

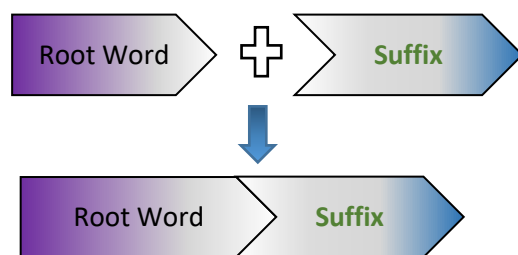
ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS ACTIVITY SHEET
STRUCTURAL ANALYSIS- AFFIXES

Standard Four
Curriculum Topic: Reading: Structural Analysis (Affixes)
Teaching Point/s: Use of suffixes to form derivatives

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Activity:

Suffixes are among the smallest units of meaning in the English Language. They are added to the end of root words. When a **suffix** is added to a root word, the **function of that word is changed**.



With the addition of a suffix, a **word can become** an **adjective**, an **adverb**, a **noun** or a **verb**. Words formed through the addition of a **suffix** are called **derivatives**.

Below are some commonly used **suffixes**. **N.B.** Some suffixes convey more than one meaning.

<i>Suffix</i>	<i>Meaning</i>	<i>Function of Derivative</i>	<i>Example</i>
<i>-able, -ible</i>	capable of being	adjective	readable, flexible
<i>-al</i>	pertaining to	adjective	regional, structural
<i>-ly</i>	manner of being	adverb	quickly, happily
<i>-acy, -cy¹</i>	state or quality	noun	supremacy, privacy
<i>-al</i>	act or process of	noun	refusal, renewal
<i>-ance, -ence</i>	state or quality	noun	reliance, dependence
<i>-er, -or</i>	one who	noun	writer, inspector
<i>-ness</i>	state, quality or degree	noun	brightness
<i>-en</i>	make	verb	sharpen, soften
<i>-ify, -fy</i>	make or become	verb	simplify
<i>-ise</i>	make	verb	standardise

¹These suffixes (**-acy, -cy**) tend to be added to words ending in **-t** or **-ate**. These letters (**t** or **te**) tend to be dropped before adding these suffixes.

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GENERAL RULES GOVERNING SPELLING CHANGES AFTER ADDITION OF SUFFIXES



1. If the root word ends with silent e + The suffix begins with a vowel → Drop the “e” before adding the ending



2. If the root word has one syllable and ends with a single vowel that is followed by a single consonant + The suffix begins with a vowel → Double the final consonant before adding the ending



4. If the root word ends with a y that is preceded by a consonant + The suffix begins with any letter other than “i” → Change the y to an i, then add the ending



N.B. There are exceptions to each of these spelling rules. Reading is the best means through which to discover and learn them.

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Word Building Activity



Use the suffixes shown earlier to form as many **derivatives** as you can from the root words provided. Below is a reminder of the suffixes that were explored.

To form Adjectives: -able, -al and -ible

To form Adverbs: -ly

To form Nouns: -acy, -al, -ance, -cy, -ence, -er, -ness and -or.

To form Verbs: -en, -fy, -ify and -ise

It is possible to add more than one of these suffixes to a root word. Use the rules to help you spell the derivatives correctly.

You may also consult (use) a dictionary for help with spelling and pronunciation.

Root Words	Derivatives			
	Adjective	Adverb	Noun	Verb
rely				
quick				
solid				
deny				
normal				
smooth				
delicate				
live				
bright				
weak				
centre				

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Answer Key:

Root Words	Derivatives			
	Adjective	Adverb	Noun	Verb
rely	reliable	reliably (rely + able + ly)	reliance	
quick		quickly	quickness	quicken
solid		solidly		solidify
deny	deniable	deniably (deny + able + ly)	denial	
normal		normally	normalcy	normalise
smooth		smoothly	smoothness	smoothen
delicate		delicately	delicacy	
live	livable	lively	liveliness (live +ly + ness)	liven
bright		brightly	brightness	brighten
weak		weakly	weakness	weaken
centre	central	centrally		centralise