Vocabulary Root Words Lesson 1 GOOD and BAD

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| Root Word | Meaning | Words You Already Know |
| bene | good | benefit |
| mal | bad | malicious |

NEW WORDS: Write a 1 next to the words you know well, a 2 next to those words that you “kind of” know, and a 3 next to the words you don’t know at all. Then highlight the root words “bene” and “mal” in the definitions and example sentences.

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| **1, 2, 3** | **Definitions** | **Example Sentences** |
|  | benefactor (n): somebody who aids a cause, institution, or person, especially with a gift of money (sponsor, patron, supporter, backer) | After the donation by her kind benefactor, Alicia was able to complete her studies abroad. |
|  | benevolent (adj): showing kindness or goodwill (kind, caring, compassionate, generous, giving, kindly) | The benevolent teacher gave all of the students an A+ on their first vocabulary test. |
|  | malfeasance (n): conduct by a public official that cannot be legally justified or that conflicts with the law (misconduct, unlawful act) | The governor’s malfeasance came as a surprise to everyone. Who would have guessed he was secretly a cocaine smuggler?  |
|  | malevolent (adj): wanting to cause harm (evil, malicious, spiteful, wicked, nasty, mean) | We didn’t know she had malevolent intentions until she pulled out the machine gun. |
|  | malcontent (n): somebody who is discontented or dissatisfied, especially somebody who seems to be continually or chronically grumpy (rebel, grouch, complainer) | Everyone in the meeting groaned when the malcontent began arguing with the boss again. |
|  | malefactor (n): wrongdoer, especially a criminal (troublemaker, scoundrel, reprobate) | When the playground was burned down, everyone knew it was the work of some malefactor or another. |
|  | maladroit (adj): showing a lack of skill or tact (awkward, inept) | His maladroit social skills often made others feel uncomfortable. |
|  | malinger (v): to pretend to be ill, especially in order to avoid work | The teacher began to suspect that Casey was malingering after her fourth absence. |