

Building Blocks

Root Words, Prefixes, & Suffixes

What do pedals on a bike have
to do with a camera stand?



precooked

DEBONED



defrosted

How do you buy fish?

Are you...

joyful

JOYLESS

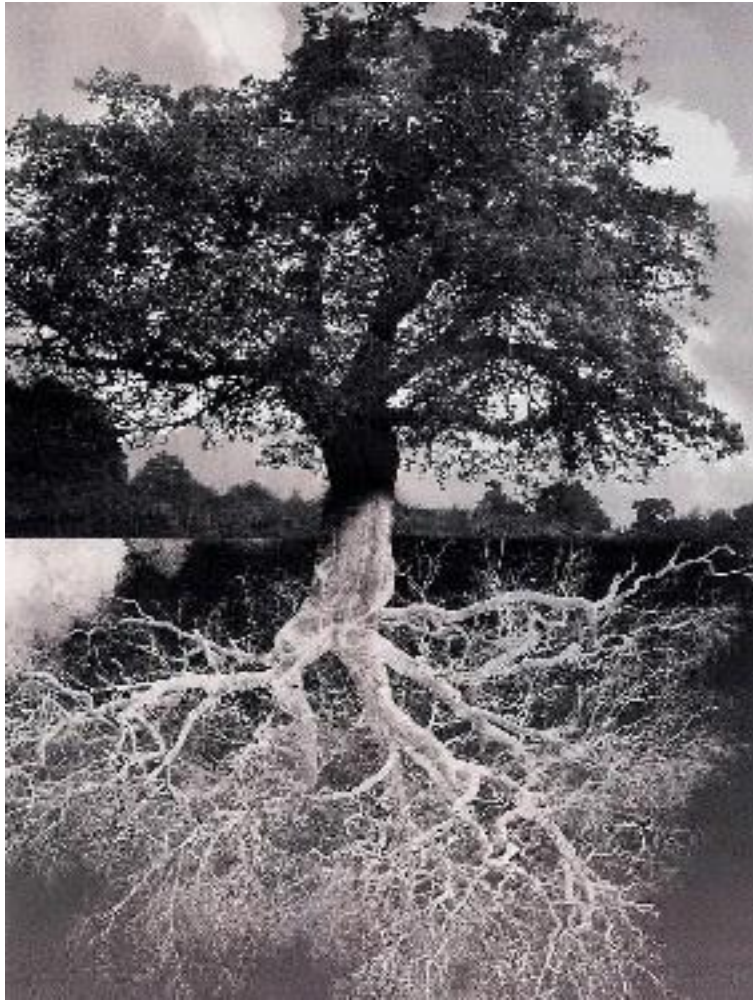


The Building Blocks

- A bit of background:
 - Much of our language comes from Greek and Latin roots, prefixes, and suffixes.
 - If we know these building blocks, we can determine the meaning of words.
 - We can use these blocks to build words.
 - We can use these words appropriately, effectively, and powerfully.



What's a Root Word?



- The basic building block of a word that has a meaning of its own.
- A few examples:
 - What is a **sophomore**? A student in the second year of high school. And **more**?
 - **Philadelphia** is the city of love.
 - Heard the word **philosophy**? It means to the love of knowledge.
 - That confusing question makes me **quizzical**. We know the word **quiz**, and we can use context clues to determine it might mean **questioning**.
 - **Philosophical**? Take a guess!!



Five Common Roots

- Let's start with five common roots:
 - **ped or pod** = foot
 - **ject** = throw
 - **hydr** = water
 - **therm** = heat
 - **dict** = say
- You try!
 - On hot summer days, my neighbors open the fire_____ant to make a sprinkler in the street.
 - If a players gets into a fight with another player, the referee must e_____ that player from the game.
 - Gail's secretary takes notes as Gail _____ates her thoughts out loud.
 - Every Sunday, after a long week of work as a waitress, Bridget gives herself a _____icure.
 - Dr. Wellman uses a _____ometer to check if his patients have normal temperatures.

A Few More Roots

- Here are a few more common roots:
 - **manu or man** = hand
 - **graph** = write, record
 - **cede** = go
 - **logue** = speech, talk

- Your turn...
 - What do you think the material GRAPHITE is used for?
 - A. Making heating pads
 - B. Making footprints
 - C. Making pencils
 - D. Heating liquid.



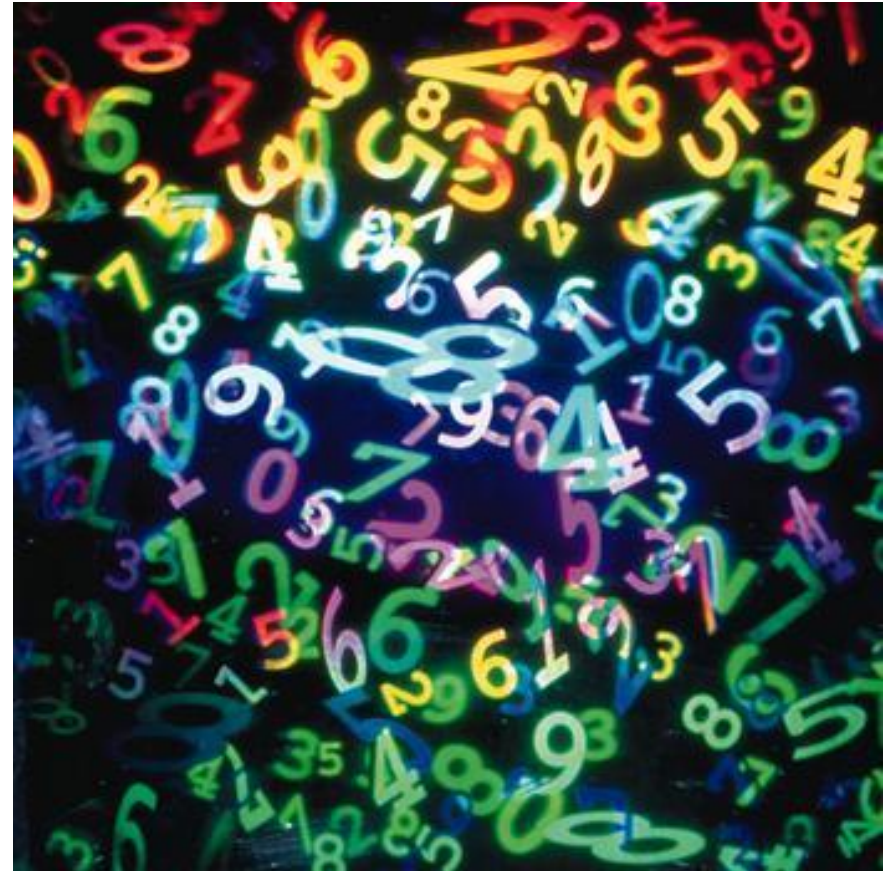


What's a Prefix?

- A letter or group of letters attached to the beginning of a root word to change its meaning.
- Examples:
 - **pre-** = before
 - **post-** = after
 - When baking an oven is often **preheated**—heated before the food is placed in the oven.
 - In sports, play-off games happen in **postseason**—after the regular season
- You try!
 - Before a surgical operation, a patient is _____operative.
 - After surgery, a patient is _____operative.

Number Prefixes

- Some prefixes represent numbers:
 - **uni-** = 1
 - **bi-** = 2
 - **tri-** = 3
 - **quad-** = 4
- Your turn!
 - With _____ wheels, bicycles make it easy to move quickly.
 - A square is also known as a _____rangle and has _____ sides.



Relationship Prefixes

- Some prefixes indicate a type of relationship:

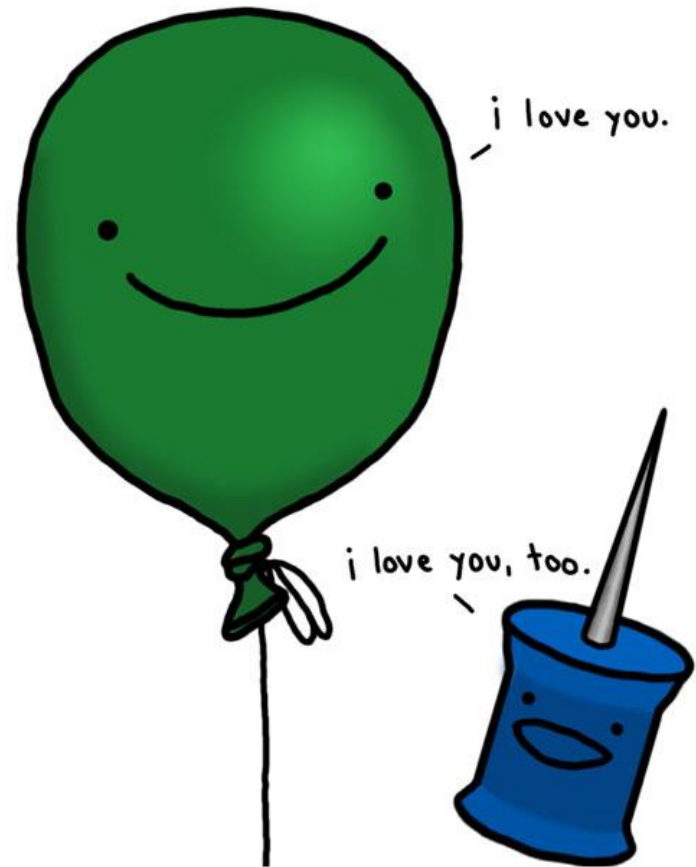
- **pro-** = for
- **un-** = not
- **anti-** = against
- **inter-** = between

- Words you might know:

- pro-American
- unknown
- anti-drug
- interstate

- Your turn!

- The interstate highway connects New York and Maine by running _____ the two states.
- An antibiotic fights _____ a bacterial infection in the body.
- Vernon's unreliable car is always breaking down. It is _____ a car you could drive cross-country.





What's a Suffix?

- An ending added to a word that changes its meaning; often turns nouns and verbs into adjectives:
 - read + **-able** = readable (able to be read)
 - joy + **-ful** = joyful (full of joy)
- Your turn!
 - Although he was tired, Mike was sure that walking up the hill was **MANAGEABLE**.
 - A. impossible
 - B. ridiculous
 - C. easy
 - D. can be accomplished
 - When they are **FEARFUL** of bad weather, school administrators often close schools.
 - A. sad
 - B. afraid
 - C. because
 - D. certain



Changing Nouns into Adjectives

- Here are a few more suffixes that change nouns into adjectives:
 - home + **-less** = homeless (without a home)
 - king + **-ly** = kingly (like a king)
- Your turn!
 - Ron was an emotional guy, but after his stroke he was most often AFFECTLESS.
 - A. without money
 - B. without a job
 - C. without emotion
 - D. without patience
 - Scrooge is known for his MISERLY ways.
 - A. capable of being a miser
 - B. generous
 - C. like a miser
 - D. full of money



Changing Verbs into Nouns

- Some suffixes change verbs into nouns:
 - direct + **-or** = director (one who directs)
 - mow + **-er** = mower (someone/thing that mows)
 - agree + **-ment** = agreement (a state or act of agreeing)
- Your turn!
 - The cat curled up in her favorite corner and purred, showing her CONTENTMENT.
 - A. state of anger
 - B. state of hunger
 - C. state of happiness
 - D. state of excitement
 - The residents were pleased when the real estate DEVELOPER opened a shopping mall.
 - A. a person who opens a store
 - B. a person who puts up buildings
 - C. a state of development
 - D. a person who likes to shop

A Bit More Practice

- Your turn!

1. The _____ paints nice pictures.
2. One who deceives other people can be called a _____.
3. The painter is _____. (Clue: full of skill)
4. The soaring trapeze artist appeared _____. (Clue: without fear)
5. Luckily, the sweater is wash_____ and we can get the stain out.
6. The wait_____ brought the seaming dishes to the table.
7. The washing machine is use_____ when it's broken.
8. Your party last night was wonder_____.

A Memorable Strategy

Vocabulary Word

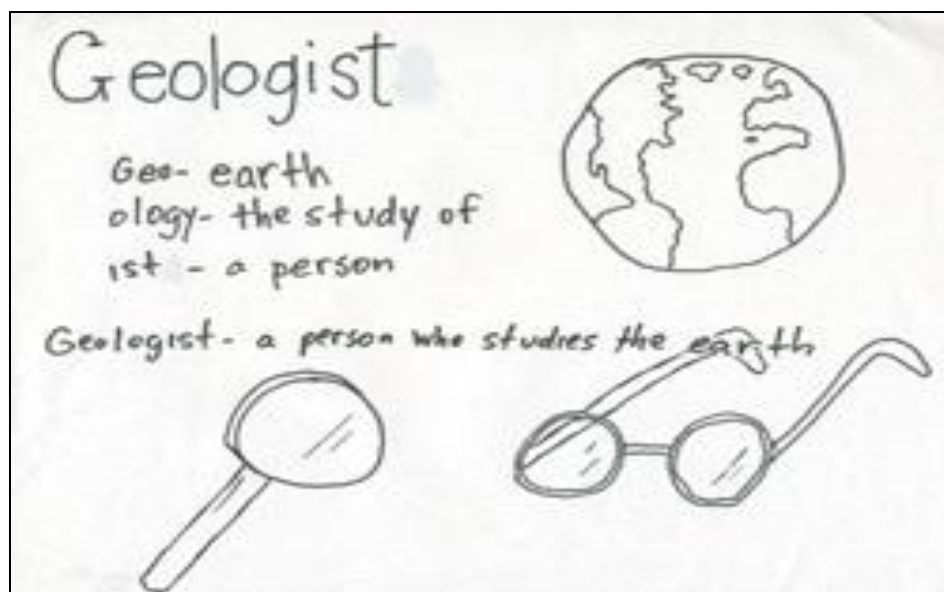
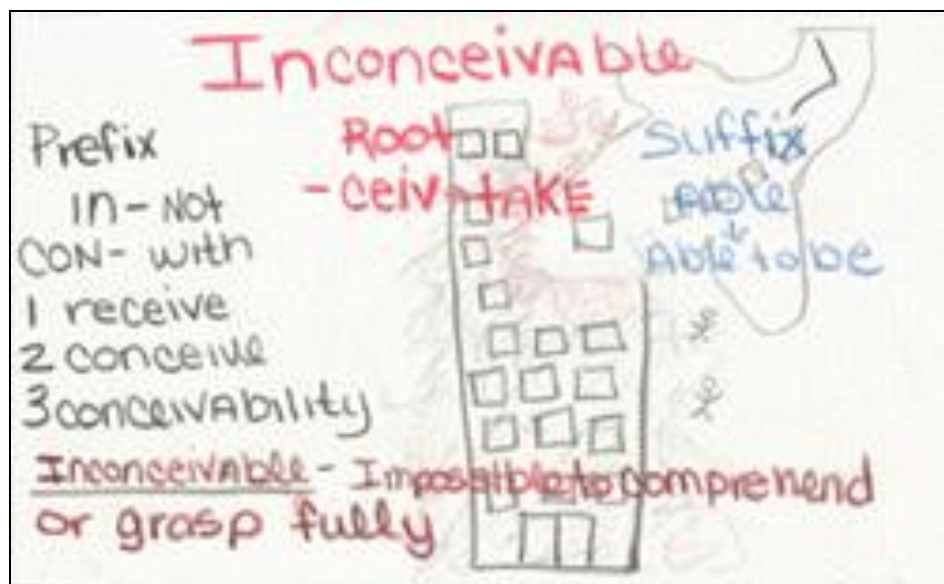
Prefix =

Root =

Suffix =

PICTURE(s)

Definition



***If you'd like to use make your own vocabulary cards, visit the resources for a template, or make your own at home!*

- [illegible]



Works Consulted

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