

Clues to Meaning: Root Words

A root word is a word that can be made into new words. We make these new words by adding letters to the front of a root word, called a prefix. We can also make new words by adding letters to the end of a root word. We call these letters a suffix.

A root word can help us understand the meaning of a word we don't know. If we know what the root word means, then we have a clue to what the unknown word means.

Example:

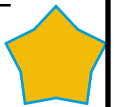
Whole word
disconnection

Root word
connect

Meaning of root word
join or attach

For each word below, write the root word, its meaning, and a possible meaning of the whole word.

Whole word	Root word	Meaning of root word
1. popularity	_____	_____
2. renewal	_____	_____
3. multiplication	_____	_____
4. unexpectedly	_____	_____
5. believability	_____	_____
6. disagreeable	_____	_____
7. triangular	_____	_____
8. characterization	_____	_____
9. revolution	_____	_____
10. disappearance	_____	_____



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Whole word	Root word	Meaning of root word
1. popularity	popular	Student's answers will vary
2. renewal	renew or new	
3. multiplication	multiply	
4. unexpectedly	expect	
5. believability	believe	
6. disagreeable	agree	
7. triangular	triangle	
8. characterization	character	
9. revolution	revolt	
10. disappearance	appear	

