

Prefixes

A **prefix** is a letter or a group of letters that are put in front of a root word to create a new word.

Example: bi ← The prefix *bi* means *two*.

+ cycle ← When the prefix is added to the root word *cycle* it creates the word *bicycle*, meaning a cycle with two wheels.

= bicycle

The following list of prefixes all mean *not* or *the opposite of*:
de-, *dis-*, *im-*, *mis-* and *un-*.

1. Underline the prefixes in the following words.

dislike	misunderstood	debone	unhappy
immature	disagree	disinfect	unable
discomfort	misbehave	impersonal	unbelievable
unafraid	detour	misadventure	disapprove

2. Add one of the prefixes listed in the margin to the root words below and then write a definition for the new word.

- a) _____ perfect _____
- b) _____ load _____
- c) _____ connect _____
- d) _____ fit _____
- e) _____ count _____
- f) _____ balance _____
- g) _____ patient _____

de-
dis-
im-
mis-
un-

Suffixes

A **suffix** is a letter or a group of letters added to the end of a root word. The addition of a suffix can sometimes affect the spelling of the root word.

Example: beauty – beautifully

A suffix can change the root word in different ways.

- It can change what part of speech the word is.
Example: happy (adjective) → happily (adverb)

- It can change the tense of the word.
Example: walk (simple present tense) → walked (simple past tense)

1. Underline the root word and circle the suffix in the following words.

- sharply
- encouragement
- rolling
- assessment
- wonderfully
- jumped
- dictation
- watering

2. Add different suffixes to the root words in the first column to make different parts of speech and change the tense of the root words. The first one has been done for you.

Root word	Adverb	Past tense
calculate	calculatedly	calculated
worry	worried__	
correct	correct__	
prompt	prompt__	
blind	blind__	
sharp	sharp__	