



Tecnicatura Universitaria  
en Programación

## INGLÉS I

Unidad Temática N° 3:  
Afijos

Actividad Complementaria II  
1° Año – 1° Cuatrimestre



## Suffixes

### Common suffixes

Suffixes change the class of the root Word. For example, by adding the suffix *-er*, the verb *publish* becomes the noun *publisher*. Suffixes can tell you if a word is a noun, adjective, verb or adverb.

Suffixes for jobs:

**-er** *manufacturer* The two major **manufacturers** of processor chips are Intel and AMD.

*webmaster*

**-eer** *engineer* Greg is a **software engineer**, which means he writes computer programs.

*auctioneer*

**-or** *animator* He worked as a computer **animator** on *Toy Story*.

*operator*

**-ant** *IT consultant* She's a **computer consultant** and specializes in e-commerce, data protection and IT strategies.

*IT assistant*

**-ian** *technician* A **computer technician** installs, troubleshoots and upgrades hardware and software.

*electrician*

**-ist** *typist* Anyone who works as a **typist** may develop a problem with their hands.

*scientist*

Other common suffixes in ICT:

Nouns: **-ion, -ment, -ics, -ity** compression, management, robotics, electricity  
(activity, state)

Adjectives: **-able, -ible** (able to be) programmable (keyboard), convertible  
(format)

**-ful** (full of), **-less** (without) colorful, colorless (picture)

Verbs:           **-ize, -ise** (to make)           synthesize (music – to make it with a synthesizer)

### Word families

It is useful to know how to build up word families by adding suffixes. Look at these examples:

Nouns	Verbs	Adjectives	Adverbs
magnet, <b>magnetism</b>	<b>magnetize</b>	<b>magnetic, magnetized</b>	<b>magnetically</b>
recorder, <b>recording</b>	record	<b>recordable, recorded</b>	
digitizer, <b>digitizing</b>	<b>digitize</b>	<b>digital, digitized</b>	<b>digitally</b>

Adding a suffix may change the pronunciation. Look at how the stress changes in these words:

photographer      photographer      photographic      photographically

### We love “wares”

The suffix –ware refers to products of the same type. In computing, software refers to programs executed by a computer, as opposed to the physical devices on which they run – the hardware. It is commonly used to form jargon terms for classes of software.

**Freeware:** available free of charge, but protected by copyright; it differs from “free software”, which can be changed and distributed subject to license.

**Shareware:** distributed similarly to freeware, except that it requires payment after a trial period.

**Malware:** designed to infiltrate or damage a computer (e.g. viruses, Trojan horses, spyware).

**Spyware:** designed to monitor the actions of your computer and send this data via the Net.

**Adware:** devised to display advertisements; some includes spyware.

**Groupware:** enables a group of people connected to a network to work on the same project.

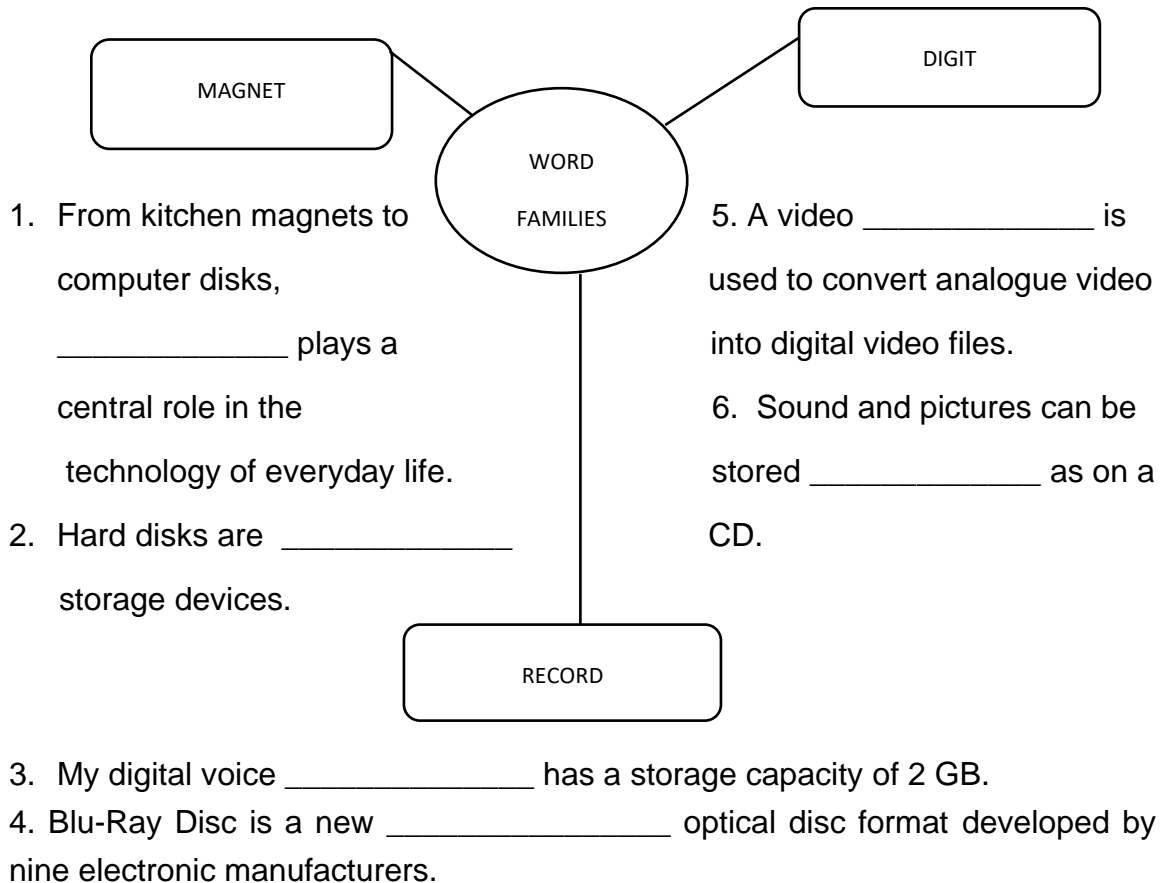
**1. Which IT professionals from section A above are described here?**

1. A person who designs and maintains software application:  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. A person who gives expert, professional advice: \_\_\_\_\_
3. A person who uses graphics software to make or edit animated pictures:  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. A person who is employed to type letters, reports and other documents:  
\_\_\_\_\_
5. A person or enterprise that produces goods in large numbers, using machines: \_\_\_\_\_
6. A specialist in the technical details of computers: \_\_\_\_\_

**2. Complete each sentence using the word in brackets and the correct suffix from section A above.**

1. IBM's BlueGene is the most \_\_\_\_\_ supercomputer.  
(POWER)
2. Most library databases are \_\_\_\_\_ via the Internet.  
(ACCESS)
3. I'll email my report to you as an \_\_\_\_\_. (ATTACH)
4. This book will show you how to \_\_\_\_\_ your small business.  
(COMPUTER)
5. An \_\_\_\_\_ optical disc allows data to be deleted and new data to be recorded on it. (ERASE)
6. The growth of the Internet has increased the need for effective data \_\_\_\_\_. (SECURE)
7. The combination of \_\_\_\_\_ and new textile materials has made it possible to create musical jackets and smart shirts that can read our heart rate. (ELECTRON)
8. Bluetooth is a \_\_\_\_\_ technology designed to connect computers, mobile phones and other devices, replacing direct cable links.  
(WIRE)
9. Aircraft flight \_\_\_\_\_ is used to train pilots. (SIMULATE)

**3. Look at the word families in section B above and complete these sentences with the correct word.**



**4. Look at section C above. What type of software do these descriptions refer to?**

1. Software that transmits data about your Web surfing habits without your consent: \_\_\_\_\_
2. Also known as “try before you buy” software: \_\_\_\_\_
3. Short for malicious software: \_\_\_\_\_
4. Collaborative software: \_\_\_\_\_
5. Programs that you don’t have to pay for: \_\_\_\_\_

## Bibliografía

Marco Fabré, E. & S. Remacha Esteras. (2007). *Professional English in Use ICT* (Intermediate to Advanced). Cambridge, UK. Cambridge University Press.



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