

SUFFIXES

Introduction: Suffixes are syllables added to the ends of words to change their functions. For example, add the suffix -ful to wonder (a noun); the new word is the adjective, wonderful. Other examples:

angel (noun) + ic	becomes	angelic (adjective)
friend (noun) + ship	becomes	friendship (noun)
sterile (adjective) + ize	becomes	sterilize (verb)
soft (adjective) + ly	becomes	softly (adverb)

Exercise A: Four Adjective Suffixes

Directions: Study the four suffixes and the examples below. Change each word in column A to an adjective by adding a suffix and write the new word in column B. You may have to change, drop, or add letters before adding the suffix to some words.

<u>Suffix</u>	<u>From</u>	<u>Example</u>
-ful	Old English	wonderful, merciful
-less	Old English	hopeless, senseless
-able	Latin	readable, capable
-ese	Latin	Japanese, Siamese

- | <u>A</u> | <u>B</u> |
|-------------------|------------------|
| 1. Portugal _____ | Portuguese _____ |
| 2. misery _____ | miserable _____ |
| 3. awe _____ | _____ |
| 4. move _____ | _____ |
| 5. China _____ | _____ |
| 6. remark _____ | _____ |
| 7. Canton _____ | _____ |
| 8. service _____ | _____ |
| 9. penny _____ | _____ |
| 10. grate _____ | _____ |

- | <u>A</u> | <u>B</u> |
|--------------------|----------|
| 11. child _____ | _____ |
| 12. Burma _____ | _____ |
| 13. consider _____ | _____ |
| 14. count _____ | _____ |
| 15. Congo _____ | _____ |
| 16. master _____ | _____ |
| 17. speech _____ | _____ |
| 18. wish _____ | _____ |
| 19. end _____ | _____ |
| 20. bounty _____ | _____ |

ANSWERS:

- | | | |
|----------------|------------------|----------------|
| 3. awful | 9. penniless | 15. Congolese |
| 4. moveable | 10. grateful | 16. masterful |
| 5. Chinese | 11. childless | 17. speechless |
| 6. remarkable | 12. Burmese | 18. wishful |
| 7. Cantonese | 13. considerable | 19. endless |
| 8. serviceable | 14. countless | 20. bountiful |

Exercise B: Four Adjective Suffixes

Directions: Same as Exercise A

	<u>Suffix</u>	<u>From</u>	<u>Example</u>
	-ian	Latin	Christian, Jeffersonian
	-ic	Greek	angelic, volcanic
	-ive	Latin	corrective, active
	-ous	Latin	riotous, poisonous

<u>A</u>	<u>B</u>	<u>A</u>	<u>B</u>
1. create _____		11. fame _____	
2. communist _____		12. graph _____	
3. religion _____		13. reptile _____	
4. impress _____		14. defect _____	
5. Freud _____		15. Brazil _____	
6. construct _____		16. atom _____	
7. hero _____		17. industry _____	
8. mass _____		18. moment _____	
9. Canada _____		19. enthusiast _____	
10. Italy _____		20. disaster _____	

ANSWER:

1. creative	6. constructive	11. famous	16. atomic
2. communistic	7. heroic	12. graphic	17. industrial
3. religious	8. massive	13. reptilian	18. momentous
4. impressive	9. Canadian	14. defective	19. enthusiastic
5. Freudian	10. Italian	15. Brazilian	20. disastrous

Exercise C: Four Noun Suffixes

Directions: The four suffixes below when added to words form nouns. Carefully study the suffixes and the examples. Change each word in column A to a noun by adding a suffix and write the new word in column B. You may have to change, drop, or add letters in some cases.

<u>Suffix</u>	<u>From</u>	<u>Examples</u>
-er	Old English	maker, hunter
-hood	Old English	manhood, likelihood
-ness	Old English	greatness, happiness
-ship	Old English	friendship, workmanship

- | | |
|-------------------|----------|
| <u>A</u> | <u>B</u> |
| 1. brother _____ | |
| 2. boy _____ | |
| 3. swim _____ | |
| 4. together _____ | |
| 5. sick _____ | |
| 6. farm _____ | |
| 7. write _____ | |
| 8. do _____ | |
| 9. partner _____ | |
| 10. court _____ | |

- | | |
|---------------------|----------|
| <u>A</u> | <u>B</u> |
| 11. trumpet _____ | |
| 12. woman _____ | |
| 13. member _____ | |
| 14. conscious _____ | |
| 15. neighbor _____ | |
| 16. empty _____ | |
| 17. false _____ | |
| 18. happy _____ | |
| 19. sportsman _____ | |
| 20. companion _____ | |

ANSWERS:

- | | | | |
|----------------|----------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| 1. brotherhood | 6. farmer | 11. trumpeter | 16. emptiness |
| 2. boyhood | 7. writer | 12. womanhood | 17. falsehood |
| 3. swimmer | 8. doer | 13. membership | 18. happiness |
| 4. together | 9. partnership | 14. consciousness | 19. sportsmanship |
| 5. sickness | 10. courtship | 15. neighborhood | 20. companionship |

Exercise D: Four Noun Suffixes

Directions: Same as exercise C

Suffix

- ess
- ee
- ism
- ive

From

- Greek
- French
- Greek
- Latin

Examples

- lioness, patroness
- employee, payee
- socialism, colloquialism
- detective, captive

- | | |
|-------------------|----------|
| <u>A</u> | <u>B</u> |
| 1. narrate _____ | |
| 2. emperor _____ | |
| 3. explode _____ | |
| 4. critic _____ | |
| 5. train _____ | |
| 6. govern _____ | |
| 7. object _____ | |
| 8. prince _____ | |
| 9. refuge _____ | |
| 10. patriot _____ | |

- | | |
|--------------------|----------|
| <u>A</u> | <u>B</u> |
| 11. duchy _____ | |
| 12. material _____ | |
| 13. legate _____ | |
| 14. direct _____ | |
| 15. bail _____ | |
| 16. vandal _____ | |
| 17. feudal _____ | |
| 18. baron _____ | |
| 19. devote _____ | |
| 20. commune _____ | |

ANSWERS:

1. narrative
2. empress
3. explosive
4. criticism
5. trainee

6. governess
7. objective
8. princess
9. refugee
10. patriotism

11. duchess
12. materialism
13. legatee
14. directive
15. bail

16. vandalism
17. feudalism
18. baroness
19. devotee
20. communist

Exercise E: Four Noun Suffixes

Directions: Same as Exercise C

Suffix
-ist
-ment
-ry
-tion

From
Greek
Latin
Latin
Latin

Examples
pianist, humorist
refreshment, establishment
dentistry, forestry
creation, transition

- | <u>A</u> | <u>B</u> |
|-----------------------|----------|
| 1. evaporate _____ | |
| 2. act _____ | |
| 3. philanthropy _____ | |
| 4. audit _____ | |
| 5. chemist _____ | |
| 6. column _____ | |
| 7. enjoy _____ | |
| 8. mimic _____ | |
| 9. persecute _____ | |
| 10. solo _____ | |

- | <u>A</u> | <u>B</u> |
|---------------------|----------|
| 11. embarrass _____ | |
| 12. jewel _____ | |
| 13. relate _____ | |
| 14. govern _____ | |
| 15. art _____ | |
| 16. rival _____ | |
| 17. tour _____ | |
| 18. minister _____ | |
| 19. apart _____ | |
| 20. measure _____ | |

ANSWER:

1. evaporation
2. action
3. philanthropist
4. audition
5. chemistry

6. columnist
7. enjoyment
8. mimicry
9. persecution
10. soloist

11. embarrassment
12. jewelry
13. relation
14. government
15. artist

16. rivalry
17. tourist
18. ministry
19. apartment
20. measurement

Exercise F: Four Suffixes

Directions: Of these last four suffixes, two form verbs, one forms adverbs, and one forms nouns. Study the examples carefully. Add a suffix to the words in column A and write your new word in column B. You may have to change, drop, or add letters in some cases.

<u>Suffixes</u>	<u>Parts of Speech</u>	<u>From</u>	<u>Example</u>
-en	verb	Old English	darken, lighten
-ize	verb	Greek	sterilize, satirize
-ly	adverb	Old English	softly, kindly
-ity	noun	Latin	civility, acidity

- | <u>A</u> | <u>B</u> |
|-------------------|----------|
| 1. certain _____ | |
| 2. theory _____ | |
| 3. careless _____ | |
| 4. idol _____ | |
| 5. fright _____ | |
| 6. minor _____ | |
| 7. complex _____ | |
| 8. late _____ | |
| 9. sympathy _____ | |
| 10. less _____ | |

- | <u>A</u> | <u>B</u> |
|---------------------|----------|
| 11. versatile _____ | |
| 12. bad _____ | |
| 13. senile _____ | |
| 14. major _____ | |
| 15. weak _____ | |
| 16. sudden _____ | |
| 17. strength _____ | |
| 18. critic _____ | |
| 19. tight _____ | |
| 20. harmony _____ | |

ANSWERS:

- | | | | |
|---------------|---------------|-----------------|----------------|
| 1. certainly | 6. minority | 11. versatility | 16. suddenly |
| 2. theorize | 7. complexity | 12. badly | 17. strengthen |
| 3. carelessly | 8. lately | 13. senility | 18. criticize |
| 4. idolize | 9. sympathize | 14. majority | 19. tightly |
| 5. frighten | 10. lessen | 15. weaken | 20. harmonize |