

10

Roots

A Many words in English are formed from Latin roots. These words are often considered fairly formal in English. Here are some examples of the more common Latin roots, with some of the English words derived from them.

SPECT see, look

You should **respect** your parents / the laws of a country. [look up to]
 The police **suspected** he was guilty but they had no proof. [had a feeling]
 Many pioneers travelled west in America to **prospect** for gold. [search]

VERT turn

I tried the new make of coffee but I soon **reverted** to my old favourite brand. [went back]
 Missionaries went to Africa to **convert** people to Christianity. [change beliefs]
 The royal scandal **diverted** attention from the political crisis. [took attention away]

PORT carry, take

How are you going to **transport** your things to the States? [send across]
 Britain **imports** cotton and **exports** wool. [buys in, sells out]
 Our opinions are **supported** by a considerable amount of research. [held up]

DUC, DUCT lead

She was **educated** at a very small private school. [went to school]
 He **conducted** the orchestra with great vigour. [led]
 Japan **produces** a lot of electronic equipment. [makes]

PRESS press, push

She was **impressed** by his presentation. [full of admiration and respect]
 This weather **depresses** me. [makes me feel miserable]
 She always **expresses** herself very articulately. [puts her thoughts into words]

POSE, PONE place, put

The meeting has been **postponed** until next week. [changed to a later date]
 The king was **deposed** by his own son. [put off the throne]
 The government have **imposed** a sizeable tax increase. [put into force]

B The examples above are of verbs only. Note that for all the verbs listed, there is usually at least one noun and at least one adjective as well. Here are some examples.

<i>verb</i>	<i>person noun</i>	<i>adjective</i>	<i>abstract noun</i>
inspect	inspector	inspecting	inspection
advertise	advertiser	advertising	advertisement
deport	deportee	deported	deportation
introduce	introducer	introductory	introduction
oppress	oppressor	oppressive	oppression
compose	composer	composite	composition

Exercises

- 10.1** Complete as much as possible of the table with other forms of some of the words presented in B. Use a dictionary to help you if necessary.

verb	person noun	adjective	abstract noun
convert
produce
conduct
impress
support
impose

- 10.2** Fill in the gaps in the sentences below using words based on the root in brackets at the end of the sentence.

- The dictator's behaviour is typical of that of leaders of political regimes. (PRESS)
- He was from the USA for having a forged passport. (PORT)
- The magazine seems to have nothing in it but for cosmetics. (VERT)
- May I you to the managing director? (DUC)
- The tax decided I owed a lot of money. (SPECT)
- The new take-away pizza place has a very good offer. (DUC)
- Before you buy a new house be sure to it thoroughly. (SPECT)
- Tchaikovsky some wonderful ballet music. (POSE)



- 10.3** Can you work out the meanings of the underlined words in the sentences below? To help you, here are the meanings of the main Latin prefixes:

intro: *within, inward* o, ob: *against* in, im: *in, into* re: *again, back*
 de: *down, from* ex: *out* sub: *under* trans: *across*

- She's a very introspective person and her husband's also very introverted.
- He always seems to oppose everything I suggest.
- I don't think it is healthy to repress one's emotions too much.
- Perhaps you can deduce what the word means from the way it is formed.
- The documentary exposed corruption in high places.
- She tried hard to suppress a laugh.
- She transposed the music for the flute.

- 10.4** Below are some words based on Latin roots and their two part verb equivalents. Match each word with its synonym. Which in each pair is more formal?

support put off oppose look at cut down deposit hold up
 postpone turn away inspect go against divert reduce put down

Follow-up: Find three other words based on each of the roots listed in A opposite. Write an example phrase or sentence for each one.

- 9.3** 1 unwrapping 3 disprove 5 to unload
2 disagree 4 unveiled 6 disconnected
- 9.4** 1 microwave 3 multi-national 5 postgraduate
2 antibiotic 4 on auto-pilot 6 subway
- 9.5** 1 mispronouncing 3 post-dated his cheque 5 rewrite it
2 are overworked but underpaid 4 her ex-husband

Follow-up: Some possibilities:

<i>prefix</i>	<i>examples</i>	<i>prefix</i>	<i>examples</i>
anti	anti-government antiseptic	over	overrun overcharge
auto	autocue automobile	post	post-colonial post-industrial
bi	bi-plane bi-focals	pre	predict pre-conference
ex	ex-flatmate ex-partner	pro	pro-Iranian pro-nuclear
ex	express extort	pseudo	pseudo-democracy psuedo-liberal
micro	micro-chip microprocessor	re	rephrase redefine
mis	misspell mislead	semi	semi-literate semi-conscious
mono	monorail monosyllable	sub	sub-editor sub-human
multi	multi-cultural multi-faceted	under	underachieve underweight

Unit 10

10.1 The stress is on the underlined syllable in each of the words in the table.

<i>verb</i>	<i>person noun</i>	<i>adjective</i>	<i>abstract noun</i>
<u>convert</u>	<u>convert</u>	<u>converted</u>	<u>conversion</u>
<u>produce</u>	<u>producer</u>	<u>productive</u>	<u>production, produce, product, productivity</u>
<u>conduct</u>	<u>conductor</u>	<u>conductive</u>	<u>conduct, conduction</u>
<u>impress</u>	–	<u>impressive</u>	<u>impression</u>
<u>support</u>	<u>supporter</u>	<u>supportive</u>	<u>support</u>
<u>impose</u>	–	<u>imposing</u>	<u>imposition</u>

- 10.2** 1 oppressive 3 advertisements 5 inspector(s) 7 inspect
2 departed 4 introduce 6 introductory 8 composed

- 10.3** 1 It isn't easy to find synonyms for these words; the meanings are as follows: 'She spends a lot of time thinking about her own thoughts and feelings and so does he; he's quite shy and not very talkative.'
2 argue against 5 made public
3 hold back 6 hold back
4 work out 7 put into an appropriate form

- 10.4** support – hold up postpone – put off oppose – go against inspect – look at
reduce – cut down deposit – put down divert – turn away

In each case the word based on the Latin root is more formal than its two part verb equivalent.

Follow-up: Some possibilities:

SPECT: circumspect behaviour; a retrospective exhibition; a fresh perspective.

VERT: an extroverted person; inverted commas; to pervert the innocent.

PORT: a railway porter; reported speech; transportation costs.

DUC, DUCT: to reduce taxes, to induce labour; a railway viaduct.

PRESS: blood pressure; compressed air; an original expression.

POSE, PONE: to pose for a photograph; to suppose something to be true; to repose peacefully.

Unit 11

- 11.1**
- | | | | |
|--------------|---------------|-----------------|---------------|
| 1 affection | 5 amusement | 9 attentiveness | 13 equality |
| 2 excitement | 6 grace | 10 happiness | 14 hope |
| 3 kindness | 7 originality | 11 popularity | 15 resentment |
| 4 security | 8 stupidity | 12 weakness | 16 wisdom |

- 11.2**
- | | | |
|-------------|--------------|------------|
| 1 collect | 5 strengthen | 9 produce |
| 2 empty | 6 bore | 10 own |
| 3 satisfy | 7 act | 11 imagine |
| 4 intensify | 8 excite | 12 adjust |

- 11.3**
- | | | |
|---------------|-----------------|---------------|
| 1 amazement | 5 replacement | 9 sight |
| 2 curiosity | 6 stardom | 10 freedom |
| 3 brotherhood | 7 reduction | 11 rage |
| 4 chance | 8 neighbourhood | 12 prosperity |

- 11.4** 1 darkness 2 advice 3 injustice 4 Imitation 5 kingdom

- 11.5** How you answer this question is a matter of your own originality. Here are some 'real' quotations about these abstract nouns, however:

- 1 Freedom is an indivisible word. If we want to enjoy it, and to fight for it, we must be prepared to extend it to everyone.
- 2 Love is a universal migraine. (Migraine = bad headache)
- 3 Life is a foreign language; all men mispronounce it.
- 4 Four be the things I'd be better without:
Love, curiosity, freckles and doubt.
- 5 Where there is no imagination, there is no horror.

Follow-up: Some possible answers:

There are many more possibilities for the B suffixes but not many for the C ones.

B -ment	(un)employment	entertainment	involvement	requirement
-ion	diversion	attraction	direction	rejection
-ness	awkwardness	foolishness	loveliness	madness
-ity	brutality	familiarity	productivity	superiority
-ship	citizenship	chairmanship	sponsorship	championship
C -dom	dukedom	earldom		
-th	growth	wealth	stealth	
-hood	babyhood	nationhood		