**Some English Derivational Affixes**

| **Affix** | **Change** | **Examples** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Suffixes:** |  |  |
| ***-able*** | **V → A** | **fix-able, do-able, understand-able** |
| ***-ing1*** | **V → A** | **the sleep-ing giant, a blaz-ing fire** |
| ***-ive*** | **V → A** | **assert-ive, impress-ive, restrict-ive** |
| ***-al*** | **V → N** | **refus-al, dispos-al, recit-al** |
| ***-ant*** | **V → N** | **claim-ant, defend-ant** |
| ***-(at)ion*** | **V → N** | **realiz-ation, assert-ion, protect-ion** |
| ***-er*** | **V → N** | **teach-er, work-er, trad-er** |
| ***-ing2*** | **V → N** | **the shoot-ing, the danc-ing** |
| ***-ment*** | **V → N** | **treat-ment, amaze-ment, adjourn-ment** |
| ***-dom*** | **N → N** | **king-dom, fief-dom** |
| ***-ful*** | **N → A** | **faith-ful, hope-ful, dread-ful** |
| ***-(i)al*** | **N → A** | **president-ial, nation-al** |
| ***-(i)an1*** | **N → A** | **Arab-ian, Singapore-an, Mali-an** |
| ***-(i)an2*** | **N → A** | **Einstein-ian, Newton-ian, Chomsky-an** |
| ***-ic*** | **N → A** | **cub-ic, optimist-ic, moron-ic** |
| ***-less*** | **N → A** | **penni-less, brain-less, need-less** |
| ***-ous*** | **N → A** | **poison-ous, lecher-ous** |
| ***-ize/ise1***  ***-(i)fy1*** | **N → V**  **N → V** | **hospital-ize, vapor-ize**  **classi-fy, glory-fy, fals-ify, mummi-fy** |
| ***-ish*** | **A → A** | **green-ish, tall-ish** |
| ***-ate*** | **A → V** | **activ-ate, captiv-ate** |
| ***-en*** | **A → V** | **dead-en, hard-en, black-en** |
| ***-ize/ise2***  ***-(i)fy2*** | **A → V**  **A → V** | **modern-ize, national-ize**  **divers-ify, intens-ify, electri-fy** |
| ***-ly*** | **A → Adv** | **quiet-ly, slow-ly, careful-ly** |
| ***-ity*** | **A → N** | **stupid-ity, prior-ity** |
| ***-ness*** | **A → N** | **happi-ness, sad-ness** |
|  |  |  |

| **Affix** | **Change** | **Examples** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Prefixes:** |  |  |
| ***anti-*** | **N → N** | **anti-hero, anti-depressant** |
| ***ex-*** | **N → N** | **ex-president, ex-wife, ex-friend** |
| ***de-*** | **V → V** | **de-activate, de-mystify** |
| ***dis-*** | **V → V**  **A → A**  **N → N** | **dis-continue, dis-obey, dis-please**  **dis-honest, dis-loyal**  **dis-advantage, dis-courtesy** |
| ***en-*** | **V → V**  **N → V**  **A → V** | **en-code, en-tomb, en-throne**  **en-power, en-rage, en-slave**  **en-noble, en-able, en-feeble** |
| ***mis-*** | **V → V** | **mis-identify, mis-place** |
| ***re-*** | **V → V** | **re-think, re-do, re-state** |
| ***in-*** | **A → A** | **in-competent, in-glorious** |
| ***un1-*** | **A → A** | **un-happy, un-fair, un-intelligent** |
| ***un2-*** | **V → V** | **un-tie, un-lock, un-do** |
|  |  |  |

Adapted from: O’Grady, W., Dobrovolsky, M. & Katamba, F. (1996) *Contemporary Linguistics: An Introduction.* Harlow: Longman, pp.145-146.