

Blue
Spelling
Workbook

Lesson 1: Prefixes

Key Prefixes to Know:

Prefix- Added to the beginning of the word. (For this week, all prefixes will change the word to either a negative or opposite meaning.)

un- not/opposite of Example: insincere (means: not sincere)

in- not Example: uneasy (means: not easy)

dis- not/opposite of Example: dishonest (means: not honest)

mis- bad/badly Example: misspell (means: bad spelling)

in-	un-	dis-	mis-
insincere	uneasy	dishonest	misspell
informal	unaware	disbelief	misfortune
infrequent	unknown	disorder	mistake
inhuman	undress	disconnect	misleading
inexpensive	unfasten	disease	mischief
insane	untidy	disrespect	
		discourage	

Lesson 2: Prefixes

Key Prefixes to Know:

Prefix- Added to the beginning of the word.

pre- before

Example: prepare (means: get ready before something)

fore- before

Example: foretell (to tell something is going to happen before it does)

post- after

Example: postpone (to change the date to after the original date)

after- after

Example: afternoon (after noon time)

pre-	fore-	post-	after-
prepare	foretell	postpone	afternoon
predict	foreman	postwar	afterword
preface	foreword	postseason	afterthought
prehistoric	forefathers	postdate	aftertaste
precede	foresight	posttest	
prefix	forethought		
preseason			
preposition			
prewar			

Lesson 3: Prefixes

Key Prefixes to Know:

Prefix- Added to the beginning of the word.

re- again/back

Example: replay (to play it back again)

in- inside/into

Example: inflate (to blow air into something)

ex- beyond/out of

Example: exhale (to let air out)

de- to take away

Example: deflate

re-	in-	ex-	de-
replay	inflate	exhale	deflate
reappear	interior	exile	defrost
reclaim	inhabit	explore	deprive
reconsider	inmate	excess	decrease
reruns	install	exhaust	delete
research	inhale	exterior	
reaction			

Lesson 4: Prefixes

Key Prefixes to Know:

Prefix- Added to the beginning of the word.

sub- below/under

Example: subway (under the street)

com- with/together

Example: combine (to put two things together)

pro- for/forward/in favor of

Example: propel (to move something forward)

en- occurs in verbs & generally suggests

Example: encourage (to encourage someone to do something)

“causing something to happen”

sub-	com-	pro-	en-
subway	combine	propel	enable
subset	company	propose	encourage
submarine	companion	protect	entrust
subtotal	compound	provider	endanger
subtitle	compress	promote	enforce
submerge	comrade	progress	enlarge

Lesson 5: Suffixes

Key Suffixes to Know:

Suffix: They are added to the end of the word to change the word to a different part of speech.

-y (changes to adjective) Example: scratchy

-ly (changes to adverb) Example: silently

-ily (changes to adverb) Example: merrily

ADJECTIVE- descriptive word

ADVERB- adverbs often tell when, where, why, or under what conditions something happens or happened

EXAMPLE: Adverb: (He drove slowly. — How did he drive?)

EXAMPLE: an Adjective: (He drove a very fast car. — How fast was his car?)

-y	-ly	-ily
scratchy	silently	merrily
squirmy	secretly	greedily
velvety	rapidly	hastily
squeaky	fluently	readily
wealthy	eagerly	
skinny	generously	
swampy	seriously	
shaggy	politely	
silvery	briefly	
spotty	bravely	

Lesson 7: Noun Suffixes

Key Suffixes to Know:

Suffix: They are added to the end of the word to change the meaning to a person

-er Example: speaker

-or Example: creator

-ian Example: guardian

-ist Example: artist

-er	-or	-ian	-ist
speaker	creator	guardian	artist
traveler	visitor	Asian	finalist
prisoner	decorator	historian	terrorist
defender	director	Australian	specialist
believer	inventor	librarian	vocalist
attacker	survivor	civilian	
admirer			

Lesson 8: Suffixes

Key Suffixes to Know:

Suffix: They are added to the end of the word

-ment: creates nouns out of verbs and suggests an action or process

-less: creates adjectives that means "without"

-ness : creates nouns out of adjectives and suggests a "state of being"

-ment	-less	-ness	
payment	breathless	laziness	powerlessness
replacement	hopeless	blindness	fearlessness
employment	thoughtless	dizziness	
punishment	priceless	politeness	
agreement	flawless	friendliness	
amusement	tactless	emptiness	
government	fruitless	saltiness	

Lesson 9: Suffixes

Key Suffixes to Know:

Suffix: They are added to the end of the word

*This week the focus is the sound of the ending of these suffixes: -ary, -ery, -ory, and our oddballs include -ery and -ury

-ary	-ery	-ory	-oddball
imaginary	bravery	category	stationery
secretary	machinery	lavatory	century
library	mystery	inventory	
military	scenery	dormitory	
ordinary	delivery	directory	
necessary	grocery	victory	
February		history	
January			
stationary			

Lesson 10: Suffixes

Key Suffixes to Know:

Suffix: They are added to the end of the word

This week we will focus on a base word being changed using either the suffix **-ty** or **-ity**.

-ty: The suffix causes the word to change from an adjective to a noun

*For both sets, notice how adding the suffix changes the location of the accent in the word

baseword	-ty	baseword	-ity
safe	safety	active	activity
special	specialty	festive	festivity
novel	novelty	tranquil	tranquility
royal	royalty	humid	humidity
casual	casualty	minor	minority
certain	certainly	sensitive	sensitivity

Lesson 11: Suffixes

Key Suffixes to Know:

Suffix: They are added to the end of the word

All of the suffixes this week mean ***to be associated with / relating to***.

Some of the words are nouns, some are adjectives.

Use this sentence to test and see if it is a noun: We talked about the _____ we saw yesterday.

Use this sentence to test and see if it is an adjective: The news was _____.

-al	-ial	-ic
fictional	burial	magnetic
comical	territorial	poetic
accidental	industrial	Islamic
arrival	tutorial	alphabetic
logical	memorial	heroic
betrayal	editorial	patriotic
musical		rhythmic
global		angelic
coastal		dramatic

Lesson 12: Adjective Suffixes

Key Suffixes to Know:

Suffix: They are added to the end of the word

All three suffixes this week mean “full of” or “having the qualities of”

Most of these words were changed from their base word as a noun to an adjective.

For –ous and –ious words, drop the –e before adding the suffix

For –ful words you can keep the –e because –ful starts with a consonant (Although, notice how “beautiful” changes the y to i)

*Special Note: A common error is to spell some of the words that end with the suffix –ful with 2 L’s; however suffixes always end with 1 L.

-ful	-ous	-ious	oddball
delightful	dangerous	envious	outrageous
successful	humorous	studious	
wasteful	mountainous	glorious	
stressful	poisonous	rebellious	
wonderful	vigorous	furios	
shameful	famous		
boastful	scandalous		
cheerful	nervous		
beautiful	marvelous		

Lesson 13: Verb Suffixes

Key Suffixes to Know:

Suffix: They are added to the end of the word

All three suffixes this week mean “to be or to cause to be”

-en	-ize	-ify	-oddball
frighten	capitalize	classify	analyze
straighten	civilize	diversify	
dampen	symbolize	falsify	
sweeten	idolize	beautify	
lengthen	visualize	simplify	
forbidden	energize	purify	
mistaken	harmonize		
	memorize		
	summarize		
	apologize		

Lesson 14: Adding –ion to Base Words, No Spelling Change

Key Suffixes to Know:

Suffix: They are added to the end of the word

*You usually add –ion to words that end with two consonants

base – ct	-tion	base –ss	-sion
collect	collection	express	expression
protect	protection	discuss	discussion
subtract	subtraction	oppress	oppression
select	selection	possess	possession
connect	connection	confess	confession
construct	construction	impress	impression

Lesson 15: Adding –ion and -ian, No Spelling Change

Key Suffixes to Know:

Suffix: They are added to the end of the word

*You usually add –ion to words that end with two consonants

*You usually add –ian to words that end with -ic

base –t	-ion	base –ic	-ian
invent	invention	magic	magician
digest	digestion	music	musician
desert	desertion	electric	electrician
suggest	suggestion	clinic	clinician
adopt	adoption		
insert	insertion		
distort	distortion		
prevent	prevention		

Lesson 16: Adding –ion, e-drop and Spelling Change

Key Suffixes to Know:

Suffix: They are added to the end of the word

All of the words end with –e in this sort.

You need to *drop the-e* before adding –ion

Words that end with –de need to drop both the /d/ and /e/ before adding –sion.

base-te	e-drop + ion	base –de/d	d> sion
operate	operation	explore	explosion
create	creation	erode	erosion
decorate	decoration	allude	allusion
illustrate	illustration	invade	invasion
imitate	imitation	conclude	conclusion
		comprehend	comprehension
		expand	expansion

Lesson 17: Adding –ation, -cation, and -ition

Key Suffixes to Know:

Suffix: They are added to the end of the word

*Often –ation and sometimes –cation and –ition are added to verbs to change them into nouns.

-ation	e-drop	-cation	-ition
information	organization	application	addition
consideration	imagination	identification	partition
presentation	reservation	justification	edition
relaxation	starvation	purification	
temptation	quotation	beautification	
transportation	examination	gratification	expectation
memorization	notification		

Lesson 18: Consonant Alternation

Silent Letters...

Consider the words sign. Why do you think it has the letter “g” in it even though you can’t hear it? Now, consider that you sign your signature. Say both the words “sign” and “signature” aloud. Now, what do you think?

How about the “c” in muscle? Now say both the word “muscle” and “muscular” aloud. What do you think now?

Words related in meaning, are often related in spelling.

silent consonant	sounded consonant
sign	signature
bomb	bombard
soften	soft
muscle	muscular
crumb	crumble
design	designate
column	columnist
hymn	hymnal
resign	resignation
hasten	haste
solemn	solemnity
moisten	moist

Lesson 19: Vowel Alternation: Long to Short

Think about the rules for long/short vowels.

Now, consider what we learned last week about how words that are related in meaning are spelled similarly.

Sometimes, words that have similar meanings are spelling in a similar way, but while one word is pronounced with a short vowel, the other one might be pronounced with a long vowel!

Long Vowel	Short Vowel
please	pleasant
athlete	athletic
mine	mineral
type	typical
breathe	breath
crime	criminal
revise	revision
humane	humanity
nature	natural
ignite	ignition
cave	cavity
precise	precision

Lesson 20: Vowel Alternation: Long to Short or SCHWA

Consider a time when you had to stop and think about how to spell a word. Like, maybe competition or admiration. You could consider another word that is similar in meaning to help you. Like compete or admire.

A schwa is an unaccented short /u/ sound even if there is no /u/. Example: composition

For words that include the schwa, sounding the word out may not help you; however thinking of a related word might give you a clue!

long vowel	short vowel	long vowel	schwa
volcano	volcanic	compose	composition
conspire	conspiracy	compete	competition
serene	serenity	admire	admiration
divine	divinity	custodian	custody
		define	definition
		invite	invitation
		reside	resident
		oppose	opposition