

Scientific Root Words, Prefixes, And Suffixes

a-, an-	not, without, lacking, deficient	Quiz #1	
ab-	away from, out from		
-able	capable of		
ac-	to, toward		
-aceous	of or pertaining to		
acou-, acous-	hear		
ad-	to, toward		
aden-	gland		
adip-	fat		
aero-	air		
agri-	field, soil	Quiz #2	
-al	having the character of		
alb-	white		
alg-, -algia	pain		
alto-	high		
ambi-	both		
ameb-	change, alternation		
amni-	fetal membrane		
amphi-, amphi-	both		
amyl-	starch		
ana-	up, back, again	Quiz #3	
andro-	man, masculine		
anemo-	wind		
ang-	choke, feel pain		
angi-	blood, vessel, duct		
ante-	before, ahead of time		
anter-	front		
antho-	flower		
anti-	against, opposite		
anthropo-	man, human		
-ap-, -aph-	touch	Quiz #4	
apo-, ap-	away from		
aqu-	water		
archaeo-	primitive, ancient		
-ary, -arium	denotes a place for something		
arteri-	artery		
arthr-	joint, articulation		
-ase	forms names of enzymes		
aster-, astr-	star		
-ate	verb form – the act of		
anther-	fatty deposit	Quiz #5	
-ation	noun form – the act of		
atmo-	vapor		
audi-	hear		
aur-	ear		
auto-	self		
bacter-, bacr-	bacterium, stick, club		
barb-	beard		
baro-	weight		
bath-	depth, height		
bene-	well, good	Quiz #6	
bi- (Latin)	two twice		
bi-, bio- (Greek)	life, living		
-blast-	sprout, germ, bud		
brachi-	arm		
brachy-	short		
brady-	slow		
branchi-	fin		
brev-	short		
bronch-	windpipe		
cac-	bad	Quiz #7	
calor-	heat		
capill-	hair		
capit-	head		
carcin-	cancer		
cardi-	heart		
carn-	meat, flesh		
carp-	fruit		
carpal-	wrist		
cata-	breakdown, downward		
caud-	tail	Quiz #8	
-cell-	chamber, small room		
cen-, cene-	now, recent		

Quiz #5 continued on next column

cente-	pierce	Quiz #5	
centi-	hundredth		
centr-	center		
cephal-	head		
cerat-	horn		
cerebr-	brain		
cervic-	neck		
chel-	claw		
chem-	dealing with chemicals		
chir-	hand		
chlor-	green	Quiz #6	
chondr-	cartilage		
chrom-, -chrome	color		
chron-	time		
-chym-	juice		
-cid-, -cis-	cut, kill, fall		
circa-, circum-	around, about		
cirru-	hair like curls		
co-	with, together		
cocc-	seed, berry		
coel-	hollow	Quiz #7	
coll-	glue		
coni-	cone		
contra-	against		
corp-	body		
cort-, cortic-	outer layer		
cosmo-	world, order, form		
cotyl-	cup		
counter-	against		
crani-	skull		
cresc-, cret-	begin to grow	Quiz #8	
crypt-	hidden, covered		
-cul-, -cule	small, diminutive		
cumul-	heaped		
cuti-	skin		
cyan-	blue		
-cycle, cycl-	ring, circle		
-cyst-	sac, pouch, bladder		
cyt-, -cyte	cell, hollow container		
dactyl-	finger		
de-	away from, down	Quiz #9	
deca-	ten		
deci-	tenth		
deliquesc-	become fluid		
demi-	half		
dendr-	tree		
dent-	tooth		
derm-	skin		
di-, dipl- (Latin)	two, double		
di-, dia- (Greek)	through, across, apart		
dia- (Latin)	day	Quiz #10	
digit-	finger, toe		
din-	terrible		
dis-	apart, out		
dorm-	sleep		
dors-	back		
du-, duo-	two		
-duct	lead		
dynam-	power		
dys-	bad, abnormal, difficult		
ec-	out of, away from	Quiz #11	
echin-	spiny, prickly		
eco-	house		
ecto-	outside of		
-elle	small		
-emia	blood		
en-, endo-, ent-	in, into, within		
-en	made of		
encephal-	brain		
enter-	intestine, gut		
entom-	insects	Quiz #12	
-eous	nature of, like		
epi-	upon, above, over		
-err-	wander, go astray		

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erythro-	red	Quiz #9	
-escent	becoming		
eso-	inward, within, inner		
eu-	well, good, true, normal		
eury-	widen		
ex-	out of, away from		
extra-	beyond, outside		
-fer-	bear, carry, produce		
ferro-	iron		
fibr-	fiber, thread	Quiz #10	
-fid, fiss-	split, divided into		
-flect, -flex	bend		
flor-	flower		
flu-, fluct-, flux	flow		
foli-	leaf		
fract-	break		
-gam-	marriage		
gastr-	stomach		
geo-	land, earth		
-gen-, -gine	producer, former	Quiz #11	
-gene-	origin, birth		
-gest-	carry, produce, bear		
-glen-	eyeball		
-glob-	ball, round		
gloss-	tongue		
gluc-, glyc-	sweet, sugar		
glut-	buttock		
gnath-	jaw		
-gon	angle, corner		
-grad-	step	Quiz #12	
-gram, graph	record, writing		
grav-	heavy		
-gross-	thick		
gymno-	naked, bare		
gyn-	female		
gyr-	ring, circle, spiral		
-hal-, -hale	breathe, breath		
halo-	salt		
hapl-	simple		
hector-	hundred	Quiz #13	
-helminth-	worm		
hem-	blood		
hemi-	half		
hepar-, hepat-	liver		
herb-	grass, plants		
hetero-	different, other		
hex-	six		
hibern-	winter		
hidr-	sweat		
hipp-	horse	Quiz #14	
hist-	tissue		
holo-	entire, whole		
homo- (Latin)	man, human		
homo- (Greek)	same, alike		
hort-	garden		
hydr-	water		
hygr-	moist, wet		
hyper-	above, beyond over		
hyph-	weaving, web		
hypno-	sleep	Quiz #15	
hypo-	below, under, less		
hyster-	womb, uterus		
-iae	person afflicted with disease		
-iasis	disease, abnormal condition (adjective former)		
-ic	fish		
-ichthy-	fire		
ign-	not		
in-, il-, im-, ir-	to, toward, into		
in-, il-, im-, ir-	very, thoroughly		
-ine	of or pertaining to	Quiz #16	
infra-	below, beneath		
inter-	between		
intra-	within, inside		

Quiz #12 continued on next column

-ism	a state or condition	Quiz #12
iso-	equal, same	
-ist	person who deals with	
-itis	inflammation, disease	
-ium	refers to a part of the body	
-kary-	cell nucleus	
kel-	tumor, swelling	
kerat-	horn	
kilo-	thousand	
kine-	move	
lachry-	tear	Quiz #13
lact-	milk	
lat-	side	
leio-	smooth	
-less	without	
leuc-, leuk-	white, bright, light	
lign-	wood	
lin-	line	
lingu-	tongue	
lip-	fat	
lith-, -lite	stone, petrifying	Quiz #14
loc-	place	
-log-	word, speech	
-logist	one who studies	
-logy	study of	
lumin-	light	
-lys, -lyt, -lyst	decompose, split, dissolve	
macr-	large	
malac-	soft	
malle-	hammer	
mamm-	breast	Quiz #15
marg-	border, edge	
mast-	breast	
med-	middle	
meg-	million, great	
mela-, melan-	black, dark	
-mer	part	
mes-	middle, half, intermediate	
met-, meta-	between, along, after	
-meter, -metry	measurement	
micro-	small, millionth	Quiz #16
milli-	thousandth	
mis-	wrong, incorrect	
mito-	thread	
mole-	mass	
mono-	one, single	
mort-	death	
mot-	move	
morph-	shape, form	
multi-	many	
mut-	change	Quiz #17
my-	muscle	
myc-	fungus	
mycel-	threadlike	
myriad-	many	
moll-	soft	
nas-	nose	
necr-	corpse, dead	
nemat-	thread	
neo-	new, recent	
neprho-	kidney	Quiz #18
-ner-	moist, liquid	
neur-	nerve	
noct-, nov-	night	
-node	knot	
-nom-, -nomy	ordered knowledge, law	
non-	not	
not-	back	
nuc-	center	
ob-	against	
ocul-	eye	Quiz #19
oct-	eight	
odont-	tooth	
-ond	form, appearance	
olf-	smell	
oligo-	few, little	
-oma	abnormal condition, tumor	
omni-	all	
onc-	mass, tumor	
oo-	egg	

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ophthalm-	eye	Quiz #15
opt-	eye	
orb-	circle, round, ring	
-orium, -ory	place for something	
ornith-	bird	
orth-	straight, correct, right	
oscu-	mouth	
-osis	abnormal condition	
oste-	bone	
oto-	ear	
-ous	full of	Quiz #16
ov-	egg	
oxy-	sharp, acid, oxygen	
pachy-	thick	
paleo-	old, ancient	
palm-	broad, flat	
pan-	all	
par-, para-	beside, near, equal	
path-, -pathy	disease, suffering	
-ped-	foot	Quiz #17
-ped-	child	
pent-	five	
per-	through	
peri-	around	
permea-	pas, go	
phag-	eat	
pheno-	show	
-phil-	loving, fond of	
phon-, -phone	sound	
-phore,, pher-	bear, carry	Quiz #18
photo-	light	
phren-	mind, diaphragm	
phyc-	seaweed, algae	
phyl-	related group	
-phyll	leaf	
physic-	nature, natural qualities	
phyt-, phyte	plant	
pino-	drink	
pinni-	feather	
plan-	roaming, wandering	Quiz #19
plasm-, -plast-	form, formed into	
platy-	flat	
pleur-	lung, rib, side	
pneumo-	lungs, air	
-pod	foot	
ply-	many, several	
por-	opening	
port-	carry	
post-	after, behind	
pom-	fruit	Quiz #20
pre-	before, ahead of time	
prim-	first	
pro-	forward, favoring, before	
p[ro]to-	first, primary	
pseudo-	false, deceptive	
psych-	mind	
pter-	having wings or fins	
pulmo-	lung	
puls-	drive, push	
pyr-	heat, fire	Quiz #21
quadr-	four	
quin-	five	
radi-	ray	
re-	again, back	
rect-	right, correct	
ren-	kidney	
ret-	net, made like a net	
rhag-, -rrhage	burst forth	
rhe-, rrhea	flow	
rhin-	nose	Quiz #22
rhiz-	root	
rhodo-	rose	
roto-	wheel	
rubr-	red	
sacchar-	sugar	
sapr-	rotten	
sarc-	flesh	
saur-	lizard	
schis-, schiz-	split, divide	
sci-	know	

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scler-	hard	Quiz #17
-scop-	look, device for seeing	
-scribe, -script	write	
semi-	half, partly	
sept-	partition, seven	
-septic	infection, putrefaction	
sess-	sit	
sex-	six	
-sis	condition, state	
sol-	sun	
solv-	loosen, free	Quiz #18
som-, somat-, -some	body	
somn-	sleep	
son-	sound	
spec-, spic-	look at	
-sperm-	seed	
-spher-	ball, round	
spir-, -spire	breathe	
-spor-	seed	
stat-, -stasis	standing, placed, staying	
stell-	stars	Quiz #19
sten-	narrow	
stern-	chest, breast	
stom-, -stome	mouth	
strat-	layer	
stereo-	solid, 3-dimensional	
strict-	drawn tight	
styl-	pillar	
sub-	under, below	
super-, sur-	over, above, on top	
sym-, syn-	together	Quiz #20
tachy-	quick, swift	
tarso-	ankle	
tax-	arrange, put in order	
tele-	far off, distant	
telo-	end	
terr-	earth, land	
tetr-	four	
thall-	young shoot	
-the-, -thes-	put	
-thel-	cover a surface	Quiz #21
therm-	heat	
-tom-	cut, slice	
toxico-	poison	
top-	place	
trache-	windpipe	
trans-	across	
tri-	three	
trich-	hair	
-trop-	turn, change	
-troph-	nourishment, one who feels	Quiz #22
turb-	whirl	
-ul-, -ule	diminutive, small	
ultra-	beyond	
uni-	one	
ur-	urine	
-ura	tail	
vas-	vessel	
vect-	carry	
ven-, vent-	come	
ventr-	belly, underside	Quiz #23
-verge	turn, slant	
vig-	strong	
vit-, viv-	life	
volv-	roll, wander	
-vor-	devour, eat	
xanth-	yellow	
xero-	dry	
xyl-	wood	
zo-, -zoa	animal	
zyg-	joined together	Quiz #24
zym-	yeast	