, revive, survive, victim	Latin	We now speak of anyone who has suffered a misfortune or an accident as a "victim". However, the word originally referred to the live animal or human being who was sacrificed to appease a god.