

VOCABULARY BUILDING

1. Prefixes and Suffixes.

In this presentation, students will be able to recognize the most common prefixes and suffixes in English and how they change the meaning of words.



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PREFIXES AND SUFFIXES

- You can add prefixes and suffixes to create new words. This is called word derivation.
- You can understand new vocabulary by knowing the meaning of these affixes.
- You can also produce new terms by adding affixes to a base word.

1.Prefixes

- Add a prefix to create new words.
- Prefixes change the meaning of words. Examples:

Happy → Unhappy

Agree → Disagree

Byte → Megabyte

1.a. Some common prefixes

Prefix	Meaning	Example
anti-	against	antibiotic
inter-	between	interconnection
il-, in-, im-, ir-, un-	not	invisible
micro-	small	microscope
sub-	under	submarine
a-, an-	not, without	apolitical
de-, dis-	not	discomfort
para-	false, related to	paramilitary
hyper-	over	hypertension
over-	a lot	overpopulation
mono-	one, singular	monochromatic

WHY IS IT HELPFUL TO LEARN PREFIXES?

- Prefixes will help us to understand the meaning of a word in a sentence.
- If you know the meaning of a prefix found in a strange word, you partially understand the meaning of that word.

For example:

- New manual explains the rules of cyberwarfare.
- Their action caused unforeseen consequences.

2. Suffixes

- Suffixes change the “part of speech” and the meaning.

Happy (adjective) → **Happiness** (noun)

Agree (verb) → **Agreement** (noun)

Easy (adjective) → **Easily** (adverb)

Health (noun) → **Healthy** (adjective)

2.a. Common suffixes

Suffix	Meaning	Added to base	Example
-able, -ible	able to	confort	corfortable
-ful	full of	hope	hopeful
-ic	characteristic of	electricity	electric
-less	without	color	colorless
-ly	manner of	order	orderly
-ion, -tion, -ation, ition	act, process	attract	occasion, attraction
-ment	action, process	joy	enjoyment
-ness	state of	dark	darkness
-ity, -ty	state of	tranquil	tranquility
-er	one who	drive	driver
-en	perform	white	whiten

2.b. Suffixes in words.

You can decipher the meaning of words if you know some suffixes. Suffixes can also give you clues about the part of speech that the word belongs to.

For example:

- The prime minister made a statement to the press.**
- The old computer is useless. It doesn't work properly.**
- The sky was cloudful.**

3. Prefixes and suffixes

Happy (Base word) **Unhappiness** (new term)

Can you identify the **base word** in these derived forms?

1. Imperceptible

2. Unfriendly

3. Decentralize

4. antidisestablishmentarianism

5. Bimonthly

6. Miscalculation

7. Unlucky

Prefixes and suffixes in words

New term gotten after affixes were added to a base word

1. **Im**perceptible

2. **Un**friendly

3. **De**centralize

4. **anti****dis**establish**ment****arianism**

5. **Bi**monthly

6. **Mis**calculation

7. **Un**lucky

TECHNICAL PREFIXES AND SUFFIXES

Computer

e-mail

cyberspace

synthes**ize**

upload

robot**ics**

Engineering

geothermal**al**

stiff**ness**

kinematics

Hydrocarbon

interface

Social Sciences

Managem**ent**

Enpowerment

Capital**ist**

Billionaire

Leaders**hip**

Examples of affixes in phrases and sentences

- *Equation 1 was integrated numerically to obtain the dimensionless thickness of the well.*
- **if you are an exceptionally talented individual, the United States offers you the chance to progress more quickly in your career and earn significantly more money.**
- **the Programme for International Student Assessment of the OECD (Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development).**

AFFIXES FROM A TEXT.

1. accidental	28. interconnection	56. entitle	84. misinterpreting	112. optional	140. misshaping
2. accidentally	29. interconnections	57. entitled	85. misinterprets	113. panelling	141. misshaped
3. adulthood	30. coolant	58. entitles	86. japan	114. parliamentary	142. sharpen
4. analytical	31. countercounter	59. entitling	87. japanese	115. partnership	143. signalling
5. analytically	32. countered	60. evolutionary	88. labelling	116. performance	144. sunken
6. annoyance	33. critically	61. exclusionary	89. lengthen	117. piglet	145. smarten
7. apologetically	34. critical	62. experimental	90. lengthways	118. preference	146. soften
8. assistance	35. cyclical	63. experimentally	91. librarianship	119. semipro	147. sponsorship
9. assistant	36. bicyclist	64. fellowship	92. locational	120. semipros	148. stardom
10. automatically	37. bicyclists	65. flowery	93. logical	121. promotional	149. strengthen
11. avoidance	38. darken	66. fractionally	94. logically	122. proportional	150. stylistically
12. behavioural	39. decent	67. fractional	95. logician	123. proportionally	151. sweeten
13. behavioral	40. definitional	68. freshen	96. marginal	124. reactionary	152. antitank
14. blockage	41. democratically	69. frighten	97. marginally	125. reactant	153. thicken
15. boundary	42. deterministic ally	70. fuelling	98. marvelling	126. recessional	154. threaten
16. brighten	43. diagrammatic ally	71. generational	99. mateship	127. recessionary	155. tighten
17. broaden	44. dietary	72. golden	100. materialistically	128. reflectance	156. topical
18. cancelling	45. directional	73. honorary	101. message	129. rental	157. traditional
19. channelling	46. disappearance	74. institutional	102. metrical	130. resistance	158. tradition ally
20. cheer	47. distributional	75. institution ally	103. metric ally	131. resistant	159. transference
21. chicken	48. domestic ally	76. instructional	104. modelling	132. respondent	160. trickery
22. citizenship	49. dramatic ally	77. instruction ally	105. moralistically	133. revisionary	161. wardship
23. coastal	50. duckling	78. intentional	106. motorways	134. revolutionary	162. weaken
24. complainant	51. editorship	79. intention ally	107. mountaineer	135. scenic ally	163. midwinter
25. interconnect	52. emotional	80. misinterpret	108. neighborhood	136. seasonal	164. unwise
26. interconnected	53. emotion ally	81. misinterpretation	109. neighbour hood	137. season ally	165. withdrawal
27. interconnects	54. energetically	82. misinterpretations	110. observational	138. misshape	
	55. entire	83. misinterpreted	111. officialdom	139. misshapes	

WHAT WE HAVE LEARNED:

Knowing affixes (prefixes and suffixes) will allow you to:

- 1. Understand how words are derived in English.**
- 2. Figure out the meaning of new words.**
- 3. Recognize word “families” based on the affixes attached.**
- 4. Be able to create new vocabulary.**
- 5. Expand your vocabulary.**