



SNS COLLEGE OF TECHNOLOGY

(An Autonomous Institution)
Coimbatore-35



UNIT 1 - Word Formation – Prefixes and Suffixes

Prefix are used before a root word to form a new meaning to it. In the case of prefixes such as ‘non’ and ‘ex’, add a hyphen in between the prefix and the root word. Example: *non-violence*, *ex-serviceman*. Some commonly used prefixes are (**un, dis, mis, re, ir, il, im, de, en, inter, mono, non, anti**)

disorganized	inattentive	impolite
antigravity	unemployed	mislead
nonstop	disable	injustice
unreliable	illegal	dislike
inactive	irregular	illogical
unknown	nonfiction	unexpected
disloyal	discover	antidote
undo	unable	anticlimax

Prefix	Meaning	Examples
anti-	against, opposite of	<u>anticlimax</u> , anti-aircraft, antiseptic, antibody
auto-	self, same	autopilot, <u>autobiography</u> , automobile, autofocus
dis-	not, apart, away	disappear, disagreeable, disbar, dissect
ex-	out of, from, former	extract, exhale, excavate, ex-president
hyper-	over, more, beyond	hyperactive, hypersensitive, hypercritical
il-, im-, in-, ir-	not, without	illegal, immoral, inconsiderate, irresponsible
inter-	between, among	International, Interview, Interact
un-	not, lacking, opposite of	unfinished, unskilled, ungraceful, unfriendly

Suffixes are added at the end of the root word.

1. When a word ends with 'y', remove the 'y', add an 'i', 'al' or 'ly'.

Example: try - trying, happy - happily.

2. When the root word ends in the letter "ce" or "ge", add suffix "a" or "o"

Example: advantage – advantageous, courage – courageous,

3. If the word suffix is "ly" then keep the "e" in word

Example: late – lately, definite – definitely, love – lovely, rare – rarely

Some commonly used suffixes are (-y/ -ly / -less / -ful / -er / -or / -ness / -able / -ment / -al / -ary / ous / -ian / -ity)

fearless	arrangement	helpful	brotherly	happiness
accidental	weakness	understandable	loudness	courageous
thoughtful	kindness	Careful/careless	homeless	fashionable
friendly	waterless	jealousy	speechless	Environmental
popularity	clearly	hopeful	madness	suitable
Comfortless/able	encouragement	deplorable	painful	dangerous

Exercise 1 - Choose the correct prefix and suffix

1. The kids always play together. They never disagree or have an **argument**. (argue)
2. She looked **unhappy** (happy). She started to cry.
3. He passed his exam. He was **successful** (succeed) for the second time.
4. The team that he supported was able to win the **championship** (champion)
5. I couldn't find any **weakness** (weak) in his theory.
6. He wants to be a **mathematician** (mathematics) when he grows up.
7. There were only a **handful** (hand) of people at the match.

8. The road was too narrow, so they had to **widen** (wide) it.
9. I think that you should **reconsider** (consider) your decision. It may not be the best thing to do
10. You need a **combination** (combine) of motivation and hard work to achieve your dreams.
11. When my sister first saw the meteor, she thought it was a **supernatural** (natural) phenomenon.
12. His support gives the case **legitimacy** (legitimate).
13. Jane is the most **graceful** (grace) dancer in the group
14. Dogs are great for those looking for **companionship** (companion
15. The doctors have advised her to be **stress-free** (stress) only then she can overcome the **weakness** (weak).

Exercise 2 - Complete the table by adding correct suffix to the words.

Verb	Noun	Adjective	Noun
educate	education	stupid	stupidness
improve	improvement	happy	happiness
jog	jogging	weak	weakness
govern	government	similar	similarity
spell	spelling	active	activity
hesitate	hesitation	sad	sadness
arrange	arrangement	popular	popularity

Exercise 3 - Add the correct prefix to the word to complete each sentence. (non, pre, dis, il, anti, un, re, super, im)

- 1- I wanted to ease my stomach _____ comfort, so I drank some ginger root tea.
- 2- Lenny looked funny in his _____ matched shirt and pants.
- 3- Penelope felt _____ glamorous at the party because she was the only one not wearing a dress.
- 4- My mother said those _____ aging creams do not work, so I should not waste my money on them.
- 5- The child's _____ standard performance on the test alarmed his parents.
- 6- When my sister first saw the meteor, she thought it was a _____ natural phenomenon.

7- Even though she got an excellent job offer, Cherie did not want to_____locate to a different country.

8- With a small class size, the students get to_____act with the teacher more frequently.

9- I slipped on the ice because I did not heed the_____cautions about watching my step.

10- A_____combatant is another word for civilian.

Answers

1. Dis 2. Un 3. Non 4. Anti 5.Non 6.Super 7.Dis 8.Re 9.Pre 10.Non

Exercise 4 - Complete the table with correct form of word.

NOUN	VERB	ADJECTIVE
Achieve		Achievable
Evaporate	evaporation	
Inform	information	
glory		Glorious
	significance	Significant
Enthuse	enthusiasm	
	requirement	Required
Motive		Motivated

Answer – 1. Achievement 2. Evaporating 3. Informative 4. Glorify 5. Signify 6. Enthusiastic
7. Require 8. Motivation

