

prefixes and suffixes

Name:

Date:



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Prefixes and suffixes

Suffixes and prefixes are word parts that we can add to the **beginning or end** of a word to change its meaning.

A **suffix** is added to the **end of a word** and can change the word's tense, form, or meaning. For example, if we add the suffix "-ed" to the word "jump," it becomes "jumped," which means that the action of jumping happened in the past. Another example is adding the suffix "-ness" to the word "kind," which changes it to "kindness," meaning the quality of being kind "-less" to hope which means a lack thereof.

A **prefix**, on the other hand, is added to the **beginning of a word**. It also changes the meaning of the word. For instance, if we add the prefix "un-" to the word "happy," it becomes "unhappy," which means not happy. Another example is adding the prefix "pre-" to the word "fix," which changes it to "prefix," meaning something that comes before the main part of a word.

Practice the rules of prefixes and suffixes with flashcards

prefix	suffix
A word part added to the beginning of a word that changes its meaning.	A word part added to the end of a word that changes its meaning.
un- A prefix that means 'not' or 'opposite of', like in 'unhappy'.	-able A suffix that means 'capable of', like in 'readable'.
re- A prefix that means 'again' or 'back', like in 'redo'.	-ness A suffix that turns an adjective into a noun, like in 'kindness'.
dis- A prefix that means 'not' or 'opposite of', like in 'dislike'.	-ful A suffix that means 'full of', like in 'hopeful'.
pre- A prefix that means 'before', like in 'preview'.	-less A suffix that means 'without', like in 'fearless'.

Add a prefix or a suffix

happy

suffix: -ness

play

trust

agree

like

care

respect

comfort

believe

read

Mark the words that have a prefix or suffix

1. The basketball player's unbelievable dunk left the crowd in awe.
2. The swimmer's endurance was evident as she won the race by a large margin.
3. The tennis player's forehand was so powerful that his opponent couldn't return the ball.
4. The football team's defense was impenetrable, leading them to victory.
5. The replay showed that the runner had indeed crossed the finish line first.
6. The volleyball player's spike was perfectly timed, earning her team the point.
7. The golfer's precision was impressive as he hit the ball straight into the hole.