Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Advisory: \_\_\_\_\_

#

**WORD ATTACK!**

**PREFIXES, SUFFIXES, ROOTS**

When you read, say or hear a word, you are instantly putting together words and taking them apart to figure out what the words mean. (You probably don’t even realize you’re doing this, but this is how you learned English). Now that classes, college and your future job require you to know and use even more words, we must continue to break down more complex words.

Good readers use information from text to decipher unfamiliar words. They examine clues from the selection to define unfamiliar words and phrases. They look at the parts of a word, examining the beginning part (is there a prefix?), the root word, the end part (is there a suffix?).

**Definitions**

* Prefix:A prefix is a word part at the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of a word that adjusts its meaning. A prefix cannot stand alone.
* Root: A root is the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ on which the meaning of a word is built. It contains the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ meaning of the word, but it cannot stand alone.
* Suffix: A suffix is a word part at the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of a word that adjusts its meaning. A suffix cannot stand along.

**Example: Premeditation 🡪** Prefix: \_\_\_\_\_\_, Root: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, Suffix: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_

*Front of notecard Back of notecard*

**De-**

Prefix

Means: opposite of,

from, away

Examples: demerit, debug

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Root/**  **Prefix/**  **Suffix** | **Meaning** | **Examples** |
| 1 | de- | 1. opposite of  2. from  3. away/down | decelerate - to slow down, reduce speed  dethrone - to remove from power  debug - to remove bugs  demerit  decriminalize  Your word: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  Definition: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ |
|  | **Root/**  **Prefix/**  **Suffix** | **Meaning** | **Examples** |
| 2 | Non-  *Prefix* | 1. no  2. not  3. without | nondescript - with no special characteristics nonfiction - true, real, not made-up  nonsense - without sense  non-human  nonessential  nonmetallic  Your word: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  Definition: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ |
| 3 | pro-  *Prefix* | Forward  (*also* before, in front of, for) | prognosis - a prediction of what will happen  prologue - a passage before the main part  prophet - a person who foretells the future  proceed  promote  Your word: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  Definition: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ |
| 4 | se-  *Prefix* | Apart | secede - to formally break away from  seclude - to keep away from  Your word: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  Definition: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ |
| 5 | un-  *Prefix* | 1. not  2. opposite of  3. lacking | unabridged - not shortened  unfair - opposite of fair  unfriendly - lacking friendliness  unhappy  Your word: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  Definition: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ |
| 6 | bas-  *Root* | low | basement  bass  Your word: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  Definition: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ |
| 7 | tact- tang-  *Root* | touch | contact - a state in which two things touch  tactile - relating to the sense of touch  tangible - able to be touched  intact - with nothing missing  Your word: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ |
|  | **Root/**  **Prefix/**  **Suffix** | **Meaning** | **Examples** |
| 8 | ten-  *Root* | hold | tenacious  retentive  Your word: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  Definition: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ |
| 9 | -less  *Suffix* | Without, lacking (adj) | meaningless  fearless  Helpless  Your word: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  Definition: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ |
| 10 | -ness  *Suffix* | The quality or state of (make a noun) | aggressiveness  softness  kindness  Your word: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  Definition: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ |
| 11 | -ship  *Suffix* | state or condition of, skill of (n) | sportsmanship  friendship  authorship  Your word: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_  Definition: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ |

**PRACTICE!**

**dethrone**

a. Circle all that apply. This word has a: prefix suffix neither

b. If it has a prefix, write it here \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

If it has a suffix, write it here \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ .

c. Does this have a root word in it? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

d. This word means: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**declass**

a. Circle all that apply. This word has a: prefix suffix neither

b. If it has a prefix, write it here \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

If it has a suffix, write it here \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ .

c. Does this have a root word in it? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

d. This word means: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**dehydration**

a. Circle all that apply. This word has a: prefix suffix neither

b. If it has a prefix, write it here \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

If it has a suffix, write it here \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ .

c. Does this have a root word in it? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

d. This word means: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**deactivate**

a. Circle all that apply. This word has a: prefix suffix neither

b. If it has a prefix, write it here \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

If it has a suffix, write it here \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ .

c. Does this have a root word in it? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

d. This word means: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**defrost**

a. Circle all that apply. This word has a: prefix suffix neither

b. If it has a prefix, write it here \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

If it has a suffix, write it here \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ .

c. Does this have a root word in it? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

d. This word means: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**decompress**

a. Circle all that apply. This word has a: prefix suffix neither

b. If it has a prefix, write it here \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

If it has a suffix, write it here \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ .

c. Does this have a root word in it? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

d. This word means: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**deplane**

a. Circle all that apply. This word has a: prefix suffix neither

b. If it has a prefix, write it here \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

If it has a suffix, write it here \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ .

c. Does this have a root word in it? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

d. This word means: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**nonviolence**

a. Circle all that apply. This word has a: prefix suffix neither

b. If it has a prefix, write it here \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

If it has a suffix, write it here \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ .

c. Does this have a root word in it? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

d. This word means: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**nonstop**

a. Circle all that apply. This word has a: prefix suffix neither

b. If it has a prefix, write it here \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

If it has a suffix, write it here \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ .

c. Does this have a root word in it? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

d. This word means: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**base**

a. Circle all that apply. This word has a: prefix suffix neither

b. If it has a prefix, write it here \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

If it has a suffix, write it here \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ .

c. Does this have a root word in it? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

d. This word means: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**citizenship**

a. Circle all that apply. This word has a: prefix suffix neither

b. If it has a prefix, write it here \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

If it has a suffix, write it here \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ .

c. Does this have a root word in it? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

d. This word means: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**friendship**

a. Circle all that apply. This word has a: prefix suffix neither

b. If it has a prefix, write it here \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

If it has a suffix, write it here \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ .

c. Does this have a root word in it? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

d. This word means: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**shyness**

a. Circle all that apply. This word has a: prefix suffix neither

b. If it has a prefix, write it here \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

If it has a suffix, write it here \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ .

c. Does this have a root word in it? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

d. This word means: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**weakness**

a. Circle all that apply. This word has a: prefix suffix neither

b. If it has a prefix, write it here \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

If it has a suffix, write it here \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ .

c. Does this have a root word in it? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

d. This word means: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**homeless**

a. Circle all that apply. This word has a: prefix suffix neither

b. If it has a prefix, write it here \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

If it has a suffix, write it here \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ .

c. Does this have a root word in it? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

d. This word means: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**childless**

a. Circle all that apply. This word has a: prefix suffix neither

b. If it has a prefix, write it here \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

If it has a suffix, write it here \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ .

c. Does this have a root word in it? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

d. This word means: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**unethical**

a. Circle all that apply. This word has a: prefix suffix neither

b. If it has a prefix, write it here \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

If it has a suffix, write it here \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ .

c. Does this have a root word in it? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

d. This word means: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**unrest**

a. Circle all that apply. This word has a: prefix suffix neither

b. If it has a prefix, write it here \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

If it has a suffix, write it here \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ .

c. Does this have a root word in it? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

d. This word means: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**nonresident**

a. Circle all that apply. This word has a: prefix suffix neither

b. If it has a prefix, write it here \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.

If it has a suffix, write it here \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ .

c. Does this have a root word in it? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

d. This word means: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Step 1:** Explain—Provide a student-friendly description, explanation, or example of the new term.

* + tell a story using the term.
  + use video or computer images as a source of information.
  + use current events to connect the term to something familiar.
  + describe their own mental pictures of the term.
  + find or create pictures that exemplify the term.

**Step 2:** Restate—Ask students to restate the description, explanation, or example in their own words.

* the students “own” the new terms by constructing their own descriptions, explanations, or

examples. Their constructions need not be comprehensive, but efforts should be made to ensure they do not contain major errors.

**Step 3:** Show—Ask students to construct a picture, symbol, or graphic representation of the term.

**Step 4:** Discuss—Engage students periodically in structured vocabulary discussions that help them add to their knowledge of the terms in their vocabulary notebooks.

* compare and contrast terms
* classify terms
* identify antonyms and synonyms
* create analogies
* create metaphors
* add to or revise the entries in their vocabulary notebooks.

**Step 5:** Refine and reflect—Periodically ask students to return to their notebooks to discuss and refine entries.

* students examine the entries in their vocabulary notebooks to make changes, deletions, and additions (in pairs or small groups) Students might:

-compare their descriptions of the term

-describe their pictures to each other.

-explain to each other any new information they have learned or new thoughts they have had since the last time they reviewed the terms.

-identify areas of disagreement or confusion and seek clarification.

**Step 6:** Apply in Learning Games—Involve students periodically in games that allow them to play with terms.

-**Bowl of nouns?**

**OBJECTIVE:** The students will review and write words with suffixes, prefixes and roots.

**MATERIALS:**

• One dry-erase board (white board), marker, and eraser for each student

• Timer

**LESSON:**

Tell students that for this game, they must write as many “real” words with the same ending

rime as they can in 30 seconds. Hand out the materials.

Then,

1. Have the students write the target rime at the top of their white boards.

2. Set the timer for 30 seconds, and tell the students to begin writing.

3. At the end of 30 seconds, tell the students to stop. Have each take a turn telling the group one word she/he wrote. As the student does this have the other students cross off the word if it is on their lists. If *no* other students have the same word, then the student who is reading places a tally point mark next to the word.

4. Have students count their tally marks. The student with the most marks wins. Or, continue

playing the game with another rime.