

Basic Latin Roots - continued

- Not related to: cap/capt
- Hard Words:
caption ~ heading of a document;
title under a picture
captaincy ~ rank of the head of a
group
- Easy Word:
captain ~ head of a group or section

- cept** **seize, take, hold, grasp**
- Related to: cap/capt/cip/
- Hard Words:
nociceptor ~ sensory organ that
receives or takes in pain
stimulus
perceptum ~ significant impression
of an object grasped using the
senses
- Easy Word:
perceptive ~ able to grasp the
meaning

- cip** **seize, take, hold, grasp**
- Related to: cap/capt/cept
- Hard Words:
forcipiform ~ shaped like forceps
which are designed for grasping
and holding
reciprocate ~ give and take in turns,
interchange
- Easy Word:
recipient ~ taking in/receiving

- cipit** **head; main point; sum of money**
- Related to: capit/capt
 - Not related to: cip(take)
- Hard Words:
occipital ~ area near the back of
head
ancipital ~ two-edged; flattened
grass stems
- Easy Word:
precipitous ~ hasty/running
headlong into

- cit** **inhabitant of town; state, province**
- Related to: civ

- Hard Words:
citification ~ growth into an
established township
citadel ~ fortress controlling a town,
stronghold
- Easy Word:
city ~ town/village

- civ** **inhabitant of a town, countryman**
- Related to: cit
- Hard Words:
civilianization ~ converting from
military state to rule by citizens
incivism ~ lacking concern for
fellow citizens
- Easy Word:
civic ~ relating to
citizens/functioning in a
community

- claim** **declare, call out, cry out**
- Related to: clam
- Hard Words:
disclaimer ~ person speaking in
oratorical manner
claimant ~ person declaring
ownership or rights
- Easy Word:
claim ~ call one's own

- clam** **declare, call out, cry out**
- Related to: claim
- Hard Words:
acclamation ~ expression of
approval; overwhelming vote of
yes
conclamant ~ crying out in unison
- Easy Word:
clamor ~ shouting/noisy calling
out/racket

- clau** **shut, confine, make not accessible**
- Related to: clud/clus/clo
- Hard Words:

quat four

- Related to: quart/quad
- Hard Words:
quattrocento ~ 15th century in Italian literature/art
quatrefoil ~ stylized figure of a flower with four leaflets; heraldic symbol
- Easy Word:
quatrain four-line verse

quint - fifth

- Hard Words:
quintessential ~ finest example; relating to the fifth/highest ancient substance
quinternion ~ five pieces of paper grouped into a set
- Easy Word:
quintuple replicate five times; fivefold; five times more

re again/aneu/back

- Related to: red
 - Akin to: retro (back)
- Hard Words:
reciprocal ~ mutual; serving to repay/respond in a like measure; retaliatory
recalcitrance ~ unyielding noncompliance
- Easy Word:
reiterate say again and again/repeat

red again/aneu/back

- Related to: re
 - Akin to: retro (back)
- Hard Words:
redaction ~ adaptation/translation/revising for publication
reddendum ~ clause in a deed by which a new entity is held out of prior grants
- Easy Word:
redemption reclamation/getting property back after satisfying debt

retro - back/backwards; in time past; behind

- Akin to: re/red
- Hard Words:
retrodict ~ project back to a prior state based on current observations
retrocede ~ yield territory back to the prior owner
- Easy Word:
retrospect look back to review past events

se by itself; apart/aside

- Hard Words:
sequestration ~ setting a person apart for a special purpose; isolation
secernment ~ discrimination; distinction apart from the main body
- Easy Word:
segregate set apart one group from others; isolate

semi half/half of a unit

- Not related to: semi (seed)
- Hard Words:
semirecondite ~ half covered by an insect's thorax; partly concealed
demisemiquaver ~ 32nd note; half of one-half of an eighth note
- Easy Word:
semicircle half of a round figure/part of a circle

sept seven

- Not related to: sept (wall/fence)/Gk sept (putrify)
- Hard Words:
septennate ~ seven year period as an office term
septuagesima ~ third Sunday before Lent; originally the start of a 70 day period
- Easy Word:
September 9th month of Gregorian calendar (originally 7th in Roman)

cari ~ decay

- Latin word ~ caries/-em/-e
- Hard Words:
cariogenic ~ conducive for tissue decay
cariostatic ~ preventing the formation of
tooth decay
- Easy Word:
caries - tissue decay

caud ~ tail

- Latin word ~ cauda/-ae
- Hard Words:
decaudate ~ to remove the tail from
nudicaudate ~ having a tail with no hair
- Easy Word:
cauda - tail

cerebr ~ brain

- Related - cerebri/cerebro
 - Latin word ~ cerebrum/-i
- Hard Words:
cerebration ~ thought
brachycerebral ~ possessing a relatively
short brain
- Easy Word:
cerebral - relating to the brain

cerebri ~ brain

- Related - cerebr/cerebro
 - Latin word ~ cerebrum/-i
- Hard Words:
cerebripetal ~ (of nerve fibers) bearing
inward toward the brain
cerebriform ~ like the brain in structure
- Easy Word:
cerebric - relating to the brain

cerebro ~ brain

- Related - cerebr/cerebri
 - Latin word ~ cerebrum/-i
- Hard Words:
cerebrospinal ~ relating to the brain and
spinal cord
cerebrovascular ~ involving the brain and
its blood vessels
- Easy Word:
cerebroid - resembling the brain

cern ~ to determine/distinguish/

- Related - cert
 - Latin word ~ cerno/-ere/crevi/cretus
- Hard Words:
secernment ~ the act of separating
indiscernible ~ incapable of being
recognized
- Easy Word:
discern - to sense/recognize/distinguish

cert ~ to determine/distinguish/

- Related - cern
 - Latin word ~ cerno/-ere/crevi/cretus
- Hard Words:
ascertain ~ determine
certitude ~ state of being determined of
the truth
- Easy Word:
certain - determined

cervic ~ neck

- Latin word ~ cervix/-icis
- Hard Words:
cervicitis ~ inflammation of the uterus
neck
supracervical ~ positioned above a neck
- Easy Word:
cervical - relating to a neck

ceto ~ whale

- Latin word ~ cetus/-i
- Hard Words:
cetorhinus ~ genus that includes the
whale shark
cetotolite ~ whale bone fossil
- Easy Word:
cetology - study of whales

citro ~ lemon tree

- Latin word ~ citrus/-i
- Hard Words:
citrophilus ~ mealybug destructive to
lemons and related fruits
citronella ~ essential oil known for its
lemony smell
- Easy Word:
citron - fruit that resembles a lemon

dox **opinion; teaching; think**

Hard Words:

heterodox ~ not agreeing with
accepted beliefs or opinions
doxology ~ expression of praise and
belief in God

Easy Word:

orthodox ~ adhering to
conventional Christian teachings

drom **course; running; race**

Hard Words:

anadromous ~ running from the sea
upriver to breed in fresh water
palindrome ~ word/phrase reading
the same running forward and
backward

Easy Word:

dromedary ~ camel used for
traveling in the desert

dynam **force/power; able to have power**

- Related to: dyn

Hard Words:

dynamometer ~ device to measure
mechanical power
dynamitard ~ one who uses
powerful explosives for
anarchistic activity

Easy Word:

dynamic ~ having force/power or
energy

enter **intestine**

- Related to: entero

Hard Words:

exenterate ~
disembowel/eviscerate/remove
intestines
archenteric ~ relating to the main
cavity of the gastrula which
becomes the intestine

Easy Word:

enteritis ~ inflammation of the
intestinal tract

entero **intestine**

- Related to: enter

Hard Words:

enterohepatitis ~ disease of
wildfowls that results in lesions of
the intestine
enteropathy ~ disease of the
intestinal tract

Easy Word:

enteron ~ intestinal tract; alimentary
canal

entomo **insect**

- Not related to: ent (in)

Hard Words:

entomophilous ~ pollinated by
insects
entomophagous ~ feeding on
insects

Easy Word:

entomology ~ scientific study of
insects

erg **work**

- Related to: urg

Hard Words:

adrenergic ~ producing/causing a
hormone in response to stress
synergy ~ interaction of two groups
that improves the effectiveness of
both

Easy Word:

energy ~ vigor/capacity for work

esthe **perceive/feel**

- Related to: aesthe

Hard Words:

thermesthesia ~ sensitivity to
hot/cold temperatures
hypesthesia ~ partial loss of
feeling/sensation

Easy Word:

esthete ~ one with a high sensitivity
for beauty

micro ~ small

- Related ~ micr
 - Greek word ~ mikros
- microchronometer ~ an instrument used to measure small intervals of time
- microbiology ~ the study of small forms of life
- microbe a very small organism

mixo ~ mixing

- Greek word ~ mixis
- mixochromosome ~ a chromosome formed by the mixing of two or more chromosomes
- mixogram ~ a record of flour mixes
- mixobiosis a colony in which different organisms are mixed together

myri ~ ten thousand; many

- Related ~ myrio
 - Greek word ~ myrios
- myriacanthous ~ having many thorns
- myriarch ~ a commander of ten thousand soldiers
- myriad consisting of many

myrio ~ ten thousand; many

- Related ~ myri
 - Greek word ~ myrios
- myriophyllum ~ a plant with many leaves
- myriorama ~ picture composed of many scenes
- myriopod an organism with many pairs of legs

nano ~ dwarf; minute in size

- Related ~ nanno
 - Greek word ~ nanos
- nanosomia ~ having a dwarf-like body
- nanosecond ~ a minute measurement of time
- nanoid having an abnormally small body

ne ~ new

- Related ~ neo
 - Greek word ~ neos
- neencephalon ~ the part of the brain having the newest evolutionary origin
- neallotype ~ a type specimen newer than the holotype
- neanic new

neo ~ new

- Related ~ ne
 - Greek word ~ neos
- neopaleozoic ~ ore recent than the Paleozoic Era
- neogenesis ~ a new formation
- neophobia fear of new things

poly ~ several

- Greek word ~ polys
- polymorphous ~ one who speaks several languages
- polyglot ~ able to take on several forms
- polygon closed figure with several angles

oo ~ egg

- Greek word ~ oion
- oolemma ~ the membrane surrounding an egg
- oocyte ~ an egg before maturation
- ooid egg-shaped

octa ~ eight

- Related ~ octo
 - Greek word ~ okto
- octastrophic ~ having eight strophes
- octapeptide ~ a protein fragment consisting of eight amino acids
- octagon a figure made up of eight angles

octo ~ eight

- Related ~ octa
 - Greek word ~ okto
- octophthalmous ~ having eight eyes
- octomerous ~ having eight parts
- octopus a mollusk with eight tentacles

olig ~ few

- Greek word ~ oligos
- oligosaccharide ~ a saccharide that contains few monosaccharides
- oligodactyly ~ having few fingers and toes
- oligarchy government rule by few individuals

pan ~ all; every; total

- Related ~ pant
 - Greek word ~ pas/pantos
- panophthalmitis ~ inflammation of all the tissues of the eyeball
- pancosmic ~ concerning all cosmos as a whole
- pandemonium a state of total chaos

pant ~ all; every; total

- Related ~ pan
 - Greek word ~ pas/pantos
- pantophagous ~ eating all foods
- pantarchy ~ government by all the people
- pantology the study of all knowledge

pent ~ five

- Greek word ~ pente
- pentapolis ~ a union of five cities
- pentacyclic ~ containing five rings in a molecular structure
- pentad a group of five

petro ~ rock

- Greek word ~ petros
- petrogllyph ~ the study of rocks
- petrocole ~ an organism that prefers rocky terrain
- petrochemical relating to the chemistry of rocks

noo ~ mind

- Greek word ~ noos
- Hard Words:
noology ~ study of the mind
nootropic ~ substance that enhances mental activity
- Easy Word:
noosphere - sphere of human mental activity

nosō ~ illness

- Greek word ~ nosos
- Hard Words:
nosography ~ classification of illnesses
nosogeography ~ geography of illness
- Easy Word:
nosology - study of illness classification

nyct ~ night

- Greek word ~ nyx
- Hard Words:
nyctitropism ~ sleep movement in plants
nycthemeron ~ period of a full night and day
- Easy Word:
nyctea - genus of nocturnal owls

nymph ~ young female deity

- Greek word ~ nymphē
- Hard Words:
nymphomania ~ excessive desire in a young female
nympholepsy ~ manic frenzy
- Easy Word:
nymph - young female deity of ancient Greece

odynia ~ pain

- Greek word ~ odyne
- Hard Words:
thoracodynia ~ pain in the chest
mastodynia ~ pain in the breast
- Easy Word:
anodynia - absence of pain

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ombro ~ rain

- Greek word ~ ombros
- Hard Words:
ombrophobous ~ unable to withstand excessive rain
ombrology ~ meteorological study of rain
- Easy Word:
ombrometer - rain gauge

omo ~ shoulder

- Greek word ~ omos
- Hard Words:
omohyoid ~ relating to the shoulder and hyoid bone
omoplatoscopy ~ divination by observing one's shoulder blade
- Easy Word:
omodynia - shoulder pain

omphal ~ navel

- Greek word ~ omphalos
- Hard Words:
omphalopsychite ~ one who stares at the navel to induce a trance
omphaloskepsis ~ meditation while staring at one's navel
- Easy Word:
omphalion - navel

oneir ~ dream

- Greek word ~ oneiron
- Hard Words:
oneiromancy ~ dream divination
oneirocritic ~ dream interpreter
- Easy Word:
oneiric - relating to dreams

opisth ~ behind

- Greek word ~ opisthen
- Hard Words:
opisthocoela ~ frogs with vertebrae that are concave behind but not in front
opisthograph ~ ancient tablet written on both front and back
- Easy Word:
opisthenar - back of the hand