

**Lesson 11**

# Base Words and Suffixes

Teaching

A good way to approach unfamiliar words is to break them into their parts. Two important word parts are base words and suffixes. **Base words** are words that can stand alone. **Suffixes** are word parts that are added to the end of base words. Suffixes usually change the base word's part of speech.

base word—a verb that means “to fill with wonder or surprise”

**amaze + -ment = amazement**

noun suffix that means “state or quality of”

noun that means “the state of being filled with wonder or surprise”

Study the common suffixes listed in the chart below.

Suffix	Part of Speech	Meaning	Example
-al	adjective	relating to	rental, bridal, natural
-ment	noun	state or quality of	enrichment, excitement, government
-ate	verb	to make	activate, antique, decorate
-fy/-ify	verb	to make	satisfy, electrify, personify
-ant	noun	one who	servant, assailant, confidant
-ways	adverb	in what manner	sideways, always, slantways
-ize	verb	to make	standardize, harmonize, magnetize, normalize
-some	adjective	likely to	awesome, meddlesome, loathsome, wearisome

## A. Identifying Base Words and Suffixes

For each item, draw a line between the base word and the suffix. Then use the chart and your knowledge of word parts to predict each word's meaning. Check your predictions in a dictionary.

**EXAMPLE** popular/ize (verb) Meaning: to make well-known or well-liked

- fearsome (adjective) meaning: \_\_\_\_\_
- solidify (verb) meaning: \_\_\_\_\_
- informant (noun) meaning: \_\_\_\_\_
- crossways (adverb) meaning: \_\_\_\_\_
- alienate (verb) meaning: \_\_\_\_\_
- brutal (adjective) meaning: \_\_\_\_\_
- refinement (noun) meaning: \_\_\_\_\_
- quarrelsome (noun) meaning: \_\_\_\_\_
- modernize (noun) meaning: \_\_\_\_\_
- attendant (noun) meaning: \_\_\_\_\_

## Base Words and Suffixes

### B. Base Words and Suffixes in Action

For each item, circle the suffix of the bold-faced word. Then use context clues and the chart on the previous page to predict the word's meaning. Check your predictions in a dictionary.

1. Scientists believe that a **pollutant** in Danvers Lake is killing fish.

meaning: \_\_\_\_\_

2. Do you ever **fantasize** about being a movie star or a superhero?

meaning: \_\_\_\_\_

3. My father is looking for **employment** as a bus driver.

meaning: \_\_\_\_\_

4. The Olympics are a **global** event; they interest people in every country.

meaning: \_\_\_\_\_

5. Please fold your paper **lengthways**, so it has two long columns.

meaning: \_\_\_\_\_

6. That noisy, colorful toy is sure to **captivate** the baby.

meaning: \_\_\_\_\_

7. Deanna says she can **customize** a computer program just for me.

meaning: \_\_\_\_\_

8. Our club decided to **beautify** the highway by planting shrubs and flowers near it.

meaning: \_\_\_\_\_

### C. Vocabulary Challenge

Read the passage. Using context clues and the chart on the previous page, choose the correct word and circle it. You may also use a dictionary if needed.

The (defendant, combatant) and her lawyer stood up in the crowded courtroom. "I believe that you and your (sealant, assistant) tried to (justify, falsify) company records for the (enrichment, advisement) of your own bank accounts," the judge said. "Do you have anything to say in your defense?"

The woman reacted with (astonishment, assortment). "I'm innocent, Your Honor!" she insisted.

Lesson  
3Words ending in *ation*

Teaching

vacate + ion = vacation	locate + ion = location
educate + ion = education	punctuate + ion = punctuation
celebrate + ion = celebration	graduate + ion = graduation
hesitate + ion = hesitation	migrate + ion = migration
translate + ion = translation	complicate + ion = complication
operate + ion = operation	cooperate + ion = cooperation
investigate + ion = investigation	eliminate + ion = elimination
calculate + ion = calculation	circulate + ion = circulation
refrigerate + ion = refrigeration	regulate + ion = regulation
dictate + ion = dictation	duplicate + ion = duplication

**Lesson Generalization:** A word that tells about an action is a **verb**: **ate** is a verb ending. A word that names something is a **noun**: **ion** is a noun ending. Verbs that end with **ate** can be changed to nouns by adding the suffix **ion**. The hard **t** in **ate** becomes a soft **t** in **tion**.

**A.** Change each of the following verbs to a noun from the word list above. Write the words on the lines provided. Then circle the letter in each verb that you delete when you create the noun form of the word.

- |                      |                       |
|----------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. duplicate _____   | 9. locate _____       |
| 2. educate _____     | 10. hesitate _____    |
| 3. circulate _____   | 11. eliminate _____   |
| 4. translate _____   | 12. vacate _____      |
| 5. celebrate _____   | 13. regulate _____    |
| 6. migrate _____     | 14. operate _____     |
| 7. calculate _____   | 15. complicate _____  |
| 8. refrigerate _____ | 16. investigate _____ |
|                      | 17. dictate _____     |

**B.** On a separate sheet of paper, write sentences using all of the words not used above from the word list. Use both the verb and the noun form of the words in your sentences.



**Lesson  
3**

**Words ending in *ation***

*More Practice*

- |                |                  |                  |                  |                 |
|----------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|-----------------|
| 1. vacation    | 5. translation   | 9. refrigeration | 13. graduation   | 17. elimination |
| 2. education   | 6. operation     | 10. dictation    | 14. migration    | 18. circulation |
| 3. celebration | 7. investigation | 11. location     | 15. complication | 19. regulation  |
| 4. hesitation  | 8. calculation   | 12. punctuation  | 16. cooperation  | 20. duplication |

**A.** Complete these sentences with the **ion** forms of words from the spelling list above. Then circle the **ate** verb that appears in each sentence.

- The detectives hoped everyone would cooperate with the \_\_\_\_\_ of the crime.
- To eliminate the problem of overcrowding, the school's \_\_\_\_\_ ceremony is being moved to a new \_\_\_\_\_.
- A good secretary can take \_\_\_\_\_ and correctly punctuate letters and memos.
- The surgeon says that this \_\_\_\_\_ can regulate the heartbeat and improve blood \_\_\_\_\_.
- I will not hesitate to try water skiing when I am on \_\_\_\_\_.
- Are scientists able to calculate when the geese will begin their \_\_\_\_\_ from Canada?
- Please duplicate your work on the board so the math class can see how the \_\_\_\_\_ is done.
- If you regulate the \_\_\_\_\_ carefully, none of the food will spoil.
- Our class is planning a special \_\_\_\_\_ for the day we graduate.
- You must learn some new \_\_\_\_\_ when you translate written English into Spanish.

**B.** For each definition below, write the corresponding spelling word in both its noun and verb forms.

- |                      |       |       |
|----------------------|-------|-------|
| 1. to make difficult | _____ | _____ |
| 2. to keep cool      | _____ | _____ |
| 3. to move from      | _____ | _____ |
| 4. to copy           | _____ | _____ |
| 5. to find           | _____ | _____ |
| 6. to learn          | _____ | _____ |