

Forces • Vocabulary Skill

Latin Word Origins

Many science words come to English from Latin. In this chapter you will learn the word *compress*. *Compress* comes from the Latin words *com* meaning “together” and *premere* meaning “to press.” *Compress* means “to press together.”

Latin Origin	Meaning	Key Term
<i>centri-</i>	Center	Centripetal force
<i>com-</i>	Together, with	Compression
<i>jacere</i>	Throw	Projectile
<i>premere</i>	Press	Compression
<i>pro-</i>	Forward, before	Projectile
<i>tensus</i>	Stretch	Tension

Apply It!

Answer the questions using the table above.

1. If the Latin *petere* means “seek” what do you predict the meaning of *centripetal* is? *A force pulling an object moving in a circular path toward the center*
2. What English verb can be made from *pro* and *jacere* that means “throw”?
3. Predict how a person who was *tense* would feel.
4. Extension question: If the Latin *fugere* means “to flee,” what is the meaning of *centrifugal* and what key term is it the opposite of?

⑤ Project

③ They would feel like their nerves were being stretched

④ It means a force pulling an object moving in a circular path away from the center. Opposite of centripetal.

