

14 Valuable Word Roots

Root word	Meaning	Examples
cept, cap, ciev, or ceit	To take, to seize, to receive	capable, capsule, captive, captor, capture, accept, deception, exception, interception, conception, respectable, perceptive, precept, receive, receipt, deceive, deceit
duc, duce, or duct	To lead	conduct, deduct, educate, induce, introduction, produce, reduce, reduction, production
fac, fact, fic, fect	To make, (other various meanings)	fact, manufacture, faculty, facility, facile, facilitate, satisfaction, factor, beneficiary, amplification, certificate, confection, affect, defective disinfect, efficacy, magnificent, personification, sufficient, proficient
fer	To bring, bear, yield	refer, reference, confer, conference, inference, suffer, transfer, defer, differ, difference, fertilize, circumference, odoriferous
-graph	To write	autograph, photograph, bibliography
mit or miss	To send	mission, missile, missive, admit, admission, commit, dismissed, emissary, intermission, intermittent, remiss, remit, remittance, submit, remission, transmit, emit, permit, permission, permissive, transmission
-ology	The study of	archeology, biology, psychology, physiology,
Plic, ply	To fold	implicit, implicitness, explicit, implication, replicate, complicated, application, ply, apply, imply, reply
pos, pon, pose	To put, place, set	position, compose, composite, dispose, oppose, component, postpone, proponent, deposit, compound, depose, preposition, disposal, exposition, exponent, expose, impose, suppose, opponent, proposition
scrib or script	To write	scribble, scribe, ascribe, describe, description, conscript, inscribe, inscription, superscription, prescribe, prescription, prescribe, script, scripture transcript, transcription
sist, sta, or stat	To stand, endure	persist, consistent, consist, desist, assist, resist, assistant, insist, stamina, constant, distant, obstacle, standard, substance,
spec or spect	To see, watch, observe	Spectacles, spectator, inspection, respect, spectrum, disrespect, inspector, retrospective, species, special, specimen
tend, tens, tent	To stretch, strain	tendency, intend, intention, intently, extended, tense, intense, pretense, tension, attention, distend, detention, unintentionally, intensity
ten tent, or tain	To have, hold	tenant, tenable, tenacity, contents, contentment, intent, maintain, contain, retain, retentive

Echevarría Jana, et al. Making Content Comprehensible for English Learners: the SIOP Model. Pearson, 2017.
(Compiled by M.K. Henry, 1990)