

## Chapter 4

# Word Knowledge

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### *In This Chapter*

- ▶ Scoring like a pro on the Word Knowledge subtest
  - ▶ Building words for fun and profit
  - ▶ Making a vocabulary list and checking it twice
  - ▶ Putting your money where your mouth is: Practice questions
- .....

**C**an you spell *boot camp*? To make it there, you have to score well on the Word Knowledge section of the ASVAB. But what if you don't know the difference between a *carbine* and a *carbon*? Never fear — we're here to help you out. In this chapter, we let you know what the Word Knowledge portion of the ASVAB consists of and how to study for it. We even toss some practice questions at you. Don't duck! Answer 'em!

*Word Knowledge* just means *vocabulary*, which means *hard words no one uses in ordinary conversation*. (Well, not really.) Word knowledge isn't part of the ASVAB just because your high-school English teacher thinks that it ought to be. The test-makers include it because words stand for ideas, and the more words you understand, the more ideas you can understand (and the better you can communicate with others). So society (including people in the military) often equates a large vocabulary with intelligence and success.

Your score on the Word Knowledge subtest (along with the Paragraph Comprehension, Mathematics Knowledge, and Arithmetic Reasoning subtests) determines your eligibility for service. You need to do well on the Word Knowledge subtest in order to qualify for jobs such as air traffic controller, military intelligence, and even fire fighting. See the Appendix A for more information on the scores you need to get the job you want.

## *Checking Out the Word Knowledge Format*

The Word Knowledge (WK) portion of the ASVAB measures your vocabulary knowledge. It consists of 35 questions. In each question, you see an underlined word. Choose the answer closest in meaning to the underlined word. For example:



His house was derelict.

- (A) solid
- (B) run-down
- (C) clean
- (D) inexpensive



*Closest in meaning* doesn't mean *the exact same thing*. You're looking for similar or related words.

In case you're wondering, the answer is Choice B.

You have 11 minutes to answer the 35 questions on this subtest, which means that you have slightly less than 20 seconds to answer each question. (No pressure, right?)

## Words Made Fresh Daily!

Many English words are created from building blocks called roots, prefixes, and suffixes. These basic word parts generally have the same meaning in whatever word they're used. For instance, *pro* means something along the lines of *in favor of*, *forward*, or *positive* whether you use it in the word *proton* or the word *proceed*.

If you memorize some of these word parts, you'll have a better chance of figuring out the meaning of an unfamiliar word when you see it on the ASVAB. And that's a good thing. Figuring out the meaning of unfamiliar words is how people with large vocabularies make them even larger. (They look up words in the dictionary, too.)

### Fixing up your vocabulary: Prefixes and suffixes

Prefixes, roots, and suffixes are the main parts that make up words. Not every word has all three, but many have at least one. *Prefixes* are the parts that come at the front of a word, *suffixes* are the parts that come at the end of a word, and *roots* are the parts that come in the middle of a word. Think of roots as the base of the word and prefixes and suffixes as word parts that are attached to the base. (Check out the "Digging for roots" section later in this chapter for more info on — you guessed it — roots.)

Tables 4-1 and 4-2 list some common prefixes and suffixes. Each list has the word part, its meaning, and one word that uses each word part. Writing down additional words that you know for each word part will help you memorize the list.

Table 4-1		
Prefixes		
Prefix	Meaning	Sample Word
a	no, not	atheist
ab or abs	away, from	absent
anti	against	antibody
bi	two	bilateral
con or contra	against	contradict
de	away from	deny
dec	ten	decade
extra	outside, beyond	extracurricular
fore	in front of	foreman
geo	earth	geology
hyper	excess, over	hyperactive
il	not	illogical
mal or male	wrong, bad	malediction
multi	many	multiply

<b>Prefix</b>	<b>Meaning</b>	<b>Sample Word</b>
nom	name	nominate
omni	all	omnibus
ped	foot	pedestrian
que, quer, or ques	ask	question
re	back	return
semi	half	semisweet
super	over, more	superior
tele	far	telephone
trans	across	translate
un	not	uninformed

<b>Table 4-2 Suffixes</b>		
<b>Suffix</b>	<b>Meaning</b>	<b>Sample Word</b>
-able or -ible	capable of	agree: agreeable
-age	action, result	break: breakage
-al	characterized by	function: functional
-ance	instance of an action	perform: performance
-ation	action, process	liberate: liberation
-en	made of	silk: silken
-ful	full of	help: helpful
-ic	consisting of	alcohol: alcoholic
-ical	possessing a quality of	statistic: statistical
-ion	result of act or process	legislate: legislation
-ish	relating to	child: childish
-ism	act, practice	Buddha: Buddhism
-ist	characteristic of	elite: elitist
-ity	quality of	specific: specificity
-less	not having	child: childless
-let	small one	book: booklet
-man	relating to humans, manlike	gentle: gentleman
-ment	action, process	establish: establishment
-ness	possessing a quality	good: goodness
-or	one who does a thing	orate: orator
-ous	having	danger: dangerous
-y	quality of	taste: tasty

## Digging for roots

Root words are word parts that serve as the base of a word. If you recognize a root, you can generally get an idea of what the word means, even if you're not familiar with it. As Mr. Miyagi said in *Karate Kid*, "Root strong, tree grow strong." All right, Daniel-san, in terms of your vocabulary, think of it this way: If your knowledge of word roots is strong, your vocabulary will be much larger.

In Table 4-3 we list some common roots. Memorize them. When you sit down to take the ASVAB, you'll be glad that you did.

<b>Root</b>	<b>Meaning</b>	<b>Sample Word</b>
anthro <i>or</i> anthrop	relating to humans	anthropology
bibli <i>or</i> biblio	relating to books	bibliography
brev	short	abbreviate
cede <i>or</i> ceed	go, yield	recede
circum	around	circumnavigate
chrom	color	monochrome
cogn <i>or</i> cogno	know	cognizant
corp	body	corporate
dic <i>or</i> dict	speak	diction
domin	rule	dominate
flu <i>or</i> flux	flow	influx
form	shape	formulate
frac <i>or</i> frag	break	fragment
graph	writing	biography
junct	join	junction
liber	free	liberate
lum	light	illuminate
oper	work	co-operate
pat <i>or</i> path	suffer	pathology
port	carry	portable
press	squeeze	repress
sens <i>or</i> sent	think, feel	sentient
scrib <i>or</i> script	write	describe
tract	pull	traction
voc <i>or</i> vok	call	revoke

## Same or Different? Understanding Synonyms and Antonyms

A *synonym* is a word that has the same meaning as or a very similar meaning to another word. *Smile* and *grin* are synonyms. They may not mean exactly the same thing, but their meanings are very similar. An *antonym* is a word that has an opposite or nearly opposite meaning as another word. *Smile* and *frown* are antonyms.

REMEMBER



To keep things straight, think of a “synonym” as the “same” and an “antonym” as the “enemy.”

The ASVAB may ask you to find the word “that most nearly means the same” thing as a given word, which is a synonym. Or you may be asked to find the word that “most nearly means the opposite” of a given word, which is an antonym. Most of the questions on the Word Knowledge subtest ask you to find synonyms, although a few may ask you to find antonyms.

How can you find the synonym of a word (or the antonym, for that matter)? A good place to start is the dictionary. Many dictionary entries include the abbreviation *syn*, which means *synonym*. The words that follow this abbreviation are synonyms of the entry word. You may also see the abbreviation *ant* in an entry. This abbreviation stands for *antonym*, and the word or words that follow it mean the opposite of the entry word.

SERGEANT SAYS



As you study vocabulary words for the Word Knowledge subtest, make a list of synonyms and antonyms of the words you learn. Or, use the root-word list in Table 4-3. Using your dictionary and thesaurus, come up with a list of synonyms and antonyms for each word listed in the “Sample Word” column. (Of course, not every word has synonyms and antonyms, but many do.) Putting some time in with synonyms and antonyms can help you ace the Word Knowledge subtest (and it will also help you improve your overall vocabulary).

## Whipping Your Vocabulary into Shape

Having an extensive vocabulary can help you do well on the Word Knowledge subtest. But, even if you don't have a huge vocabulary, the strategies in this section can help you make up for that.

### *What's black and white and read all over?*

To build your vocabulary, you have to read. You have to see the words in print, not just hear someone say them. Besides, people can read and understand many more words than they could ever use in conversation.

That doesn't mean you have to start with *Advanced Astrophysics*. In fact, if you don't read much, you can start with your daily newspaper, a news magazine, or any type of reading material that's just a notch or two above what you ordinarily read.

### A word to the wise

A decent vocabulary is essential in the military if you want to get ahead. The military operates on paperwork, and whether you're trying to get more supplies (submit

necessary logistical requisitions) or get the assignment you want (application for personnel career-enhancement programs), you need to develop a good vocabulary.



When you encounter a word you don't know, try to understand what it means by the context in which the word is used. For example, if you read, "The scientist *extrapolated* from the data," and you don't know what *extrapolated* means, you can try substituting words you *do* know to see if they would make sense. For example, the scientist probably didn't *hide* from the data. She probably used the data to make some sort of decision, judgment, or guess. To confirm your understanding of the word, check your dictionary.



On the Word Knowledge section of the ASVAB, you often won't be able to guess what a word means from its context (because in many cases, there is no context in the test — the words aren't used in sentences). You also won't be able to look it up in the dictionary (because there are no dictionaries in the test). But considering context and consulting a dictionary are two great ways to *discover* vocabulary words during your test preparation.

## Keeping a word list

If your vocabulary needs help, you're going to have to memorize some words. Don't worry, this won't hurt a bit. One way to improve your vocabulary is to keep a word list. When you hear or read a word that you don't understand, jot it down. When you have a chance, look the word up in the dictionary and then write the meaning down on your list. Use the word in a sentence that you make up. (Write the sentence down, too.)



You can arrange your list by related items, so that the words are easier to remember. For example, words having to do with your work go on one page, words related to mechanical knowledge go on another page, and so on.

Go through the following vocabulary list and quiz yourself. Which words do you know? Which are unfamiliar? Remember that a word can have more than one meaning, but instead of worrying about alternate meanings, focus on memorizing the most common one. It's highly unlikely that the folks writing the ASVAB will use the less-common meaning of a word. They're not that evil.

Abstruse: obscure

Admonish: warn

Adulterate: make impure

Belligerent: having an aggressive attitude

Benefactor: patron, one who has given help

Chastise: punish

Coerce: force

Commemorate: keep as a remembrance

Defiant: bold opposition

Deluge: overwhelm with water

Discreet: prudent

Discrete: individual, distinct

Edible: suitable for eating

Efficacy: production of results

Erratic: irregular

Facile: easy

Fallacious: not logical

Garrulous: too talkative

Gregarious: friendly

Humane: compassionate

Hypocrisy: insincerity

Illicit: unlawful

Imminent: coming soon

Inept: unskilled

Jargon: highly technical speech

Judicious: prudent

Kilo: one thousand (precedes meters, liters, and so on)

Legacy: bequest

Lien: legal claim

Meticulous: attentive to detail

Mundane: ordinary

Myriad: great number

Nonchalant: lacking interest

Noxious: harmful

Oblivious: unaware

Obtuse: stupid

Pious: religious

Plea: request

Qualm: momentary feeling of doubt

Reciprocate: mutual give-and-take

Reiterate: repeat

Reverent: showing respect

Severance: separation

Skeptic: one who doubts

Synopsis: summary

Tacit: understood without specifying

Tireless: untiring

Ubiquitous: present everywhere

Valid: based on truth

Volatile: unstable

Wield: control, use

Wrangle: noisy dispute

Zenith: height of greatness

You can find more vocabulary words to memorize by going to [www.freevocabulary.com](http://www.freevocabulary.com). You can also find other sites on the Internet that offer lists of words if you spend a few minutes surfing.



Don't forget that one of the best ways to remember vocabulary words is to use them in everyday conversation. Finding a way to work the word *zenith* into a description of last night's basketball game requires creativity, but you won't forget what the word means.

## Short-Term Study: Yikes! One Week until the ASVAB!

"Great," you say. "I can keep a word list to improve my vocabulary in a couple of months, but the ASVAB is next week! Now what?"

As always, we're here to help. Just because you only have a few weeks (or a few days) to study doesn't mean you should give up hope. Instead, focus on some short-term fixes that can help you improve your Word Knowledge score.



You can acquire vocabulary words in the short term as well as over a long period of time. Combining both approaches is best, but if you're pressed for time, focus on short-term memorization and test-taking skills.

## Playing detective: Identifying unfamiliar words

When you see an unfamiliar word on the Word Knowledge section, don't panic. You may know the word after all . . . just in a different form. In English, one root word can be changed slightly to perform all sorts of roles — it can act as a noun, a verb, an adjective, or an adverb with just a little modification.

So, if you know what the root word *attach* means, you can figure out what the word *attachment* means. If you know *adherent*, you can deduce what *adherence* means.

You can use root-word clues to identify unfamiliar words on the ASVAB. Say you run across the word *beneficent* on the Word Knowledge portion:



Beneficent most nearly means:

- (A) kind
- (B) beautiful
- (C) unhappy
- (D) troubled

You sit there in the school-cafeteria chair and begin to sweat. You've never seen the word before, and it's all over for you, right? Well, maybe not. Take a closer look. What other word starting with the letters *benefi* do you know? How about the word *benefit*? A benefit is something that helps or aids. It would be a good bet that the word *beneficent* is related to helping or aiding. So when you look over the possible choices, you can choose the one that has something to do with helping.

But wait. None of the answers say *help* or *aid*. Now what? Just use the process of elimination. If something is helpful (*beneficent*), it probably isn't troubled or unhappy. It may be beautiful, but more likely, it's kind. So the best answer would be Choice A.



When you see an unfamiliar word, try dropping a couple of letters from the beginning and/or the end of the word to see if you recognize what's left — the root. If so, you can make a good guess as to the meaning of the word. (We turn your attention once again to the "Digging for roots" section earlier in this chapter.)

## Sounding off by sounding it out

Sometimes you actually know a word because you've heard it in conversation, but you don't recognize it when you see it written down. For instance, the word *subtle* (which is pronounced "suttle") could confuse anyone encountering it in writing for the first time. A student who had heard the word "placebo" pronounced "plah-see-bow" knew that it meant an inactive substance, like a sugar pill. But, when she came across it in writing, she didn't recognize it. She thought it was a word pronounced "plah-chee-bow," which she had never heard before.

So when you see a word on the ASVAB that you don't recognize, try pronouncing it (not out loud please) a couple of different ways. The following pronunciation rules can help you out:



- ✓ Sometimes sounds are silent (like the *b* in *subtle* or the *k* in *knight*). Often, a letter at the end of a word is silent. For instance, *coup* is pronounced "coo."
- ✓ Some sounds have unusual pronunciations in certain contexts. Think of the *l* in *colonel*, which is pronounced like *kernel*.

- ✓ C can sound like *s* or *k* and sometimes like *ch* (especially if two Cs are in a row).
- ✓ The letter *i* after a *t* can form a sound like *she*. Think of *initiate*.
- ✓ X can be pronounced like *z*, and it's sometimes silent.
- ✓ A vowel at the end of a word can change the pronunciation of letters in the word. The word *wag* has a different *g* sound than the word *wage*.
- ✓ When several vowels are right next to each other, they can be pronounced many different ways (consider *boo*, *boa*, and *bout*). Try a couple of different possibilities. For instance, if you see the word *feint*, you may think that it should be pronounced *feent* or *fiynt*, but in fact, it sounds like *faint*. It means fake or pretend.

## The guessing game: Narrowing down your choices



On the Word Knowledge portion of the ASVAB, remember that you can (and should) guess if you don't know the answer. A wrong answer has no penalty, and according to the laws of probability, you have a one-in-four chance of getting the right answer — so go ahead and guess.

Keep in mind that although you may know the word in the question, you may not know one or more of the words in the multiple-choice answers. If this is the case, use the process of elimination to help you narrow down your choices. Eliminate the words you know aren't correct, and guess which of the remaining words is most likely correct.

## Sample Test Questions

Now you're ready to pit your skills against the Word Knowledge section of the ASVAB. Try these sample questions to see how you do. They're similar to what you'll see on the ASVAB.

1. Community most nearly means:

- (A) society
- (B) money
- (C) date
- (D) bank

*Community* means *state* or *commonwealth*. The correct answer is Choice A. Choices B, C, and D are unrelated.

2. She thought that there was a conspiracy against her.

- (A) wall
- (B) plan
- (C) evil deed
- (D) ghost

*Conspiracy* means *plot*, so the answer closest in meaning is Choice B. Choices A and D are unrelated. And although a conspiracy may be an evil deed, Choice C isn't as close in meaning as Choice B.

3. Keen most nearly means:

- (A) sharp
- (B) small
- (C) simple
- (D) shiny

*Keen* means *having a fine edge*. Thus, Choice A is closest in meaning. Choices B, C, and D are unrelated.

4. Defer most nearly means:

- (A) change
- (B) reverse
- (C) deny
- (D) postpone

*Defer* means *to put off*, so the correct answer is Choice D. Choices A, B, and C are unrelated.

5. The mother chastised her child.

- (A) comforted
- (B) carried
- (C) lectured
- (D) supervised

*Chastised* means *disciplined or punished*, so Choice C is the most correct choice. Choices A, B, and D are unrelated.

## WORD KNOWLEDGE REVIEW

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The ability to understand other people and to be understood by other people is an important communication skill, both in speaking and in writing. This ability can be measured in a written test by including a section on synonyms—words having the same, or nearly the same, meaning as other words in the language.

Synonym questions are used to test for ability to understand the meaning of words. They are also good indicators of reasoning ability and ability to learn.

The Word Knowledge subtest determines breadth of word knowledge through synonyms. The words used in the synonym questions are those used in everyday language by high school graduates or those who have high school equivalency diplomas. The test questions are four-choice items and appear in either of the two following formats:

**Format 1.** Complete the definition of a key word.

**Sample:**

1. Notorious most nearly means
  - 1-A annoying.
  - 1-B condemned.
  - 1-C unpleasant.
  - 1-D well known.

*Notorious* means *well known*, which is the same as choice D. Choices A and C are unrelated in meaning since a notorious person may or may not be annoying or unpleasant. Although choice B may be just slightly related in meaning, as *notorious* also implies being widely and unfavorably known, it does not necessarily imply being condemned. Choice D is the only correct answer of the options given.

**Sample:**

2. To assent means most nearly to
  - 2-A acquire.
  - 2-B climb.
  - 2-C consent.
  - 2-D participate.

To *assent* means to *express acceptance or concurrence*. Choice C is almost the same in meaning. Choices A, B, and D are unrelated in meaning. Choice B is similar in meaning to the word “ascend” but not to “assent.”

Choice C is the correct answer.

**Format 2.** Choose the word that means the same as the key word in a sentence.

**Sample:**

Choose the lettered word that means most nearly the same as the underlined word as it is used in the sentence.

3. The rear of the truck should be washed.
- 3-A Back
  - 3-B Front
  - 3-C Hood
  - 3-D Roof

Replace *rear* with each of the choices. The correct choice is the word that does not change the meaning of the sentence. In the previous question, the choice that is closest in meaning to the underlined word is *back*. Therefore, choice A is the correct answer.

An excellent method of increasing your vocabulary is by developing and maintaining your own word list. Write down every word you see or hear whose meaning you are not certain of. Look up its meaning in a dictionary and record it next to the word. Then follow up by using the word in a sentence.

A guide to word formation follows. This key to word recognition consists of commonly used prefixes and suffixes, as well as Latin and Greek word stems that have been absorbed into the English language. Use this guide as a reference to increase your knowledge of word meanings, an essential component of verbal ability.

Information about the Word Knowledge test and sample questions with accompanying answer explanations follow the Word Formation section and word parts list. Be sure to study these sections then try the practice questions.

## Word Formation—A Key to Word Recognition

Many English words, especially the longer and more difficult ones, are built up out of basic parts or roots. One of the most efficient ways of increasing your vocabulary is to learn some of these parts. Once you know some basic building blocks, you will find it easier to remember words you've learned and to puzzle out unfamiliar ones.

The following chart lists more than 150 common word parts. Each part is defined, and an example is given of a word in which it appears. Study the chart a small section at a time. When you've learned one of the building blocks, remember to look for it in your reading. See if you can think of other words in which the word part appears. Use the dictionary to check your guesses.

<u>WORD PART</u>	<u>MEANING</u>	<u>EXAMPLE</u>
ab, abs	from, away	<i>abrade</i> —to wear off <i>absent</i> —away, not present
act, ag	do, act, drive	<i>action</i> —a doing <i>agent</i> —one who acts for another
alter, altr	other, change	<i>alternate</i> —to switch back and forth
am, ami	love, friend	<i>amorous</i> —loving
anim	mind, life, spirit	<i>animated</i> —spirited
annu, enni	year	<i>annual</i> —yearly
ante	before	<i>antedate</i> —to occur earlier
anthrop	man	<i>anthropology</i> —study of mankind
anti	against	<i>antiwar</i> —against war
arbit	judge	<i>arbiter</i> —a judge
arch	first, chief	<i>archetype</i> —first model
aud, audit, aur	hear	<i>auditorium</i> —place where performances are heard
auto	self	<i>automobile</i> —self-moving vehicle
bell	war	<i>belligerent</i> —warlike
bene, ben	good, well	<i>benefactor</i> —one who does good deeds
bi	two	<i>bilateral</i> —two-sided
bibli	book	<i>bibliophile</i> —book lover
bio	life	<i>biology</i> —study of life
brev	short	<i>abbreviate</i> —to shorten
cad, cas	fall	<i>casualty</i> —one who has fallen
cede, ceed, cess	go, yield	<i>exceed</i> —go beyond <i>recession</i> —a going backward
cent	hundred	<i>century</i> —hundred years
chrom	color	<i>monochrome</i> —having one color
chron	time	<i>chronology</i> —time order
cide, cis	cut, kill	<i>suicide</i> —a self-killing <i>incision</i> —a cutting into

<u>WORD PART</u>	<u>MEANING</u>	<u>EXAMPLE</u>
circum	around	<i>circumnavigate</i> —to sail around
clam, claim	shout	<i>proclaim</i> —to declare loudly
clin	slope, lean	<i>decline</i> —to slope downward
cogn	know	<i>recognize</i> —to know
com, co, col, con	with, together	<i>concentrate</i> —to bring closer together <i>cooperate</i> —to work with
contra, contro, counter	against	<i>contradict</i> —to speak against  <i>counterclockwise</i> —against the clock's direction
corp	body	<i>incorporate</i> —to bring into a body
cosm	order, world	<i>cosmos</i> —universe
cre, cresc	grow	<i>increase</i> —to grow
cred	trust, believe	<i>incredible</i> —unbelievable
culp	blame	<i>culprit</i> —one who is to blame
cur, curr, curs	run, course	<i>current</i> —presently running
de	away from, down, opposite	<i>detract</i> —to draw away from
dec	ten	<i>decade</i> —ten years
dem	people	<i>democracy</i> —rule by the people
dic, dict	say, speak	<i>dictation</i> —a speaking <i>predict</i> —to say in advance
dis, di	not, away from	<i>dislike</i> —to not like <i>digress</i> —to turn away from the subject
doc, doct	teach, prove	<i>indoctrinate</i> —to teach
domin	rule	<i>domineer</i> —to rule over
du	two	<i>duo</i> —a couple
duc, duct	lead	<i>induct</i> —to lead in
dur	hard, lasting	<i>durable</i> —able to last
equ	equal	<i>equivalent</i> —of equal value
ev	time, age	<i>longevity</i> —age, length of life

<u>WORD PART</u>	<u>MEANING</u>	<u>EXAMPLE</u>
ex, e, ef	from, out	<i>expatriate</i> —one who lives outside his native country <i>emit</i> —to send out
extra	outside, beyond	<i>extraterrestrial</i> —from beyond the earth
fac, fact, fect, fic	do, make	<i>factory</i> —place where things are made <i>fictional</i> —made up or imaginary
fer	bear, carry	<i>transfer</i> —to carry across
fid	belief, faith	<i>fidelity</i> —faithfulness
fin	end, limit	<i>finite</i> —limited
flect, flex	bend	<i>reflect</i> —to bend back
flu, fluct, flux	flow	<i>fluid</i> —flowing substance <i>influx</i> —a flowing in
fore	in front of, previous	<i>forecast</i> —to tell ahead of time <i>foreleg</i> —front leg
form	shape	<i>formation</i> —shaping
fort	strong	<i>fortify</i> —to strengthen
frag, fract	break	<i>fragile</i> —easily broken
fug	flee	<i>fugitive</i> —one who flees
gen	birth, kind, race	<i>engender</i> —to give birth to
geo	earth	<i>geology</i> —study of the earth
grad, gress	step, go	<i>progress</i> —to go forward
graph	writing	<i>autograph</i> —to write one's own name
her, hes	stick, cling	<i>adhere</i> —to cling <i>cohesive</i> —sticking together
homo	same, like	<i>homophonic</i> —sounding the same
hyper	too much, over	<i>hyperactive</i> —overly active
in, il, ig, im, ir	not	<i>incorrect</i> —not correct <i>ignorant</i> —not knowing <i>illogical</i> —not logical <i>irresponsible</i> —not responsible

<u>WORD PART</u>	<u>MEANING</u>	<u>EXAMPLE</u>
in, il, im, ir	on, into, in	<i>impose</i> —to place on <i>invade</i> —to go into
inter	between, among	<i>interplanetary</i> —between planets
intra, intro	within, inside	<i>intrastate</i> —within a state
ject	throw	<i>reject</i> —to throw back
junct	join	<i>juncture</i> —place where things join
leg	law	<i>legal</i> —lawful
leg, lig, lect	choose, gather, read	<i>legible</i> —readable  <i>eligible</i> —able to be chosen <i>select</i> —to choose
lev	light, rise	<i>alleviate</i> —to make lighter
liber	free	<i>liberation</i> —a freeing
loc	place	<i>location</i> —place
log	speech, study	<i>dialogue</i> —speech for two characters <i>psychology</i> —study of the mind
luc, lum	light	<i>translucent</i> —allowing some light to pass through <i>luminous</i> —shining
magn	large, great	<i>magnify</i> —to make larger
mal, male	bad, wrong, poor	<i>maladjusted</i> —poorly adjusted <i>malevolent</i> —ill-wishing
mar	sea	<i>marine</i> —sea-dwelling
ment	mind	<i>demented</i> —out of one's mind
meter, metr, mens	measure	<i>chronometer</i> —time-measuring device <i>commensurate</i> —of equal measure
micr	small	<i>microwave</i> —small wave
min	little	<i>minimum</i> —least
mis	badly, wrongly	<i>misunderstand</i> —to understand wrongly
mit, miss	send	<i>remit</i> —to send back <i>mission</i> —a sending

<u>WORD PART</u>	<u>MEANING</u>	<u>EXAMPLE</u>
mono	single, one	<i>monorail</i> —train that runs on a single track
morph	shape	<i>anthropomorphic</i> —man-shaped
mov, mob, mot	move	<i>removal</i> —a moving away <i>mobile</i> —able to move
multi	many	<i>multiply</i> —to become many
mut	change	<i>mutation</i> —change
nasc, nat	born	<i>innate</i> —inborn <i>native</i> —belonging by or from birth
neg	deny	<i>negative</i> —no, not
neo	new	<i>neophyte</i> —beginner
nom	name	<i>nominate</i> —to name for office
non	not	<i>nonentity</i> —a nobody
nov	new	<i>novice</i> —newcomer, beginner <i>innovation</i> —something new
omni	all	<i>omnipresent</i> —present in all places
oper	work	<i>operate</i> —to work <i>cooperation</i> —a working together
path, pat, pass	feel, suffer	<i>patient</i> —suffering <i>compassion</i> —a feeling with
ped, pod	foot	<i>pedestrian</i> —one who goes on foot
pel, puls	drive, push	<i>impel</i> —to push
phil	love	<i>philosophy</i> —love of wisdom
phob	fear	<i>phobia</i> —irrational fear
phon	sound	<i>symphony</i> —a sounding together
phot	light	<i>photosynthesis</i> —synthesis of chemical compounds in plants with the aid of light
poly	many	<i>polygon</i> —many-sided figure
port	carry	<i>import</i> —to carry into a country
pot	power	<i>potency</i> —power

<u>WORD PART</u>	<u>MEANING</u>	<u>EXAMPLE</u>
post	after	<i>postmortem</i> —after death
pre	before, earlier than	<i>prejudice</i> —judgment in advance
press	press	<i>impression</i> —a pressing into
prim	first	<i>primal</i> —first, original
pro	in favor of, in front of, forward	<i>proceed</i> —to go forward  <i>prowar</i> —in favor of war
psych	mind	<i>psychiatry</i> —cure of the mind
quer, quir, quis, ques	ask, seek	<i>query</i> —to ask  <i>inquisitive</i> —asking many questions  <i>quest</i> —a search
re	back, again	<i>rethink</i> —to think again  <i>reimburse</i> —to pay back
rid, ris	laugh	<i>deride</i> —to make fun of  <i>ridiculous</i> —laughable
rupt	break	<i>erupt</i> —to break out
sci, scio	know	<i>science</i> —knowledge  <i>conscious</i> —having knowledge
scrib, script	write	<i>describe</i> —to write about  <i>inscription</i> —a writing on
semi	half	<i>semiconscious</i> —half conscious
sent, sens	feel, think	<i>sensation</i> —feeling  <i>sentimental</i> —marked by feeling
sequ, secut	follow	<i>sequential</i> —following in order
sol	alone	<i>desolate</i> —lonely
solv, solu, solut	loosen	<i>dissolve</i> —to loosen the bonds of  <i>solvent</i> —loosening agent
son	sound	<i>sonorous</i> —sounding
spect	look	<i>inspect</i> —to look into  <i>spectacle</i> —something to be looked at

<u>WORD PART</u>	<u>MEANING</u>	<u>EXAMPLE</u>
spir	breathe	<i>respiration</i> —breathing
stab, stat	stand	<i>establish</i> —to make stand, found
string, strict	bind	<i>restrict</i> —to bind, limit
stru, struct	build	<i>construct</i> —to build
super	over, greater	<i>superfluous</i> —overflowing beyond what is needed
tang, ting, tact, tig	touch	<i>tactile</i> —of the sense of touch <i>contiguous</i> —touching
tele	far	<i>telescope</i> —machine for seeing far
ten, tain, tent	hold	<i>tenacity</i> —holding power <i>contain</i> —to hold together
term	end	<i>terminal</i> —last, ending
terr	earth	<i>terrain</i> —surface of the earth
test	witness	<i>attest</i> —to witness
therm	heat	<i>thermos</i> —container that retains heat
tort, tors	twist	<i>contort</i> —to twist out of shape
tract	pull, draw	<i>attract</i> —to pull toward
trans	across	<i>transport</i> —to carry across a distance
un	not	<i>uninformed</i> —not informed
uni	one	<i>unify</i> —to make one
vac	empty	<i>evacuate</i> —to make empty
ven, vent	come	<i>convene</i> —to come together
ver	true	<i>verity</i> —truth
verb	word	<i>verbose</i> —wordy
vid, vis	see	<i>video</i> —means of seeing <i>vision</i> —sight
viv, vit	life	<i>vivid</i> —lively
voc, vok	call	<i>provocative</i> —calling for a response <i>revoke</i> —to call back
vol	wish, will	<i>involuntary</i> —not willed