

## Abilene ISD Grade Level Prefix, Suffix, Root List

Fifth Grade (Review roots and affixes from previous grades.)				
Root or Affix	Meaning	Examples	Origin	Notes
super-	above; on top of; beyond	superfine, superhuman, supersonic	Latin	
hyper-	over; above; excessive	hyperactive, hypercritical	Greek	
multi-	many; much	multicolor, multifamily	Latin	
poly-	many; much	polygon, polysyllable	Greek	
tele-	distant; far	television, telephone	Greek	
mis-	bad or badly; wrong or wrongly	misbehave, misread, misspell	Latin	
inter-	between	intercept, interview, interstate	Latin	
mid-	middle	midnight, midweek	Anglo-Saxon	
sub-	under, beneath, below; secondary	subway, subsoil, substitute	Latin	
-en	made of; to make	wooden, dampen, tighten	Anglo-Saxon	
-ment	act; process	enjoyment, replacement	Latin	Usually a noun
-dom	condition of	boredom, freedom, kingdom	Anglo-Saxon	Usually a noun
-ship	condition of; skill	championship, friendship, hardship	Anglo-Saxon	Usually a noun
-ist	one who does a specific action	artist, tourist	Latin/ Greek	Usually a noun
-able, -ible	can be done	enjoyable, sensible, likable	Latin	
-er, -or	one who/that which	baker, boxer, conductor, survivor	Latin	Use -or with Latin roots (inventor, elevator); -er with Anglo-Saxon roots (heater, swimmer)
max(i)	great	maximum, maximize	Latin	
meter, metr	measure	diameter, odometer, metric, perimeter	Greek	
photo	light	photograph, telephoto, photocopy	Greek	
port	to carry	portable, transport	Latin	
Sixth Grade (Review roots and affixes from previous grades.)				
Root or Affix	Meaning	Examples	Origin	Notes
de-	reduce down; away from	defeat, deform, decrease	Latin	
ex-	out of; away from	extract, exhale, extend	Latin/ Greek	
auto-	self	autograph, automatic	Greek	
bio-	life	biography, biological	Greek	
mini-	small	miniature, minimum	Latin	From the Latin word miniature
micro-	small; minute	microbiology, microscope	Greek	
mis-	bad or badly; wrong or wrongly	misbehave, misread, misspell	Latin	
-ity	state of; quality of	prosperity, equality	Latin	Usually a noun
-al, -ial	related to; characterized by	colonial, biennial, dental, betrayal	Latin	Usually an adjective
-ish	relating to; characteristic of	childish, foolish	Anglo-Saxon	Usually an adjective
-hood	the state; the condition; the quality	boyhood, likelihood	Anglo-Saxon	Usually a noun
-logy, -ology	science of; study of	biology, chronology	Greek	
act	put in motion; process of doing	action, react, transact	Latin	
fract, frag	to break	fracture, fraction, fragment	Latin	
geo	earth; ground; soil	geography, geology	Greek	
graph	write	autograph, graph	Greek	
man, manu	hand	manicure, manually	Latin	
phon	voice; sound	telephone, symphony	Greek	
scrib; script	to write	describe, manuscript	Latin	Verbs usually use scribe (prescribe); nouns usually use script (prescription)
spect; spec	to see; watch; observe	prospect, respect, specimen	Latin	

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Seventh Grade (Review roots and affixes from previous grades.)				
Root or Affix	Meaning	Examples	Origin	Notes
ab-	from; away	absent, absorb, abnormal	Latin	
a-	on; in; to	across, aboard, aside	Anglo-Saxon/Latin	
a-	without; not	atypical, amoral, asocial	Anglo-Saxon/Latin	
pro-	forward; before; in support of	proceed, pronounce, prohibit	Latin/Greek	Some words with pro- as a prefix are often hyphenated, so be sure to check the dictionary.
intra-	within	intranet, intramural	Latin	
-ic	relating to; characterized by	energetic, historic	Latin/ Greek	Usually an adjective
in- (il- im- ir-)	not	inability, impatient, immature, impatient, irregular, illegal, illegible	Latin	il- used before roots beginning with l; im- used before roots beginning with b, m, p; ir- used before roots beginning with r
-ize	to make; to cause to become	fertilize, criticize, apologize	Latin/ Greek	Usually a verb
-fy, -ify	to make	satisfy, magnify	Latin	Usually a verb
-age	result of an action; collection	manage, drainage, acreage	Latin	
-some	characterized by a specified quality, condition, or action	awesome, lonesome	Anglo-Saxon	Primarily used with Anglo-Saxon base words.
chron	time	chronology, synchronize	Greek	
dict	to say; tell	diction, dictator	Latin	
gen	race, kind, or species; birth	gender, genetics, genesis	Latin	
grat	thanks; pleasing	congratulations, gratify	Latin	
ject	to throw	inject, objection	Latin	
liber	free	liberty, liberate	Latin	
opt	eye; to make a choice	optometry, optic, optional	Latin	
ped; pod	foot	pedal, pedestrian, tripod	Latin	
urb	city	urban, suburban	Latin	Exurb: a modern word meaning large cities that directly surround a major city (Arlington is an exurb of Dallas.)
Eighth Grade (Review roots and affixes from previous grades.)				
Root or Affix	Meaning	Examples	Origin	Notes
co-, con-, com-	together; with	cooperate, concede, combine	Latin	Concrete means to harden or to grow together
fore-	before; earlier	forearm, foreword	Anglo-Saxon	
-cide	kill	germicide, pesticide	Latin	Usually a noun
-ary	relating to; place where; one who	dictionary, infirmary, cautionary, dietary, missionary	Latin	Noun or adjective
-ism	act; belief; practice of	patriotism, idealism, absenteeism,	Latin/ Greek	Usually a noun
-lude	condition; state; quality of	altitude, gratitude	Latin	Usually a noun
ambul	to walk	ambulatory, amble, preamble	Latin	
aud, audi	to hear; listen	audible, audition	Latin	
auto	self	automatic, autopsy	Greek	
aqua	water	aquarium, aquamarine	Latin	
ast(er), astro	star	astrology, astronaut, asteroid	Latin	
claim; clam	to declare; call out; cry out	exclaim, clamorous	Latin	
crat; cracy	rule; strength; power	democrat, aristocracy	Greek	
demo	people	democracy, epidemic, demographic	Greek	
duct; duc	lead	induce, conduct	Latin	
min	small, little	minimum, minimal, miniature	Latin	
path	feeling; suffering; disease	apathetic, pathology	Greek	
tele	far off	telecast, telephone	Greek	
struc; struct	to build	construct, instructor	Latin	
vis, vid	to see	vision, evidence	Latin	

## Abilene ISD Grade Level Prefix, Suffix, Root List

English I (Review roots and affixes from previous grades.)				
Root or Affix	Meaning	Examples	Origin	Notes
hypo-, hyp-	below; less than normal	hypothermia, hypnosis	Greek	
mega-	great; huge	megabyte, megaphone	Greek	
ultra-	beyond in degree; extreme	ultramarine, ultraviolet	Latin	
-ent, -ant	an action; condition	student, contestant, immigrant	Latin	Often a noun; the suffix -ant often indicates a person
-ent, -ant	causing a specific action	obedient, absorbent, abundant, elegant	Latin	Often an adjective; schwa causes -ent and -ant to sound alike; -ent is used somewhat more often than -ant.
-ous, -ious, -eous	full of; characterized by	adventurous, nervous, mysterious, courteous	Latin	Usually an adjective
scope	to watch, see	horoscope, microscope, telescope	Greek	
tract	to draw; pull	attract, distract, retract	Latin	
form	to shape	conform, reform, transform	Latin	
bene	well; good	benediction, beneficial	Latin	
cardi	heart	cardiac, cardiology	Latin	
ego	self	egocentric, egoism	Latin	
don; donat	give; gift	donate, donation	Latin	
luc; lum	light	translucent, illuminate	Latin	
neg	no; deny	negative, negate	Latin	
phys	nature	physics, physical	Greek	
psych	mind; soul	psychic, psychopath	Greek	
sci	to know; learn	science, conscience	Latin	
terr	land	terrain, territory	Latin	
vac	empty	vacate, evacuate	Latin	
English II (Review roots and affixes from previous grades.)				
Root or Affix	Meaning	Examples	Origin	Notes
anti-	opposite; against	antibiotic, antifreeze	Greek	
homo-	same	homogeneous, homonym	Latin	
hetero-	different; other	heterochromatic, heterogeneous	Greek	Heteronyms: words with the same spelling, but different meanings (dove – the bird; dove – did dive)
-ian, -an	one having a certain skill; relating to; belonging to	electrician, magician, American, suburban	Latin	Usually a noun
-ive, -itive, -ative	inclined; tending toward an action	festive, talkative, active, sensitive	Latin	If word ends with -de, change the -de to s then add -ive (intrude; intrusive); if word end with silent e drop e then add -ive (create; creative)
-ence, -ance	act; condition of	persistence, excellence, assistance, importance	Latin	Usually a noun; -ence and -ance sound alike because of the schwa. -ence is used somewhat more often than -ance.
anni; annu; enni	year	anniversary, semiannual, millennium	Latin	Usually a noun
arch	chief; ruler	archenemy, matriarch	Greek	
-gram	write, a letter, a written record	telegram, epigram, diagram, grammar	Greek	
inter-	between	intercept, interview, interstate	Latin	
jur, jus	law	jury, justice	Latin	
log, logue	thought	logic, dialogue	Latin	
mand, mend	order	demand, recommend	Latin	
mater; matr; matri	mother	maternal, matrimony, matriarch	Latin	
mot; mob	to move	motivate, mobilize	Latin	
pater; patr	father	paternal, patriot	Latin	
nate; nat	born	native, innate	Latin	
neo	new	neonatal	Greek	
ped	child	pediatrician	Greek	
therm	heat	thermometer, thermostat	Greek	

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English III (Review roots and affixes from previous grades.)				
Root or Affix	Meaning	Examples	Origin	Notes
ante-	in front of; before	antecedent, antebellum	Latin	Fun info—antepenultimate means next to the next to the last; this word can usually be found on the SAT.
post-	after; following	postpone, postwar	Latin	
omni-	all	omnipresent, omniscient, omnivorous	Latin	
-ery	relating to; quality; place where	imagery, pottery, bakery	Anglo-Saxon	Usually a noun
-ium	chemical element; group	helium, aquarium	Greek	Usually a noun
aer, aero	air	aerial, aerospace	Greek	
bell	war	belligerent, antebellum, rebel	Latin	
cede; ceed	to go; yield; surrender	proceed, secede, precede, concede	Latin	
cept, ceive	to take; catch; seize; hold	receive accept, deceive	Latin	Additional roots with same definition: cap (captive); ceit (conceit); cep (concept); cip (municipal)
leg; lect; lig	law; to choose; to pick/ to read; to speak	legend, legal, intelligent, elect, lecture	Latin	The roots lect, lect, and lig are related to the Greek combining form logos, meaning speech or word.
mania	madness; frenzy; abnormal desire; obsession	maniac, kleptomania	Greek	
nov	new	novice	Latin	
nym; onym	name; word	antonym, synonym	Greek	
phobia; phobic; phobe	irrational fear or hatred; one who fears; hates	aquaphobia, claustrophobic, technophobe	Greek	There are names for more than 500 phobias, most of which come from the field of medicine.
pop	people	population, popular	Latin	
pend	to hang; weigh	suspend, pendulum	Latin	
reg	guide; rule	regime, regent	Latin	
rupt	break; burst	bankrupt, rupture, disruptive	Latin	FYI: Erupt = to explode. (The volcano erupted.) Irrupt = to rush or burst in. (The police irrupted into the hideout.)
sol	alone	solitary, soliloquy	Latin	
tox	poison	toxic, toxicology	Latin	
English IV (Review roots and affixes from previous grades.)				
Root or Affix	Meaning	Examples	Origin	Notes
en- em-	to cause to be; to put into or onto	encounter, enable, employ, embark	Latin	
trans-	across; change; through	transformation, transportation, transfer	Latin	
archae; arche; archi	primitive; ancient	archaeologist, archives, archetype	Greek	
cred	to believe credit,	incredible	Latin	
cogn	to know	cognition, recognize	Latin	
hemo; hema	blood	hematology, hemophilia	Greek	
loc; loqu	to speak; talk; say	colloquial, ventriloquist, loquacious	Latin	
luna	moon	lunar, lunatic	Latin	
mar	sea	maritime, submarine	Latin	
morph	shape	polymorphic, metamorphosis, morphing	Greek	
mort	death	mortuary, mortality	Latin	
para	beside	paramedic, paraphrase, comparison	Greek	
pel	to drive; push	expel, propeller	Latin	
phil	love	philosophy, bibliophile	Greek	
qui(t)	quiet, rest	acquit, tranquil	Latin	
sens, sent	feel	resent, sensitive	Latin	
tact; tang	to touch	contact, tangible	Latin	
temp	lime	temporary, temporize	Latin	
ver; veri	true; genuine	verdict, veritable	Latin	
voc; voke	to call	advocate, revoke	Latin	