Name_____   Date_____

Suffixes

A suffix is a letter, syllable, or word that is added to a root or stem of a word to either form a new word or add to its meaning. Suffixes are placed at the end of the root word. The main thing that a suffix shows is how it will be used in a sentence and how it is classified, in terms of whether the word is a noun, a verb, an adverb, or an adjective.

Suffixes are very useful because if one knows how to identify suffixes and what they mean, one can identify what kind of word it is in terms of grammar and increase one's vocabulary.

Verb Suffixes: identifies the tense of the verb and its meaning. Suffixes like the one listed below g

'-s' : is to sig

Example:

'-ed': shows t

Example:

'-en': shows t

Example:

'-ing': the ver

Example:

'-ize' or '-ate'

Examples:

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Noun Suffixe
the following meanings:

'-ance' and '-ence': signify a state of being or the act of
Examples: perform + '-ance' = perform<u>ance</u> (the act of performing)
                 Exist + '-ence' = exist<u>ence</u> (the act of existing or the state of being)

'-ant', '-ent', '-er', '-or', '-ian', and '-ist': these suffixes signify one who does something
Examples: assist + '-ant' = assist<u>ant</u> (one who assists)
                 study + '-ent' = stud<u>ent</u> (one who studies)
                 teach + '-er' = teach<u>er</u> (one who teaches)
                 act _ '-or' = act<u>or</u> (one who acts)
                 history + 'ian' = histor<u>ian</u> (one who does and studies history)
                 art + '-ist' = art<u>ist</u> (one who does and creates art)

Suffixes (Cont'd)

'-ion' and '-tion': mean the act of or the result of or the condition of
Example: operate + '-ion' = oper<u>ation</u> (the act of operation)

'-ment': means the act of
Example: commit + '-ment' = commit<u>ment</u> (act of committing)

'-ness': shows the quality of being
Examples: happy + '-ness' = happi<u>ness</u> (quality of being happy)
                         great + '-ness' = great<u>ness</u> (quality of being great)

Adjective Suffixes: are suffixes that show that the words are adjectives and have the
following meani

'-able', '-ible': n
Examples: u
                         A

'-er': means mor
Example: st

'-est': means the
Example: to

'-ive', '-ous, and
Examples: a

'-ful': means to l
Example: c

'-less': means to
Example: h

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'-logy': means the study of
Examples: bio<u>logy</u> (study of life processes)
                         Egypto<u>logy</u> (study of Egypt)

Adverb Suffixes: the following identifies the word as an adverb and expresses the
manner in which something is done.

 '-ly', '-fully' and '-wise' mean in the manner of
Examples   natural + '-ly' =   natural<u>ly</u> (in a natural manner)
                         hope + '-fully' = hope<u>fully</u> (in a manner of hope)
                         clock + '-wise' = clock<u>wise</u> (in the manner of a clock)

Suffixes Questions

Multiple Choice:

1. A suffix is a letter or syllable or word that is added to a root word at:

      a.   The beginning
      b.   The middle
      c.   The end
      d. None of the above

2. The suffix ' –logy' means:

      a.
      b.
      c.
      d.

Identify the suff

3. Spoken
Suffix: _____

4. Helpful
Suffix: _____

5. Anticlockwise
Suffix: _____

6. Sculptor
Suffix: _____

7. Musician
Suffix: _____   **Type:** _____

8. Listens
Suffix: _____   **Type:** _____

9. Clarify
Suffix: _____   **Type:** _____

10. Happiest
Suffix: _____   **Type:** _____