

Lexo-Morphological Tendencies in English

English 'Circumfixes'

en-large

light-en

€

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:

} Hypercorrect

} Left-overs

prefix

suffix

meaning

cause

These circumfix-like patterns are *not* very productive in English

Hand: Noedelhap/iStock/Thinkstock

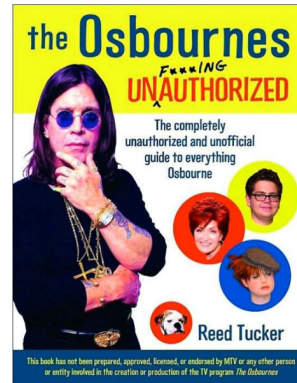
English 'Infixes'

Conceptually, functions as an intensifier.

abso-bloomin'-lutely

in-f####in-credible

abso-f####in-lutely



Tucker, Reed. Osbourne's Unf***ingauthorized: The completely Unauthorized and Unofficial Guide to Everything Osbourne. San Val, 2002. Print.

English Reduplication

dilly-dally

heebee-jeebies

chit-chat

fiddle-faddle

mumbo-jumbo

hocus-pocus

teenie-weenie

itsy-bitsy

boy toy

toy boy

pooper scooper

artsy-fartsy

walkie-talkie

What is the resulting effect?

Makes things trivial.

English Reduplication

'Gang-bang'

Onomasiology

Extremely serious referent.

Semasiology

Trivializing reduplicative form.