

32 Suffixes

A **suffix** is set of letters joined to the end of a word to make another word, e.g. forgetful, lioness, rusty, or form of a verb, e.g. singing, waited.



GETTING STARTED

1. Change the following words or roots by adding either the suffixes '-ible' or '-able'. Use your dictionary to see if you have to change the spelling of the original word when you attach the suffix.

adore adorable elig- _____ agree _____ terr _____
 enjoy _____ force _____ poss _____ digest _____
 excite _____ ed- _____

2. Decide which suffix, either '-er' or '-or', should be added to the following words to make a word that describes a person who does a particular job. Use your Oxford dictionary to see if you have to change the original word to make the suffix fit.

act actor audit _____ bank _____ build _____
 edit _____ paint _____ profess _____ survey _____

3. Which suffix, '-ion' or '-ian' can be added to the following words to make a noun? Check your dictionary to see if you have to change the original word to make the suffix fit.

complete _____ confuse _____ devote _____
 distribute _____ electric _____ explode _____
 music _____ reduce _____ promote _____



MOVING ON

Add the suffix to two of the words below to make new words. Use each word only once.

other champion clock brother home
 further on member man inner

- | | | | |
|-----------|--|-----------|---------------|
| -arian | occupation, group or someone who believes in something | librarian | authoritarian |
| 1. -hood | state of being or group | _____ | _____ |
| 2. -most | the most extreme point | _____ | _____ |
| 3. -ship | a status or position, a group or skill | _____ | _____ |
| 4. -wards | in the direction of | _____ | _____ |
| 5. -wise | relative to | _____ | _____ |