

## WORD-FORMATION

Affixation is one type of word-formation. It refers to placing an affix either before or after the word to which it is added.

### PREFIXATION

The term *prefixation* refers to placing or adding a prefix, i.e., the affix before the element to which it is added.

### Remember!

A **prefix** is any affix that is placed before an element to which it is added.

PREFIX	MEANING	EXAMPLE
<b>a(n)-</b>	without, lacking	<b>anaerobic</b> ; <b>atrophy</b>
<b>ab-</b>	away from	<b>abduction</b>
<b>ad-</b>	toward	<b>adduction</b>
<b>ambi-</b>	both	<b>ambidextrous</b>
<b>ante-</b>	before	<b>anteflexion</b>
<b>anti-</b>	against	<b>anti-inflammatory</b>
<b>bi-</b>	two	<b>bipolar</b>
<b>bio-</b>	life	<b>biochemistry</b>
<b>com-</b>	with, together, in association	<b>combine</b>
- realised as:	<b>con-</b> before a consonant (except <i>b, h, l, p, r</i> ) and, by assimilation, before <i>n</i>	<b>concentric</b>
<b>di-</b>	two	<b>dioxide</b>
<b>dia-</b>	completely	<b>diagnosis</b>

<b>dys-</b>	ill, bad	<b>dysfunction</b>
<b>ec-</b>	(variation of <b>ex-</b> before a consonant)	<b>eccentric</b>
<b>ex-</b>	out of, from; former	<b>exhale</b> <b>ex-athlete</b>
<b>exo-</b>	outside, outer, external	<b>exocentric</b>
<b>fore-</b>	before, front	<b>foretell</b>
<b>hydro-</b>	water	<b>hydromassage</b>
<b>hyper-</b>	too much, higher	<b>hypertension</b>
<b>hypo-</b>	under	<b>hypokinesia</b>
<b>iso-</b>	equal	<b>isometric</b>
<b>mal-</b>	bad, wrongful, ill	<b>malfunction</b>
<b>mis-</b>	ill, mistaken, wrong	<b>misconduct</b>
<b>mono-</b>	alone, single, one	<b>monovalent</b>
<b>multi-</b>	many, much	<b>multipurpose</b>
<b>non-</b>	not	<b>non-verbal</b>
<b>in-</b>	not	<b>insufficient</b>
	- realised as:	
	<b>il-</b> before <i>l</i>	<b>illogical</b>
	<b>im-</b> before bilabials	<b>improper</b>
	<b>ir-</b> before <i>r</i>	<b>irrelevant</b>
<b>poly-</b>	much, many	<b>polygon; polystructural</b>
<b>post-</b>	behind, after, later	<b>post-season</b>
<b>pre-</b>	before	<b>pre-season</b>
<b>re-</b>	again; back, backward	<b>re-evaluate</b>
<b>sub-</b>	under, below. beneath	<b>submaximal</b>
<b>tri-</b>	three	<b>triathlon</b>
<b>un-</b>	not	<b>unfair</b>
<b>uni-</b>	one	<b>uniaxial</b>

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Match each prefix in the left column with its meaning in the right column.

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<b>1</b> sub-	two
<b>2</b> a(n)-	three
<b>3</b> ambi-	before
<b>4</b> ante-	both
<b>5</b> anti-	life
<b>6</b> bi-	against
<b>7</b> bio-	under
<b>8</b> hyper-	under
<b>9</b> hypo-	too much
<b>10</b> tri-	lacking

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Now match the terms under **1, 2, 3**, etc. with their meaning under **a, b, c**, etc.

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<b>1</b> biochemistry	<b>a</b> the study of movements of organism or of movements within it
<b>2</b> akinesia	<b>b</b> someone who can use both hands equally well
<b>3</b> biokinetics	<b>c</b> absence of capability of voluntary movement
<b>4</b> ambidextrous	<b>d</b> complete knowledge
<b>5</b> hypokinesia	<b>e</b> chemistry of living matter
<b>6</b> diagnosis	<b>f</b> abnormally decreased mobility

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Fill in the missing prefixes in such a way so as to create a word whose meaning is given in the brackets.

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*Example:*

diagnosis (complete knowledge)

___scapular	(situated beneath the scapula)
___thermia	(subnormal body temperature)
___lateral	(pertaining to both sides)
___function	(diminished function)
___errant	(departing from normal)
___voluntary	(withdrawn from the influence of volition)
___extend	(extend beyond normal limits)

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Find the terms that contain the following elements and write them down.

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**corpor-** [*Latin corpus, corporis*] *body*: \_\_\_\_\_

**funct-** [*Latin fungor, functus*] *perform, serve, function*: \_\_\_\_\_

**metabol-** [*Greek metabol*] *change*: \_\_\_\_\_

**nutri-** [*Latin nutrio*] *nourish*: \_\_\_\_\_

**intra-** [*Latin intr!*] *within*: \_\_\_\_\_

**inter-** [*Latin inter*] *between, among*: \_\_\_\_\_

## Remember!

A **suffix** is any affix that follows the element to which it is added.

### SUFFIXATION

The term *suffixation* refers to placing or adding a suffix, i.e., the affix that follows an element to which it is added.

SUFFIX	MEANING	EXAMPLE
<b>-genic</b>	which produces/ produced by/producing; pertaining to a gene	hallucinogenic polygenic
<b>-gram</b>	something that is written, drawing, referring to a record in form of a picture	diagram
<b>-graph</b>	drawn, written; referring to a device which records as pictures	electrocardiograph
<b>-itis</b>	denoting inflammation	bronchitis
<b>-pnoea/-pnea</b>	referring to breathing, breath, respiration	apnea diving
<b>-related</b> <b>-trophy</b>	connected to nourishment; development of an organ	sport-related mycotrophy; atrophy

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Match each suffix in the left column with its meaning in the right column.

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<b>1</b> -ase	paralysis
<b>2</b> -phrenia	fear
<b>3</b> -phobia	stoppage in the flow of a liquid
<b>4</b> -plegia	enzyme
<b>5</b> -rrhage	mind disorder
<b>6</b> -osis	abnormal blood discharge

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Now match the terms under **1, 2, 3**, etc. with their meaning under **a, b, c**, etc.

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<b>1</b> dyspn(o)ea	<b>a</b> a graphic record of electrical impulses in the heart
<b>2</b> electrocardiogram	<b>b</b> fear of heights
<b>3</b> paraplegia	<b>c</b> difficult breathing
<b>4</b> acrophobia	<b>d</b> digestive enzymes that decompose starches
<b>5</b> amylase	<b>e</b> paralysis affecting the lower limb

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Fill in the missing suffixes in such a way so as to create a word whose meaning is given in the brackets.

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*Example:*

*haemorrhage (bleeding in which a lot of blood is lost)*

- scoli\_\_\_\_ (a condition of the spine in which it is curved sideways)
- epicondyl\_\_\_\_ (inflammation of the epicondyl)
- agora\_\_\_\_ (a fear of being in public, crowded and open places)
- hyper\_\_\_\_ (enlargement of a muscle)
- health-\_\_\_\_ (connected with health)
- electroencephalo\_\_\_\_ (a graphic record of electrical impulses in the brain)

## **COMPOUNDING**

A compound consists of two or more bases. There are several types of compounds: noun compounds, adjective compounds, or verb compounds. Look at the following examples:

*Example:*

*the weights that are put on ankles when exercising*

→ *ankle weights*

### **A. Noun Compounds**

rifle shooting = *Rifle shooting implies accuracy.*  
ice-skating = *We always go ice-skating in winter.*  
outdoor sport = *Football is an outdoor sport.*  
push-up = *Can you do twenty push-ups?*  
swimming pool = *There are eight lanes in the swimming pools.*  
bloodtest = *Have you already had your bloodtest done?*  
goalkeeper = *The goalkeeper couldn't do anything about it.*

### **B. Adjective Compounds**

muscle-stretching = *These are all muscle-stretching exercises.*  
rock-solid = *Because of pumping iron he has rock-solid muscles.*

### **C. Verb Compounds**

fine-tune = *These exercises can fine-tune your figure.*  
bench-press = *One should bench-press the barbell slowly.*

Exercises:

a floor exercise in which people lying in prone position push their body up by extending the arms, hands being placed shoulder-width apart on the floor

\_\_\_\_\_

the action performed by a muscle

\_\_\_\_\_

training in which exercises are executed in a circuit

\_\_\_\_\_

knowledge implying that a person is in the know of how to do something

\_\_\_\_\_

the rate at which the heart beats in a minute

\_\_\_\_\_

a system in which an organ is a constituent part

\_\_\_\_\_

a vessel through which blood flows

\_\_\_\_\_

the output of blood that is ejected from the cardiac muscle, i.e., from one ventricle in a minute

\_\_\_\_\_

exercise that is aimed at exercising the shoulder

\_\_\_\_\_

language in which body is used for communication through the use of postures and gestures, as well

as facial expressions

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## CLIPPING

The term 'clipping' denotes the procedure in which a syllable (or syllables) is (are) subtracted from a word.

This subtraction may occur at: a) the beginning of the word: phone – *telephone*; b) the end of the word: *champion* – champ, *professional* – pro; c) at both ends of the word: flu - *influenza*

## BLENDS

Blends are formed by combining fragments of two words:

*brunch* = *br(eakfast)* + *(l)unch*

*e-mail* = *e(lectronic)* + *mail*

*modem* = *mo(dulate)* + *dem(odulate)*

*motel* = *mo(tor)* + *(ho)tel*

*smog* = *sm(oke)* + *(f)og*

*Swatch* = *S(wiss)* + *watch*

*transistor* = *trans(fer)* + *(res)istor*

## ACRONYMS

Acronyms are words formed from the initial letters (or larger parts) of words.

a) When the acronyms are pronounced as sequences of letters, they are called 'alphabetisms':

CPR = cardioppulmonary resuscitation

ECG = 1) electrocardiogram; 2) electrocardiograph

EDP = electronic data processing

EEG = 1) electroencephalogram; 2) electroenecephalograph

ER = emergency room

IQ = intelligence quotient

KO/k.o. = knock ot

OR = operating room

b) Some acronyms are pronounced as words:

FIFA = **F**édération **I**nternationale de **F**ootball **A**ssociation

laser = **L**ightwave **A**mplification by **S**timulated **E**mission  
of **R**adiation

MASH = **m**obile **a**rm~~y~~ **s**urg~~ic~~al **h**ospital

radar = **r**adio **d**etecting **a**nd **r**anging

RAM = **r**andom **a**ccess **m**emory

REM = **r**apid **e**ye **m**ovement

ROM = **r**ead **o**nly **m**emory

scuba = **s**elf-**c**ontained **u**nderwater **b**reathing **a**pparatus

sonar = **S**ound, **N**avigation and **R**anging

## FOREIGN PLURALS

In any technical language many nouns are of Latin or Greek origin. Some of these nouns have only foreign plurals, some have both the foreign and the regular (-s) plural, and some have only the -s plural.

### NOUNS ORIGINATING FROM LATIN

- a) *-a*:        *alga - algae*  
                  *area – areas*  
                  *formula - formulae/formulas*  
                  *vertebra - vertebrae/vertebras*
- b) *-ex, -ix*: *codex - codices*  
                  *index - indices/ indexes*  
                  *matrix - matrices/matrixes*  
                  *appendix - appendices*  
                  *apex – apices/apexes*
- c) *-um*:        *bacterium - bacteria*  
                  *curriculum – curricula*  
                  *datum - data*  
                  *stadium – stadia/stadiums*  
                  *symposium – symposia*  
                  *medium – media*  
                  *erratum – errata*  
                  *stratum - strata*
- d) *-us*:        *stimulus - stimuli*  
                  *locus - loci*  
                  *virus - viruses*  
                  *focus – foci/focuses*  
                  *bonus - bonuses*

## NOUNS ORIGINATING FROM GREEK

a) *-is*:  
*analysis - analyses*  
*axis - axes*  
*basis - bases*  
*diagnosis - diagnoses*  
*hypothesis - hypotheses*  
*thesis - theses*

b) *-on*:  
*skeleton - skeletons*  
*phenomenon – phenomena*  
*mitochondrion - mitochondria*  
*criterion – criteria/criterions*  
*mitochondrion - mitochondria*  
*electron - electrons*

### Remember!

apparatus (Singular) – apparatus/apparatuses  
(Plural)  
ictus (Singular) – ictus/ictuses (Plural)

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Remember the following plurals.

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### SINGULAR

corpus  
genus  
trauma  
forum  
femur  
sternum  
thorax  
continuum

### PLURAL

corpora/corpus  
genera/genuses  
traumas/traumata  
forums/fora  
femurs/femora  
sternums/sterna  
thoraxes/thoraces  
continua