

## FINDING THE TRANSLATION YOU NEED

### Look for root words.

What should you do if you can't find the word you're looking for in the dictionary? Don't give up. If you dig a little deeper, the dictionary may still be able to help.

For example, say you want to find the meaning of the word *saisonnier* and discover that it isn't in the dictionary. However, in your search through the dictionary you spot the word *saison*. You look at your word again and see ***saisonnier***. *Saison* means *season*, so you guess that *saisonnier* has something to do with the seasons. From the rest of the sentence, you can then probably work out what *saisonnier* means → *seasonal*.

*Saison* is the **root word** that can see inside *saisonnier*. A **root word** is a word from which other words are made by adding prefixes or suffixes, for example:

<b>Root Word</b>	+	<b>Suffix</b>	=	
rapide	+	-ment	=	rapidement
travailler	+	-eur	=	travailleur
triste	+	-sse	=	tristesse

<b>Prefix</b>	+	<b>Root Word</b>	=	
in-	+	satisfait	=	insatisfait
mal-	+	heureux	=	malheureux
super-	+	poser	=	superposer

### Your turn! À ton tour!

Look carefully at the following words and identify the root word of each of them. Write down the meaning of the root word beside it, and see if you can then work out what each word means.

<b>Word</b>	<b>Root Word</b>	<b>Meaning of Root Word</b>
neigeux	_____	_____
océanique	_____	_____
historiquement	_____	_____
malchance	_____	_____
surexcité	_____	_____
inégal	_____	_____

**Tip:** If you can't find a word in the dictionary, see if you can break the word down and find a root word that you do know to help you work out the meaning.