

Latin and Greek Suffixes: -An/-Ian and -Ity

Many suffixes we use in English originally come from Greek or Latin word endings. The suffix *-an/-ian* is from Latin meaning “having the skill” or “relating to.” The suffix *-ity* is from Latin meaning “condition” or “quality of.” Suffixes often change the way the root word is used, such as from a noun to an adjective. For example, the word *suburb* means “near a city.” Combine *suburb* with *-an*, and it becomes the word *suburban*. Based on its original meaning, *suburban* means “relating to that near a city” or the adjective form of suburb.

Use the list in the bank to make five different English words out of *an/-ian* and *-ity*. You may add a prefix or change the spelling a little if needed. Write a sentence for each word you make and circle the word you made with the suffix. Be sure to use words for both *-an/-ian* and *-ity*.



Word Bank

captive
celebr
fertile
grav
librar
magic
music
necess
physic
veter

Sentences:

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

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captive
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Sentences:

1. **Student's choice**
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.