

Talk a Lot

Focus on Connected Speech

Common Suffixes and What they Indicate

- A suffix comes at the end of a word.
- Suffixes are usually **unstressed**.
- Adding a suffix changes the word type, e.g. a noun changes into a verb.

Below are some examples of how a root word can change type when a suffix is added:

<u>Root Word</u>	<u>Word Type</u>	<u>+ Suffix</u>	<u>Changes to</u>	<u>Word Type</u>
believe	verb	-able	believable	adjective
participate	verb	-ant	participant	noun (person)
walk	verb (infin.)	-ed	walked	verb (past participle)
interfere	verb	-ence	interference	noun
teach	verb	-er	teacher	noun (person)
big	adjective	-er	bigger	adjective (comparative)
China	noun (country)	-ese	Chinese	adjective (nationality)
clever	adjective	-est	cleverest	adjective (superlative)
faith	noun	-ful	faithful	adjective
Russia	noun (country)	-ian	Russian	noun (person)
access	verb	-ible	accessible	adjective
beauty	noun	-ify	beautify	verb
watch	verb (infin.)	-ing	watching	verb (present participle)
memory	noun	-ise	memorise	verb
child	noun	-ish	childish	adjective
science	noun (abstract)	-ist	scientist	noun (common)
attract	verb	-ive	attractive	adjective
name	noun	-less	nameless	adjective
quiet	adjective	-ly	quietly	adverb
arrange	verb	-ment	arrangement	noun
happy	adjective	-ness	happiness	noun
cube	noun	-oid	cuboid	adjective
fame	noun	-ous	famous	adjective
cat	noun (singular)	-s	cats	noun (plural)
friend	noun (common)	-ship	friendship	noun (abstract)
revise	verb	-sion	revision	noun
maintenance	noun	-tain	maintain	verb
ten	number (cardinal)	-th	tenth	number (ordinal)
revolve	verb	-tion	revolution	noun

Other common suffixes

-an	-es	-in	-on	-um
-ane	-ess	-is	-or	-ure
-ar	-et	-ism	-our	-us
-ard	-ey	-it	-ow	-y
-cide	-ia	-ity	-phone	
-cy	-ic	-le	-ra	
-ect	-ical	-logy	-raphy	
-en	-ies	-o	-tain	
-ert	-im	-oir	-teen	