

Identify Base Words, Prefixes, and Suffixes

A **base word** can stand alone and has meaning by itself. A **prefix** is a word part added to the beginning of a **base word**. A **suffix** is a word part added to the end of a base word. **Prefixes** and **suffixes** change the meaning of the word. Look at the example below.

preheated

The **base word** is heat.

The **prefix** is pre-. It means before.

The **suffix** is -ed. It makes the verb past tense.



Some Common Prefixes

pre-, un-, re-, dis-, in-

Some Common Suffixes

-ful, -ly, -ed, -ing, -ness,
-ment, -less

Directions: Identify the parts of each word below.

| | | | | |
|-----|------------------|---------|------------------------|-------------------|
| 1. | softly | | base word: soft | suffix: ly |
| 2. | disagree | prefix: | base word: | |
| 3. | sadness | | base word: | suffix: |
| 4. | truthful | | base word: | suffix: |
| 5. | reappear | prefix: | base word: | |
| 6. | incorrect | prefix: | base word: | |
| 7. | unhelpful | prefix: | base word: | suffix: |
| 8. | prepayment | prefix: | base word: | suffix: |
| 9. | incompletely | prefix: | base word: | suffix: |
| 10. | unspeakable | prefix: | base word: | suffix: |
| 11. | misunderstanding | prefix: | base word: | suffix: |
| 12. | disappointment | prefix: | base word: | suffix: |