# Master List of Morphemes <br> <br> Suffixes, Prefixes, Roots 

 <br> <br> Suffixes, Prefixes, Roots}

| Suffix <br> -er <br> -er | Meaning one who, that which more | *Syntax noun <br> adjective | Exemplars teacher, clippers, toaster faster, stronger, kinder |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| -ly | to act in a way that is... | adverb | kindly, decently, firmly |
| $\begin{aligned} & \text {-able } \\ & \text {-ible } \end{aligned}$ | capable of, or worthy of capable of, or worthy of | adjective adjective | honorable, predictable terrible, responsible, visible |
| -hood | condition of being | noun | childhood, statehood, falsehood |
| -ful | full of, having | adjective | wonderful, spiteful, dreadful |
| -less | without | adjective | hopeless, thoughtless, fearless |
| -ish | somewhat like | adjective | childish, foolish, snobbish |
| -ness | condition or state of | noun | happiness, peacefulness, fairness |
| -ic | relating to | adjective | energetic, historic, volcanic |
| -ist | one who | noun | pianist, balloonist, specialist |
| -ian | one who | noun | librarian, historian, magician |
| -or | one who | noun | governor, editor, operator |
| -eer | one who | noun | mountaineer, pioneer, commandeer, profiteer, engineer, musketeer |
| o-logy | study of | noun | biology, ecology, mineralogy |
| -ship | art or skill of, condition, rank, group of | noun | leadership, citizenship, companionship, kingship |
| -ous | full of, having, possessing | adjective | joyous, jealous, nervous, glorious, victorious, spacious, gracious |
| -ive | tending to... | adjective | active, sensitive, creative |
| -age | result of an action | noun | marriage, acreage, pilgrimage |
| -ant | a condition or state | adjective | elegant, brilliant, pregnant |
| -ant | a thing or a being | noun | mutant, coolant, inhalant |

## Page 1

Master morpheme list from Vocabulary Through Morphemes: Suffixes, Prefixes, and Roots for Grades 4-12, $2^{\text {nd }}$ Edition, Ebbers, 2010 (www.sopriswest.com)

| -ent -ent | someone who, something that inclined to | noun adjective | student, president, nutrient different, fluent, persistent |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| -ment | state or act of | noun | payment, basement, improvement |
| -ary | place for, collection of | noun | glossary, granary, library |
| -ary | relating to, condition | adjective | secondary, military, necessary |
| -ary | one who | noun | secretary, dignitary, emissary |
| -ize | to make | verb | hypnotize, fertilize, centralize |
| -ise | to make | verb | advise, advertise, improvise |
| -ure | action or condition of | noun | moisture, mixture, pleasure |
| -ion | act or condition | noun | action, friction, fusion, mission |
| -ation | act or condition | noun | starvation, condensation |
| -ance | act or condition of | noun | assistance, endurance, importance |
| -ence | act or condition of | noun | persistence, excellence, confidence |
| -ity | state or quality of | noun | prosperity, equality, security |
| -al | relating to | adjective | magical, comical, logical |
| (ti)-al | relating to | adjective | spatial, initial, essential |
| (si)-al | relating to | adjective | official, social, artificial |
| -ate | to make |  | calculate, activate, participate |
| -ate | state or quality of | adjective | desolate, ultimate, literate |
| -tude | condition of | noun | solitude, exactitude, fortitude |
| -ism | practice, belief | noun | feudalism, racism, monotheism |

*The syntax column indicates the most-likely grammatical function of words ending with the given suffix.
$\left.\begin{array}{lll}\text { Prefix } & \begin{array}{l}\text { Meaning(s) } \\ \text { de- }\end{array} & \text { from, reduce, or opposite }\end{array} \quad \begin{array}{l}\text { Exemplars } \\ \text { defrost, dethrone, dehydration }\end{array}\right]$ dis- $\quad$ opposite $\quad$ disagree, disadvantage, dishonest

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| trans- <br> dia- | across, over, through <br> across, through | transfer, translate, transcontinental <br> diagonal, diagnostic, diameter |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| ex- | out, from <br> out, from | expel, excavate, expatriate, exhale <br> erase, evict, emit, evaporate, evacuate |
| mono- <br> uni- <br> bi- <br> di- <br> tri- <br> multi- <br> poly- | one, single <br> one, single <br> two <br> two, or in parts <br> three | many, much <br> many, much |
| pre- | before | monoplane, monopoly, monorail <br> unicycle, unicorn, universal <br> bicycle, biped, bilateral <br> digraph, divert, diameter <br> tricycle, triangle, triune |
| post- | after | multicolored, multimillionaire <br> polygon, polyhedron, polyester |
| mal- | bad, evil | predict, prepare, preheat |
| mis- | wrong, bad | postwar, postscript, postdate |
| malcontent, maladjusted, malnutrition |  |  |

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| il- <br> ir- | not <br> not | illiterate, illogical, illegal <br> irregular, irresponsible |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| in- (im-, <br> il-, ir-) | in, into, on, upon (this <br> prefix has two meanings: <br> 'not' and 'in') | inside, insert, implant, impostor, <br> infuriate, inflammable, incandescent |
| a- <br> an- | not, negative <br> not, negative | amoral, atonal, atheist <br> anarchist, anomaly, anathema |
| anti- | against, opposite | antiseptic, anticrime, antitrust, <br> antisocial <br> contradict, contrary, contraceptive <br> counterclockwise, counterfeit, <br> counterbalance |
| counter- | against, opposite <br> against, opposite | enable, enrich, engulf, enflame |
| en- | to cause to be, to put or go <br> into or onto <br> to cause to be, to put or go <br> into or onto | employ, embark, embellish |
| em- |  |  |

Greek and Latin roots are often written with slightly varied spellings, as shown below. The hyphen indicates the most typical connecting vowel (phon-o, hyd-o, etc.)

| Greek <br> Root <br> astr-o | Meaning(s) | Exemplars |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| bi-o | life | astronaut, astrology, astronomer |
| ge-o | earth, rocks | biography, biosphere, biology |
| therm | heat, warm | thermostat, thermal, exothermic |
| aut-o | self | autism, automatic, autoimmune, autograph |
| hom-o | same, alike | homonym, homogenize, homophone |
| hydr-o | water | hydrogen, hydrology, hydroelectric |
| micro | small | microscope, microclimate, microcosm |
| macro | large | macroclimate, macroevolution |

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| phon-o | sound, speech | telephone, phonics, symphony |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| scope | instrument used <br> to observe, to see | telescope, microscope, kaleidoscope |
| graph | written | autograph, telegraph, geographer |
| phot-o | light | photograph, photon, photobiotic |
| tele | distant, far | telescope, television, telecommunications |
| meter, | instrument used <br> metr | metric, thermometer, barometer, chronometer |
| path, pass | suffering, disease | psychopath, pathogen, sympathy, compassion |
| psych-o | mind, mental | psychology, psychic, psychotropic |
| pan | all, whole | panorama, panacea, pantomime, pandemonium |
| zoo | animal | zoology, zootoxin, zoogeography |
| chron | time | chronic, chronological, synchronized |
| phobia | fear, intense <br> dislike | claustrophobia, xenophobic, arachnophobia |


| Latin Root port | Meaning(s) to carry | Exemplars transport, export, porter, portal, reporter |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| form | to shape | formation, reform, conform, formulation |
| tract | to pull | tractor, subtract, detract, traction, retractable |
| rupt | to break | disrupt, interrupt, rupture, corrupt |
| spect, spec | to see, to watch | inspect, suspect, spectator, respect, specimen |
| struct, stru | to build | construct, structure, instruct, construe |
| dict, dic | to tell, to say | dictionary, dictate, predict, indicate |
| flec, flex | to bend | flexible, reflector, genuflect, inflection, |
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|  |  | reflective |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| cred | to believe | credit, credentials, credulous, incredible |
| aqua | water | aquatic, aquarium, aquamarine |
| pel, puls | to drive, push | propel, compel, impel, repel, impulse, pulsate |
| fact, fac | to make, to do | factory, facilitate, factor, faction, factotum |
| ject | to throw, to throw down | inject, projectile, reject, subject, conjecture |
| vert, vers | to turn | reverse, versatile, convert, revert, divert |
| mit, mis | to send | missile, missionary, admission, emit, transmit |
| mort | to die | mortal, mortician, mortuary |
| script, scrib | to write | scribble, script, scripture, prescription |
| junct | to join | conjunction, junction, adjunct, juncture |
| cide | to kill, a killer | suicide, genocide, homicide |
| press | to force, squeeze | press, impress, express, compress, repress |
| spire | to breathe | respire, respiration, respiratory, conspire, inspire, perspire, expire, spirit, spirited, spiritual |
| grad, gress | to step | graduate, gradual, gradations, regress, congress, digress, transgress, egress, progression |
| cept, capt | to take, seize, receive | capture, captivity, intercept, exception |

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