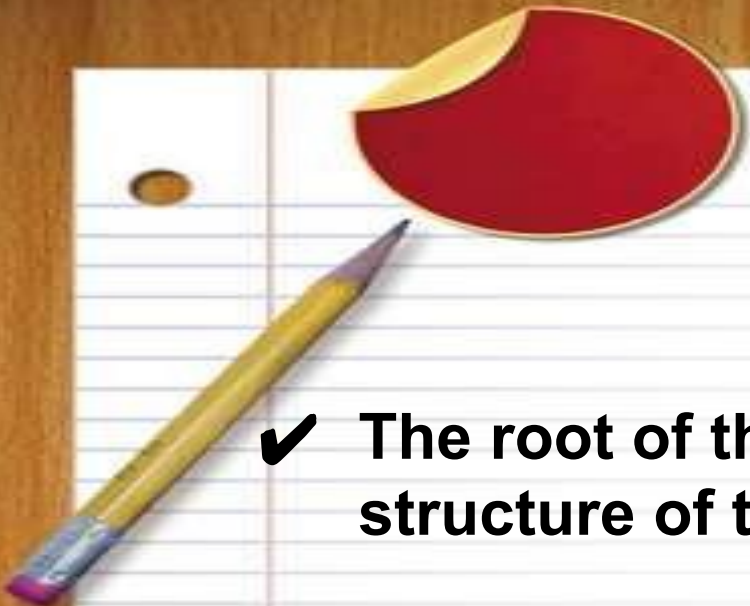




# Developmental Reading

## **Root Words**

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- ✓ The root of the word is the “body” or basic structure of the word.
  - ✓ A root, or root word, is a word that does not have a prefix (in front of the word) or a suffix (at the end of a word).

Root	Definition	Examples
Ambi	both	ambiguous, ambidextrous
Aqua	water	aquarium, aquamarine
Aud	to hear	audience, audition
Bene	good	benefactor, benevolent
Cent	one hundred	century, percent
Circum	around	circumference, circumstance
contra/counter	against	contradict, encounter
Dict	to say	dictation, dictator
duc/duct	to lead	conduct, induce
Fac	to do; to make	factory, manufacture
Form	shape	conform, reform
Fort	strength	fortitude, fortress
Fract	to break	fracture, fraction
Ject	throw	projection, rejection
Jud	judge	judicial, prejudice
Mal	bad	malevolent, malefactor
mater	mother	material, maternity
mit	to send	transmit, admit
mort	death	mortal, mortician
multi	many	multimedia, multiple
pater	father	paternal, paternity
port	to carry	portable, transportation



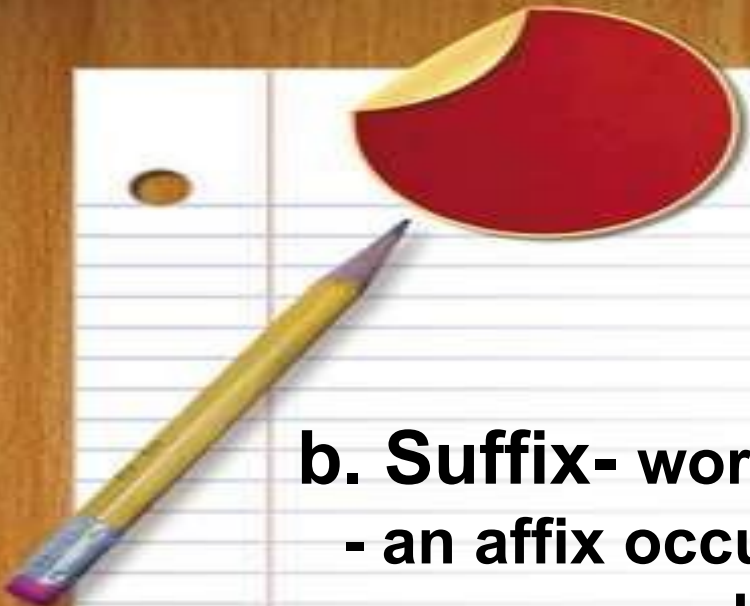
**Root words are often  
attached to three kinds of affixes:**

**a. Prefix- word attached before the  
roots**

**- an affix attached to the beginning  
of a word, base, or phrase and  
serving to produce a derivative  
word or an inflection form.**

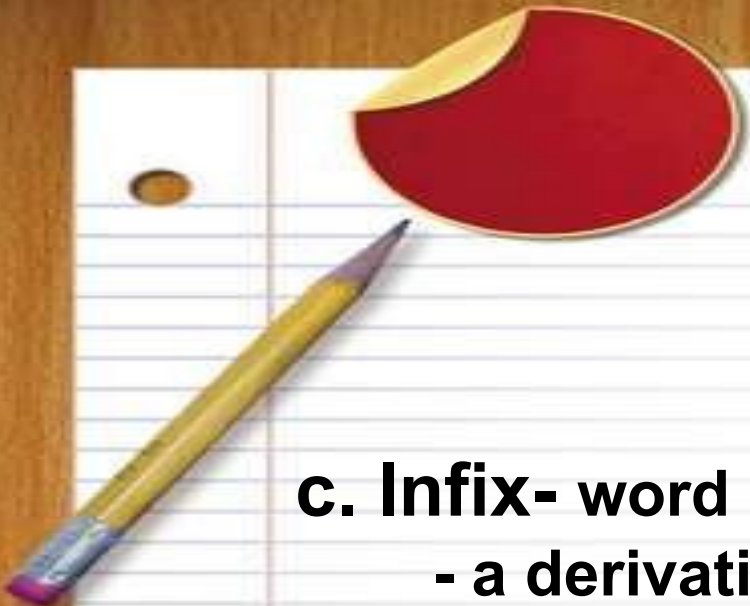
Prefix	Definition	Examples
anti-	against	anticlimax
de-	opposite	devalue
dis-	not; opposite of	discover
en-, em-	cause to	enact, empower
fore-	before; front of	foreshadow, forearm
in-, im-	in	income, impulse
in-, im-, il-, ir-	not	indirect, immoral, illiterate, irreverent
inter-	between; among	interrupt
mid-	middle	midfield
mis-	wrongly	misspell
non-	not	nonviolent
over-	over; too much	overeat
pre-	before	preview
re-	again	rewrite
semi-	half; partly; not fully	semifinal
sub-	under	subway
super-	above; beyond	superhuman
trans-	across	transmit
un-	not; opposite of	unusual
under-	under; too little	underestimate





**b. Suffix-** word part attached after the root  
- an affix occurring at the end of a word,  
base or phrase

Suffix	Definition	Examples
-able, -ible	is; can be	affordable, sensible
-al, -ial	having characteristics of	universal, facial
-ed	past tense verbs; adjectives	the dog walked, the walked dog
-en	made of	golden
-er, -or	one who; person connected with	teacher, professor
-er	more	taller
-est	the most	tallest
-ful	full of	helpful
-ic	having characteristics of	poetic
-ing	verb forms; present participles	sleeping
-ion, -tion, -ation, -tion	act; process	submission, motion, relation, edition
-ity, -ty	state of	activity, society
-ive, -ative, -itive	adjective form of noun	active, comparative, sensitive
-less	without	hopeless
-ly	how something is	lovely
-ment	state of being; act of	contentment
-ness	state of; condition of	openness
-ous, -eous, -ious	having qualities of	riotous, courageous, gracious
-s, -es	more than one	trains, trenches
-y	characterized by	gloomy



**c. Infix-** word part attached within the root  
- a derivational or inflectional affix  
appearing in the body of a word (as  
Sanskrit – n – in vindami “ I know” as  
contrasted with vid “to know”)



Thank You!

