Latin Roots: P - Z

Root words are parts of words that have meaning but are not usually words by themselves. They need affixes, other roots, or both to make a full word.

Many English words have roots that come from Greek or Latin. Recognizing root words can help you spell words correctly and guess the meaning of unknown words.

The table below lists some common Latin roots and their meanings.

Root	Meaning
pat	father
ped	foot
pend/pens	hang

Root	Meaning
spir	breathe
sta/stis	stand
stru/struct	build
	I - I -



Preview

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scrib/script	write
sec/sect/seg	cut
sens/sent	feel
sequ/sec	follow
sign	mark; seal; sign
soci	group
sol	sun; alone; whole
son	sound
spect/spic	look; see

tract	pull
trud/trus	thrust
vac	empty
val	strong; worth
ven/vent	come
vers/vert	turn
vid/vis	see
VOC	call; voice
vol/volv	roll

Can you identify the Latin parts of these words? Which words do you know? Guess the meaning of the ones you don't—and confirm with a dictionary!

transport inscription solitude respiration terrarium

intractable descend protrusion bipedal