

GREEK PREFIXES

<u>Prefix</u>	<u>Meaning</u>	<u>Examples</u>
<i>a-, an-</i>	not, without, (having) no	abyss, anemia
<i>amphi-</i>	both, on both sides of, around	amphibious
<i>ana-, an-</i>	up, back, again, upside down, wrong	analysis, anode
<i>anti-</i>	against, opposite, in answer to	antipodal, antiphony
<i>apo-, ap-</i>	from, off, away from	apostle, aphelion
<i>cata-, cat-</i>	down, against, very, bad(ly), completely	catastrophe, catholic
<i>dia-, di-</i>	through, across, between, apart, throughout	diameter, diocese
<i>dys-</i>	bad, disordered, difficult	dysentery
<i>ec-, ex-</i>	out, out of	ectopic, exodus
<i>en-, em-, el-</i>	in, into, on	energy, emblem, ellipse
<i>endo-, ento-, end-, ent-</i>	within	endocrine, entophyte
<i>epi-, ep-</i>	(up)on, to, in addition to, against, in(to), over	epidemic, epode
<i>eu-, ev-</i>	good, well	Eugene, evangelical
<i>exo-, ecto-</i>	outside, external	exotic, ectoparasite
<i>hyper-</i>	over, excessive	hyperactive
<i>hypo-, hyp-</i>	below, less than normal	hypocrite, hyphen
<i>meta-, met-</i>	after, changed, different, beyond	metaphor, method
<i>palin-</i>	backwards, again	palindrome

<u>Prefix</u>	<u>Meaning</u>	<u>Examples</u>
<i>para-</i> , <i>par-</i>	beside, alongside, related to; disordered, sideways, wrong, contrary to, different (from)	paranoid, parody
<i>peri-</i>	around, near	perigee
<i>pro-</i>	before, in front of	proscenium
<i>pros-</i>	toward, in addition to	prosthetic
<i>syn-</i> , <i>sym-</i> , <i>syl-</i> , <i>sy-</i>	with, together, same	synonym, sympathy, syllable, system

Some Similarities Between Greek and Latin Prefixes

<u>Greek</u>	<u>Latin</u>	<u>English</u>	<u>Meaning</u>
<i>a(n)</i>	<i>in</i>	un	not
<i>apo</i>	<i>a(b)</i>	(of, off)	away from
<i>amphi</i>	<i>ambi</i>		on both sides
<i>en</i>	<i>in</i>	in	in, into
<i>ek</i>	<i>e(x)</i>		out of
<i>hyper</i>	<i>super</i>		above
<i>pro</i>	<i>pro, pre</i>	(for)	in front of
<i>syn</i>	<i>con</i>		with

Compare the following linguistically related Greek and Latin prefixes:

<i>apo</i>	<i>ab/a/abs</i>	away from
<i>amphi</i>	<i>ambi</i>	around, on both sides
<i>ec/ex</i>	<i>ex/e/ef</i>	out of
<i>exo/ecto</i>	<i>extra/extro</i>	outside
<i>en/em/el</i>	<i>in</i>	in (cognate)
<i>a/an</i>	<i>in</i>	un (cognate)
<i>endo/ento</i>	<i>intra/intro</i>	inside
<i>pro</i>	<i>pro</i>	in front of
<i>hyper</i>	<i>super</i>	above
<i>hypo</i>	<i>sub/sus</i> , etc.	under

("h" and "s" are linguistically related as the last two entries show)

The following are not related, but are worth comparing:

<i>peri</i>	<i>circum</i>	around
<i>syn/sym</i> , etc.	<i>con/co</i> , etc.	with

Be sure not to confuse:

<i>anti</i> (Greek "against")	and	<i>ante</i> (Latin "before")
<i>a/an</i> (Greek "not")	and	<i>ab/a/ abs</i> (Latin "away from")
<i>dys</i> (Greek "bad, disordered")	and	<i>dis</i> (Latin "apart, in different directions, not")

In almost every case, Latin prefixes are used with Latin bases and Greek prefixes are used with Greek bases. But we will run across hybrids from time to time, so stay alert!

GREEK SUFFIXES

These are the most important English suffixes derived from Greek. They are arranged by usage (adjective-forming, verb-forming, noun-forming).

ADJECTIVE-FORMING SUFFIXES

"pertaining to, like"

-(i)ac	pertaining to, like	cardiac
-al	pertaining to, like, belonging to, having the character of	ideal
-(i)an	pertaining to, like, one concerned with	barbarian
-(t)ic	pertaining to, like	barbaric
-(i)ous	pertaining to, like, full of	barbarous
-oid	like, having the shape of	asteroid

VERB-FORMING SUFFIXES

"to make"

-ize	to make, to do something with, to subject to	hypothesize
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NOUN-FORMING SUFFIXES

"result of, state of"

-m(e), -ma(t-)	result of, thing that is the result of	scheme, phlegm
-sis, -se, -sy, -sia	act of, state of, result of	thesis, heresy
-y (-ia)	quality of, state of, act of, condition of	polyandry

"writing"

-gram	thing written	pentagram
-graph	writing, instrument for writing	phonograph
-graphy	writing, art or science of writing	biography

"one who does"

-(a)st	one who does	dynast
-ician	specialist in, practitioner of	mathematician
-ite, -ot(e)	one connected with, inhabitant of	sodomite, patriot
-t(e)	one who, that which	neophyte

"belief in"

-ism	belief in, practice of, condition of	atheism
-ist	one who believes in, one engaged in	Platonist

"one who rules"

-arch	one who rules	patriarch
-crat	one who advocates or practices rule by	bureaucrat

"rule by"

-archy	rule by	matriarchy
-cracy	rule by, type of government	aristocracy

Scientific Suffixes

"science of"

-(t)ics	art, science, system or study of	mathematics
-log(y)	science of, systematic study of	philology
-nom(y)	science of, system of laws governing	astronomy
-metr(y)	art or science of measuring	chronometry

"little" (diminutive)

-arium,-arion	little	conarium, Hipparion
-idium	little	antheridium
-ium, -ion	little	bacterium, asterion
-isk, -iscus	little	basilisk, meniscus

Other Scientific Suffixes

-in(e)	chemical substance	melanin, chlorine
-hedron	solid figure with a (specified) number of faces	dodecahedron
-meter	measure, instrument for measuring, number of feet in poetry	barometer, hexameter
-ploid	"-fold"	diploid ("twofold")
-scope	instrument for viewing, to view	otoscope

Medical Suffixes

"surgical removal of"

-ectomy	surgical removal of ("act of cutting out")	vasectomy
-tomy	surgical operation on, surgical cutting of	lobotomy

"disease"

-path	one who suffers from a disease of, one who treats a disease	psychopath
-pathy	disease of, treatment of disease of or by	otopathy

"madness"

-mania	madness about, passion for	pyromania
-maniac	one having a madness or passion for	nymphomaniac

"fear"

-phobia	abnormal fear or hatred of	arachnophobia
-phobe	one who fears or hates (abnormally)	homophobe

Other Medical Suffixes

-emia	condition of the blood, congestion of blood in	septicemia
-iasis	diseased condition (often caused by parasites)	hypochondriasis
-itis	inflammation of, inflammatory disease of	colitis
-ium	part, lining or enveloping tissue, region	pericardium
-oma	tumor of, swelling containing, diseased	carcinoma
-osis	condition of, result of	halitosis
-orrh(o)ea	diseased condition of, act of, process of	logorrhea
-therapy	abnormal discharge	electrotherapy
	treatment of or by	