

Suffixes

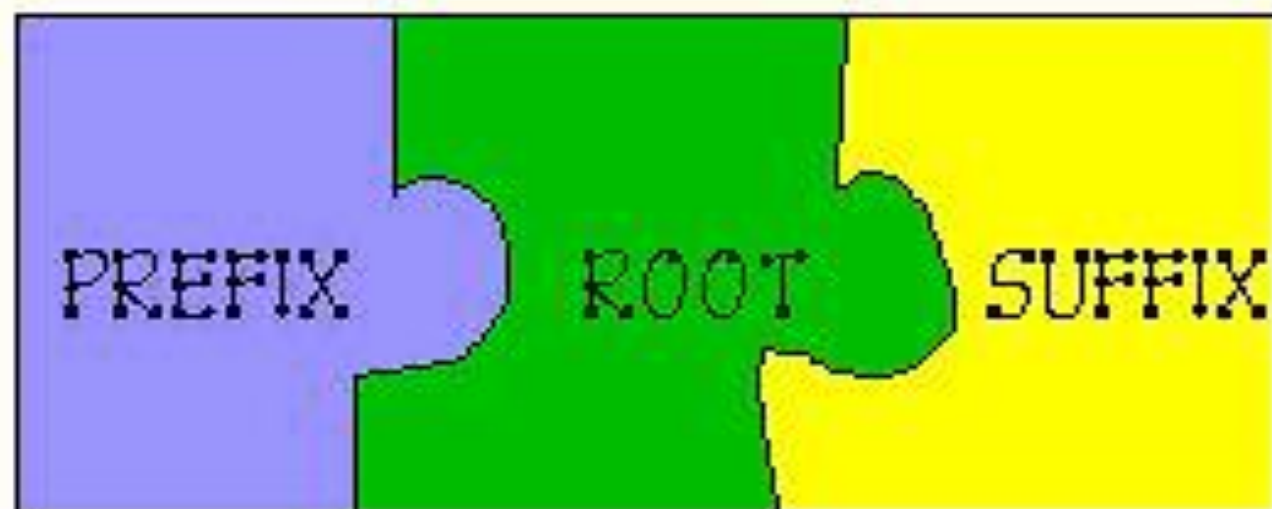
What are they and why do we
need to know them?



Word Parts

- *Prefix - beginning*
- *Root – main word*
- *Suffix - ending*

WORD PARTS ARE
LIKE PARTS OF A PUZZLE!



un+accept+able= unacceptable

↑
(root word)

Prefixes

A group of letters placed
before the root word.

Suffixes

A group of letters placed
after the root word.

prefix root word suffix

uncomfortable
irregularly
disorganised
unconfidently
disrespectfully

Roots



- What is a root word?
 - word you can add beginnings and ends to
- Why look at root word?
 - helps find meanings of words

A **suffix** is a letter or group of letters added to the end of a word /or a word stem/ in order to form a new word or to alter the grammatical function of the original word.

More About Suffixes



- What is a suffix?
 - group of letters attached to ends of words
 - can indicate what part of speech the word belongs
 - also changes meaning

The main function of suffixes is to create new nouns, verbs and adjectives. Here is a list of the most common suffixes in English:

Noun suffixes	Examples	Original word
-acy	privacy, numeracy	private, numerate /adj-s/
-al	proposal	propose /verb/
-ance, -ence	maintenance, evidence	maintain /v/, evident /adj/
-dom	freedom, officialdom	free /adj/, official /n/
-er, -or	shopper, protector	shop, protect /verbs/
-ism	absolutism	absolute /adj/
-ist	saxophonist	saxophone /noun/
-ity, -ty	humidity	humid /adj/
-ment	argument	argue /verb/
-ness	heaviness	heavy /adj/
-ship	relationship	relation /noun/
-sion, -tion	abbreviation, recession	abbreviate, recede /verbs/

Verb suffixes	Examples	Original word
-ate	irritate	irritation /noun/
-en	cheapen	cheap /adj/
-ify, -fy	horrify	horror /noun/
-ise, -ize	civilise	civil /adj/

Adjective suffixes	Examples	Original word
-able, -ible	lovable, accessible	love /v/, access /noun/
-al	regional	region /noun/
-esque	picturesque	picture /noun/
-ful	plentiful	plenty /noun/
-ic, -ical	mythic, biological	myth, biology/nouns/
-ious, -ous	atrocious, portentous	atrocious, portent /nouns/
-ish	devilish	devil /noun/
-ive	active	act /verb/
-less	hopeless	hope /noun/
-y	lazy	laze /verb/

Exercise: Using the correct suffix.

Copy the word stems that follow and add what you think is the correct ending. When you have finished, check your spellings in a dictionary and try to remember the correct form of any words that you spelt incorrectly.

1 Add *-ance* or *-ence* to:

abund–

assist–

correspond–

dilig–

eloqu–

exist–

guid–

nuis–

rever–

2 Add *-ense* or *-ence* to:

abs–

disp–

exp–

imm–

int–

off–

pret–

recomp–

3 Add *-able* or *-ible* to:

advis–

contempt–

cred–

ed–

forc–

illeg–

incorrig–

indefens–

indispens–

inexhaust–

laud–

respons–

sens–

vis–

GOOD LUCK!