

# St Mark's Root word of the Week

What is a  
root word?



# -mal-

Can you think of any words which have -mal- as part of them?

What do these words mean?

What does 'mal' mean in French?



# Can you match the word to the definition?

Malapropism

Failing to function properly.

Malevolent

A disease transmitted by mosquitoes.

Malnutrition

Wishing to do evil to others.

Malcontent

Lack of enough food or lack of some nutrients.

Malaria

A person who is dissatisfied.

Malfunction

Using the wrong word in place of a similar sounding one.



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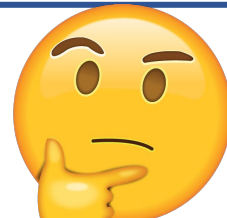
Malaria

A disease transmitted by mosquitoes.

Malfunction

Failing to function properly.

So what does '-mal-' mean?



# mal

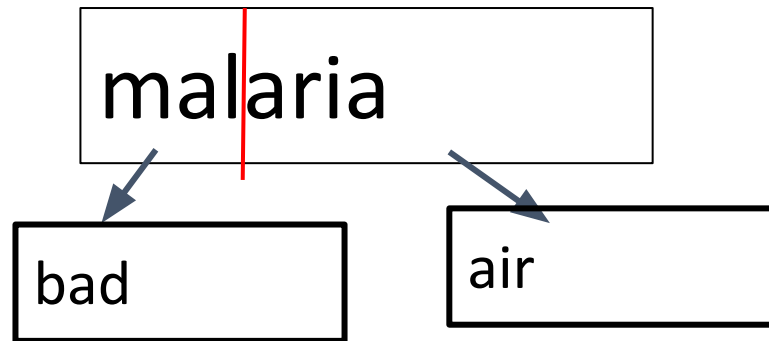
## Definition

bad

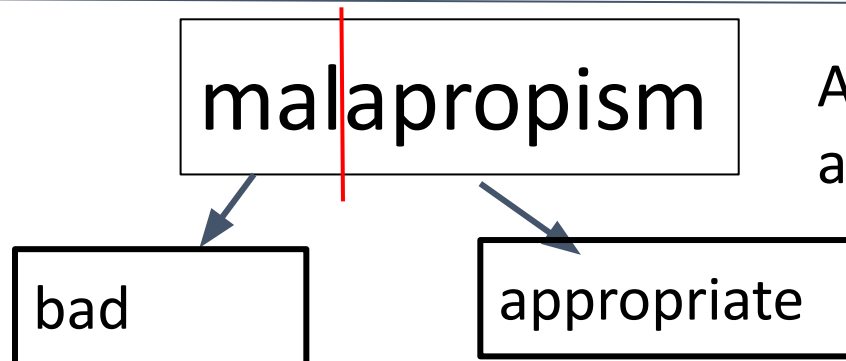
### Examples

1. Voldemort had dark, malevolent eyes.
2. Barry was risking malnutrition by not eating vegetables.
3. Their endless complaining made them seem like a malcontent.
4. The computer malfunctioned so the teacher had to restart it.

Let's look more closely  
at malaria and  
malapropism



Malaria was thought to  
be spread by bad air



A word that isn't  
appropriate/correct



# Malapropisms

Richard Brinsley Sheridan wrote a play in 1775 called 'The Rivals'.

One of the characters was called Mrs Malaprop and she would often use the wrong word in place of a similar sounding one.

For example:

"She is the pineapple of politeness"

Instead of

She is the *pinnacle* of politeness



# Malapropisms

Can you work out what the correct word should be in these examples? Remember it will sound similar!

1. He couldn't hear them through his hearbuds.
2. She rang her up on the tellingphone.
3. On November 5th, they had a bond fire.
4. They stuck it back together with duck tape.
5. They hated small spaces because they had close-a-phobia.
6. It was used as an escape goat to blame everything on.
7. His jumpers were stored in the chesterdrawers.
8. If you expect me to give up you've got another think coming.
9. I'm just biting my time until I'm ready.
10. You've got to be careful, it's a doggy dog world out there.
11. If you go to Rome, you have to visit the sixteenth chapel.



# Malapropisms

Can you work out what the correct word should be in these examples? Remember it will sound similar!

1. He couldn't hear them through his earbuds.
2. She rang her up on the telephone.
3. On November 5th, they had a bonfire.
4. They stuck it back together with duct tape.
5. They hated small spaces because they had claustrophobia.
6. It was used as a scapegoat to blame everything on.
7. His jumpers were stored in the chest of drawers.
8. If you expect me to give up you've got another thing coming.
9. I'm just biding my time until I'm ready.
10. You've got to be careful, it's a dog eat dog world out there.
11. If you go to Rome, you have to visit the Sistine Chapel.





How could you use a word containing '-mal-' in your lessons this week?

