

Combining Forms

The following is not complete (what is?) but it is unlikely that even the most assiduous learner of English will need more. Rarer combining forms often occur with only a few technical words and can be learned with them as single lexemes.

Form	Meaning	Example
Prefixed forms		
agro- / agri-	of agriculture	agrochemical, agribusiness
allo-	other	allomorph
amphi-	round or both	amphitheatre, amphibious
Anglo-	of Britain	Anglophobia
anthropo-	of people	anthropology
aqua-	of water	aqueduct
archaeo-	ancient	archaeology
astro-	of stars	astrophysics
audi- / audio-	of sound	audible, audiotape
biblio-	of books	bibliophile
bio-	of life	biochemist
carcino-	of cancer	carcinogenic
cardio-	of the heart	cardiogram
chemo-	of chemistry	chemotherapy
chrom-	of colour	chromatology
chrono-	of time	chronometer
cosmo-	of the universe	cosmology
cryo-	of cold	cryogenic
crypto-	of secret	cryptogram
cyber-	of electronic communication	cyberspace
cyto-	of cells	cytology
eco-	of the environment	ecowarrior
ethno-	of a people	ethnography
ferro-	of / containing iron	ferro-concrete
Franco-	of France	Franco-Spanish
gastro-	of the stomach	gastronome
geo-	of the earth	geology
Germano-	of Germany	Germano-centric
helio-	of the sun	heliotropic
hetero-	different	heterogenous
homo-	same	homogenous
hydro-	of water	hydroelectric
neuro-	of nerves	neurosurgery
osteo-	of bones	osteoarthritis
paedo-	of children	paediatric
para-	like	paramilitary
patho-	of disease	pathology
petro-	of rocks or petroleum	petrology, petrochemical
philo-	liking	philanthropy
photo-	of light	photography
physio-	of the body	physiotherapy
psycho-	of the mind	psychology

radio-	of electromagnetism	radiology
Russo-	of Russia	Russo-Japanese
Sino-	of China	Sinology
socio-	of society	socio-economical
stereo-	three dimensional / solid	stereophonic, stereotype
theo-	of religion or god(s)	theocrat, theology
thermo-	of heat	thermodynamic
topo-	of place	topology
tox-	of poison	toxicology
xeno-	of outsiders	xenophilia
zoo-	of animals	zoogeography
Suffixed forms		
-algia	of pain	neuralgia
-anthropic	of people	philanthropic
-chrome / -chromatic	of colour	monochrome
-cide	of killing	pesticide
-cracy	of government	democracy
-crat	of government	autocrat
-cyte	cell	lymphocyte
-form	in the shape of	cuneiform
-gate	of scandals	expenses-gate
-genic	producing	carcinogenic
-gon	of angles	hexagon
-gram / -graph	of writing or recording	telegram, monograph
-logue (AmE -log)	of discourse or collection	monologue, catalogue
-logy	study of	zoology
-meter /-metry	of measurement	thermometer, telemetry
-monger	dealer or trader in	fishmonger, warmonger
-phile / -philia	of a liker / liking	bibliophile, xenophilia
-phobe / -phobia / phobic	of aversion	xenophobe
-phone	sound or speaker	telephone, anglophone
-sect	dividing or cutting	bisect, vivisect
-stasis	maintaining a state	haemostasis
-vore	feeding on	herbivore