PREFIXES, SUFFIXES AND ROOT WORDS

Introduction



Homophones are...

Words that sound the same but are spelt differently. Such as;
Where + wear there + their whether + weather

- What can you use to help you work out which word to use?
- Write down 5 sentences using the following words. Remember to use the words in the correct context:

there witch you're knew no

WHAT CAN I DO TO HELP REMEMBER WHICH IS WHICH?

- Use a dictionary
- Use spell check on a P.C. Carefully! Take time to proof read your work. If you are unsure, highlight the word and press the 'shift' key and press 'F7'. This will bring up a thesaurus.
- Widen vocabulary
- Apply spelling techniques, for example;
- There
- over there

Their

i - person

GLOSSARY

noun	 A naming word. They can be things you can see or touch (car, John, computer) places or areas (England, Liverpool, Oxfordshire, Station Road) feelings or ideas (hunger, wealth, racism, kindness, anger).
verb	 A doing word. Verbs describe actions (to jump, to stare, to prepare, etc.) states of being or existence (to be, to seem, to appear).
root word	The main part of a word (with no suffixes or prefixes attached).
suffix	A word ending. A letter or group of letters added to the end of a word that changes the meaning or grammatical sense of the word.

ROOT WORDS

A root word is a real word and you make new words from it by adding prefixes and suffixes.

A suffix is attached to the end of a root word.

going

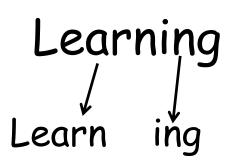
go (root word) ing (suffix)

Root words are helpful because:

You can use a root word to help you with other spellings.

If you recognise the root of a word when you are reading it can help you to work out what the word is and what it means.

There are spelling rules for adding suffixes and prefixes to root words.





SUFFIXES

Adding suffixes to words can change or add to their meaning, but most importantly they show how a word will be used in a sentence and what part of speech (e.g. noun, verb, adjective) the word belongs to.

e.g. If you want to use the root word 'talk' in the following sentence:

I was (talk) to Samina.

You need to add the suffix 'ing' so that the word 'talk' makes better sense grammatically:

"I was talking to Samina".

SUFFIXES

• Activity 1 in your book:

 Write down as many suffixes as you can think of.

You have 1 minute!

COPY THEM IN YOUR BOOK

COF I IIILM III I OOK DOOK				
Suffix	Example	Suffix	Example	
ed	walk + ed = walk ed	ness	happy + ness = happi ness	
ing	say + ing = say ing	al	accident + al = accident al	
er	tall + er = tall er	ary	imagine + ary = imagin ary	
tion	educate + tion = educa tion	able	accept + able = accept able	
sion	divide + sion = divi sion	ly	love + ly = love ly	
cian	music + cian = musi cian	ment	excite + ment = excite ment	
fully	hope + fully = hope fully	ful	help + ful + help ful	
est	large + est = larg est	y	ease + y = eas y	

SUFFIXES... COMMON ERRORS

-less with less than two ss is useless.

Careless

hopeless

relentless

Root words ending in 'e'. Remember to drop the 'e' when adding 'ing'!

Take + ing = taking

make + ing = making

-ful is <u>always</u> a three-letter word - unless it's used as a word on its own:

Someone who's full of care is careful.

Mindful

successful

hopeful

regretful

PREFIXES

 A prefix is a group of letters which you can add to the beginning of a root word to change the meaning of the word.

e.g. mis + fortune = misfortune

Prefix meanings:

Every prefix has a meaning, for example: The prefix 'un' means 'not' The root word 'clear' means 'bright', 'free from difficulty'

un + clear = unclear which means 'not clear' or 'dim',
'difficult to see or understand'

PREFIXES

• Activity 2:

 Write down as many prefixes as you can think of.

You have 1 minute!

• Extra points if you can also write down the meaning of the prefix!

PREFIXES

Generally when you add a prefix to a root word the spelling of the prefix and the root words stays the same.

(Think of mobile phone tariffs, you can choose to add 'bolt ons' to your contract to suit a purpose)

Prefix	+	Root word	=	Word
un	+	kind	=	unkind
im	+	mature	=	immature
bi	+	cycle	=	bicycle
mis	+	fire	=	misfire
in	+	visible	=	invisible

PREFIXES... COMMON ERRORS

When the prefix 'all' is added to a root word the final 'l' of 'all' is dropped.

all + together = altogether

all + ways = always

dis - only has one 's' when being used at the start of a word:

Dis+ appear + disappear dis + respect = disrespect

MIX IT UP!

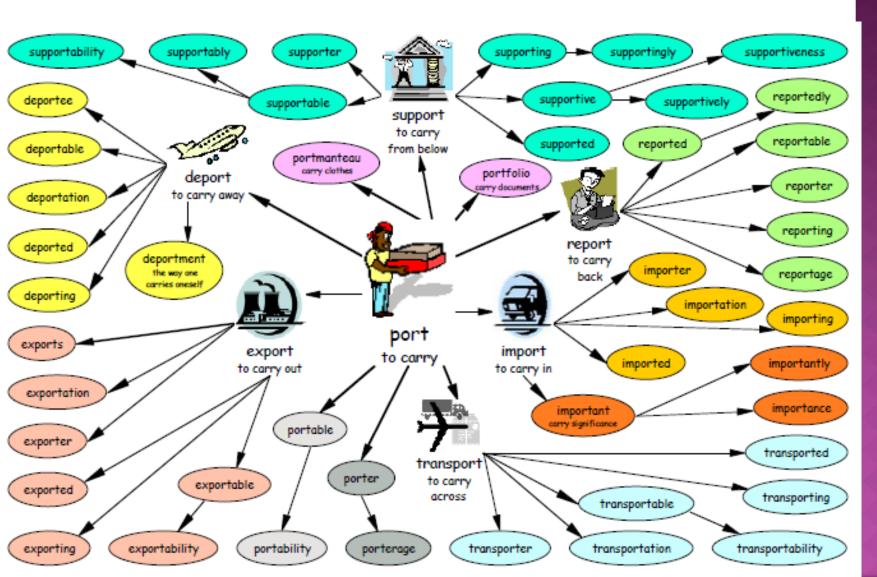
You can also add a prefix to a word which already has a suffix added to it.

Prefix	+	Root word	+	Suffix	=	Word
re	+	play	+	ing	=	replaying
un	+	want	+	ed	=	unwanted

HOW MANY WORDS CAN YOU MAKE?



ANSWER



CHALLENGE ACTIVITY CREATE YOUR OWN WORD MAP

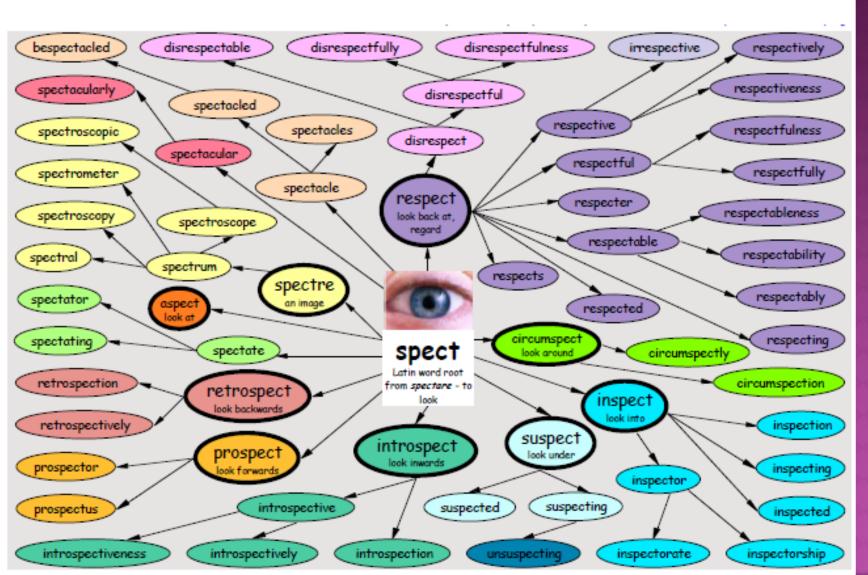
Choose a root word from the list below and create a word map adding suffixes and prefixes.



late

If you are uncertain whether the prefix you have used is correct, check the word in a dictionary when you proof-read your writing!

WORD MAPS



TO SUM UP

A root word is...

A suffix is...

For example:

- Identify the prefix in the word below: Antibacteria
- Is it 'full' or 'ful' and the end of a word?
- Is it 'dis' or 'diss' at the start of a word?