

Greek and Latin Roots and Affixes

Name: _____

Date: _____

Score: ____ / 10



Quick Review

Many English words come from **Greek** and **Latin**. Useful roots: **tele-** = far, **photo-** = light, **port** = carry, **dict** = say, **scope** = see, **graph** = write/record, **bio** = life, **geo** = earth, **struct** = build, **aud** = hear, **vid/vis** = see, **spect** = look, **mit/miss** = send. Prefixes: **sub-** under, **trans-** across, **pre-** before, **inter-** between, **super-** above, **anti-** against, **re-** again, **un-** not.

PRACTICE

Use the roots and affixes to choose the best meaning. Every wrong answer is a real meaning of another root — only one matches the roots in the target word.

- tele-* means **far** and *scope* means **to see**. What does **telescope** most likely mean?
 - A tool that records light onto paper
 - A tool used to see things that are far away
 - A tool that sends a signal across distance
 - A tool used to listen for distant sounds
- photo-* means **light** and *graph* means **to write or record**. What does **photograph** mean?
 - A written report about a famous person
 - A long-distance message sent through wires
 - A tool used to see something very far away
 - A picture made by recording light on paper
- port* means **to carry**. Which word means **able to be carried**?
 - import (carry in goods from another country)
 - portable (easy to carry from place to place)
 - report (a written account of an event)
 - support (to hold up from below)
- dict* means **to say**. What does **predict** mean?
 - To say before something happens
 - To say something loudly to a crowd
 - To say back what someone else said
 - To say that something is forbidden



5. *struct* means **to build**. What does **construct** mean?
 - A. To take something apart piece by piece
 - B. To send a message across distance
 - C. To build something by putting parts together
 - D. To look carefully into something
6. *bio* means **life** and *graph* means **to write**. What is a **biography**?
 - A. A study of the earth, rocks, and layers
 - B. A recording of light made on paper
 - C. A record of sounds and music
 - D. A written record of a person's life
7. *geo* means **earth** and *-logy* means **the study of**. What does **geology** study?
 - A. Living things and their cells
 - B. Written records and old languages
 - C. The earth, its rocks, and its layers
 - D. The stars and outer space
8. What does the prefix in **submarine** mean?
 - A. Above or over (super-)
 - B. Under or below
 - C. Across or beyond (trans-)
 - D. Before or in front (pre-)
9. Which word uses a prefix meaning **across**?
 - A. preview (pre- = before)
 - B. unkind (un- = not)
 - C. review (re- = again)
 - D. transport (trans- = across)
10. Which row matches every root or affix to its **CORRECT** meaning?
 - A. aud — to hear; spect — to look; inter- — between; anti- — against
 - B. aud — to write; spect — to send; inter- — above; anti- — before
 - C. aud — to see; spect — to hear; inter- — beyond; anti- — between
 - D. aud — to send; spect — to carry; inter- — under; anti- — across



Answer Keys

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Explanations	
1. B	tele- (far) + scope (see) = a far-seeing tool. A confuses <i>photo</i> + <i>graph</i> ; C confuses with <i>tele</i> + <i>mit</i> (send across); D confuses <i>scope</i> (see) with <i>aud</i> (hear).
2. D	photo (light) + graph (record) = a light-recording = a picture. A is <i>bio</i> + <i>graph</i> ; B is a <i>telegram</i> (tele- + gram); C is a <i>telescope</i> .
3. B	All four are real <i>port</i> (carry) words. Portable = port + -able = able to be carried. The others use <i>port</i> too, but their meanings have drifted: <i>import</i> = carry in; <i>report</i> = carry back (information); <i>support</i> = carry from under.
4. A	pre- (before) + dict (say) = to say before = a prediction. B is closer to <i>proclaim</i> ; C is closer to <i>repeat</i> ; D is closer to <i>forbid</i> or <i>prohibit</i> .
5. C	con- (with/together) + struct (build) = build together. A is <i>destruct</i> ; B is <i>transmit</i> (trans + mit); D is <i>inspect</i> (in + spect).
6. D	bio (life) + graph (write) = written life story. A is <i>geology</i> (geo-); B is <i>photograph</i> (photo-); C is <i>audiograph</i> (aud-).
7. C	geo (earth) + -logy (study) = the study of the earth. A is <i>biology</i> (bio-); B is closer to <i>philology</i> or <i>graph-</i> ; D is <i>astronomy</i> (astro-).
8. B	sub- = under; a submarine travels under the sea. The other choices each name another prefix's meaning.
9. D	trans- = across; transport = carry across. The others are real words but use prefixes meaning before, not, or again.
10. A	Row A is correct: <i>aud</i> = hear, <i>spect</i> = look, <i>inter-</i> = between, <i>anti-</i> = against. Use these to crack new words: <i>audience</i> (a group that HEARS), <i>inspect</i> (to LOOK into), <i>interact</i> (to act BETWEEN people), <i>antifreeze</i> (AGAINST freezing). The other rows swap each meaning with a real meaning of a different root or prefix, so every wrong row looks plausible if you mix them up.

