



# Reading Comprehension

## Prefixes and Suffixes

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## Prefixes and Suffixes

Learning the meanings of common prefixes and suffixes is another great way to expand one's receptive lexicon. These three worksheets give students practice at adding prefixes and suffixes to words, and then defining the updated meaning. As with the *Word Roots* exercises, students become better able to break unfamiliar words down into chunks of meaning. As they familiarize themselves with common prefixes and suffixes, they will begin to identify meanings more readily.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

## Prefixes

Prefixes are chunks of meaning that can be added to the beginning of words.

**Examples:** reread, **dis**engage, **un**fair, **pre**view, **int**olerable, **co**dependent

**Directions:** Add one of the following prefixes to each numbered word and give the new definition.

**(Note:** Sometimes the spelling of the new word may need to be changed)

### Prefixes:

**re** = again; **pre** = before; **co** = with or together; **bi** = two;

**multi** = many; **mal** = bad or wrong; **dis**, **un**, **in** = not or opposite

- 1) \_\_\_\_\_ write \_\_\_\_\_
- 2) \_\_\_\_\_ dependent \_\_\_\_\_
- 3) \_\_\_\_\_ open \_\_\_\_\_
- 4) \_\_\_\_\_ adapted \_\_\_\_\_
- 5) \_\_\_\_\_ reliable \_\_\_\_\_
- 6) \_\_\_\_\_ action \_\_\_\_\_
- 7) \_\_\_\_\_ view \_\_\_\_\_
- 8) \_\_\_\_\_ loyal \_\_\_\_\_
- 9) \_\_\_\_\_ worker \_\_\_\_\_
- 10) \_\_\_\_\_ colored \_\_\_\_\_
- 11) \_\_\_\_\_ lingual \_\_\_\_\_
- 12) \_\_\_\_\_ cycle \_\_\_\_\_
- 13) \_\_\_\_\_ nourished \_\_\_\_\_
- 14) \_\_\_\_\_ upholster \_\_\_\_\_
- 15) \_\_\_\_\_ happy \_\_\_\_\_
- 16) \_\_\_\_\_ justice \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

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## Suffixes

Suffixes are chunks of meaning that can be added to the end of words.

**Examples:** agreement, happiness, writer, instructor, beautiful, freedom, quickly

**Directions:** Add one of the following suffixes to each numbered word and give the new definition.

**(Note:** Sometimes the spelling of the new word may need to be changed)

### Suffixes:

**ment** = condition of; **ness** = state of being; **er** and **or** = one who; **ful** = full of;

**dom** = place or state of being; **ly** turns adjectives into adverbs

- 1) write \_\_\_\_\_
- 2) king \_\_\_\_\_
- 3) open \_\_\_\_\_
- 4) contain \_\_\_\_\_
- 5) happy \_\_\_\_\_
- 6) argue \_\_\_\_\_
- 7) bore \_\_\_\_\_
- 8) punish \_\_\_\_\_
- 9) work \_\_\_\_\_
- 10) color \_\_\_\_\_
- 11) engage \_\_\_\_\_
- 12) sad \_\_\_\_\_
- 13) adapt \_\_\_\_\_
- 14) commence \_\_\_\_\_
- 15) silent \_\_\_\_\_
- 16) doubt \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

## Prefixes and Suffixes

**Directions:** Define each of the following words

(Remember: **able** and **ible** are suffixes that mean **able to** and **in**, **un**, **non**, and **dis** are prefixes that mean **not** or **the opposite**)

- 1) undependable \_\_\_\_\_
- 2) unreliable \_\_\_\_\_
- 3) disagreeable \_\_\_\_\_
- 4) unattainable \_\_\_\_\_
- 5) unavailable \_\_\_\_\_
- 6) unemployable \_\_\_\_\_
- 7) disable \_\_\_\_\_
- 8) unforgettable \_\_\_\_\_
- 9) unidentifiable \_\_\_\_\_
- 10) inaccessible \_\_\_\_\_
- 11) incomprehensible \_\_\_\_\_
- 12) dishonorable \_\_\_\_\_
- 13) unapproachable \_\_\_\_\_
- 14) nonrefundable \_\_\_\_\_
- 15) nonrenewable \_\_\_\_\_
- 16) intolerable \_\_\_\_\_
- 17) unbeatable \_\_\_\_\_
- 18) unbelievable \_\_\_\_\_
- 19) uneducable \_\_\_\_\_
- 20) unpredictable \_\_\_\_\_

