

ROOT WORDS

What are Root Words?

A **root** is the foundation on which the meaning of the word is built.

A **ROOT** is the basic element of a word.

The root of the word rewrite is write.
re = again
rewrite = to write again

Finding the **root** of a word can help you figure out the meaning of the word.

Example:

The root *ped* means foot.

pede

peda



Some roots

ZOO

place

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ns a public

Zoology = the study of animals

Some roots need to be combined with other word elements in order to form a word.

Hydr- is a root that means water.

Hydr- is not a word by itself.

When added to *-oplane*, it forms the word hydroplane.

Hydroplane means a plane that can land and glide on WATER.

A word can contain more than one root.

The word manuscript has two roots.

man = hand

script = to write

manuscript = to write by hand