Happy families

Words can be grouped together because they derive from the same word. You could say they are in the same word family. For example, the words conduct, introduce, and produce all come from the Latin word ducere meaning to lead.

1 These words are all missing the same four letters. Can you complete the words?

a) contra (to say that something is wrong or untrue)

b) ......................... ion (a person’s way of speaking words)

c) ......................... ionary (a book containing words in alphabetical order)

d) pre (to say what will happen in the future)

The above words all come from a Latin word that means to say. Write down the Latin word here:

...........................................

2 See if you can find the Latin word from which each of the following groups of English words originates.

a) word family A
revive, survive, and vivid all come from
the Latin word ........................................ meaning ........................................

b) word family B
describe, inscribe, prescribe, scribble, scribe, script, and scripture all come from
the Latin word ........................................ meaning ........................................

c) word family C
compel, dispel, expel, impel, propel, and repel all come from
the Latin word ........................................ meaning ........................................