

# Suffixes

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Look at the list of *suffixes* in the Appendix of the dictionary. What is the difference between a *prefix* and a *suffix*?

- 1 The suffix **-less** means ‘without’. The example given in the dictionary is **senseless**, i.e. without sense.

Make up a short sentence to show what each of these words means:

**hopeless** .....

**merciless** .....

**countless** .....

**powerless** .....

**useless** .....

**aimless** .....

- 2 The opposite of **hopeless** is **hopeful**. How many other words from question one have opposites ending with the suffix **-ful**? Write them down.

- 3 Do any of the following have opposites ending with **-less**?

**awful**   **resentful**   **playful**   **thoughtful**   **harmful**

- 4 Often the spelling of a word has to be altered before a certain suffix can be added. For example:

**mercy** + **-less** = **merciless**

Copy out and complete the following:

**lazy** + **-est** = .....

**explode** + **-ive** = .....

**intend** + **-ion** = .....

**pure** + **-ification** = .....

**telephone** + **-ist** = .....

- 5 The word *affix* can be used to mean any addition to a word, whether it is a prefix or a suffix. What shorter words are you left with if you strip the affixes from the following?

**plantation** .....

**premeditation** .....

**unofficially** .....

**immortalize** .....

**consolidate** .....

**prescription** .....