

# Analyzing Words with Roots and Affixes

Essential Question: How can I determine  
the meaning of a word using its roots  
and/or affixes?

# TEK

## **(2) Reading/Vocabulary Development.**

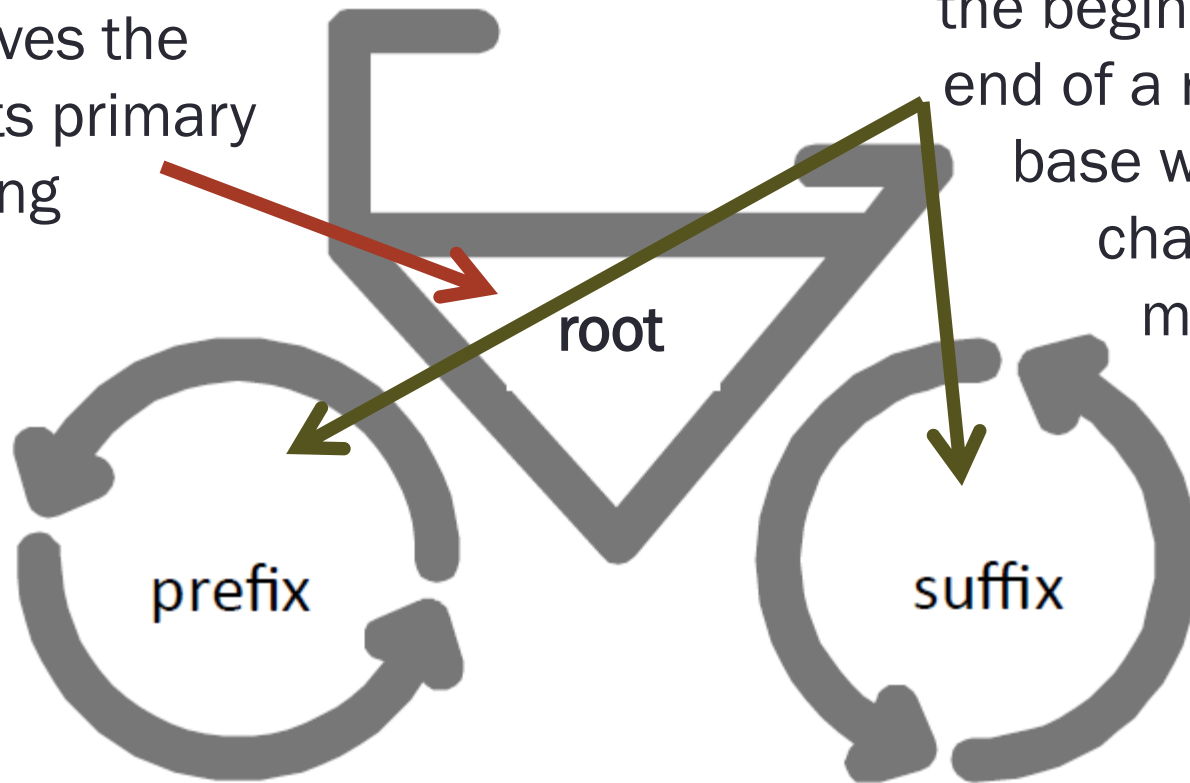
Students understand new vocabulary and use it when reading and writing. Students are expected to:

(A) determine the meaning of grade-level academic English words derived from Latin, Greek, or other linguistic roots and affixes

# Vocabulary

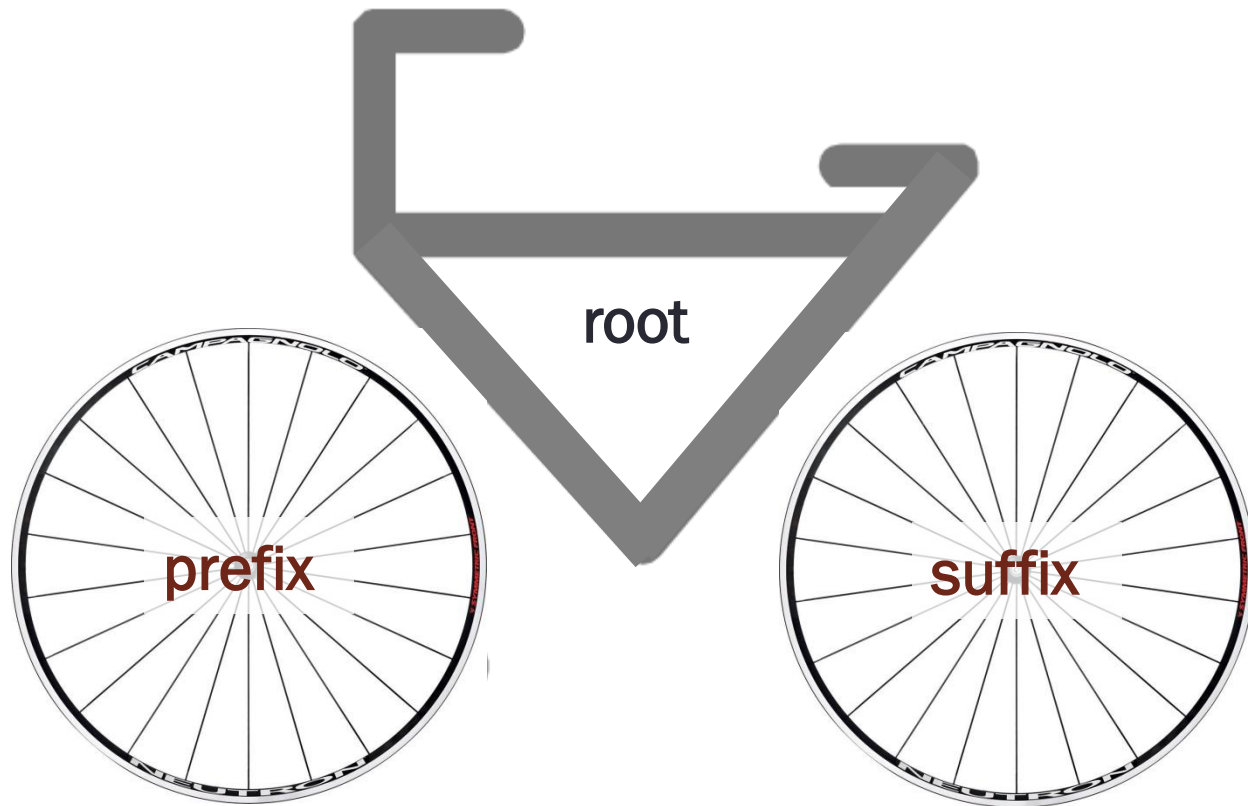
**Root** - word *part* that gives the word its primary meaning

**Affix** - word *part* added either to the beginning or end of a root (or base word) to change its meaning



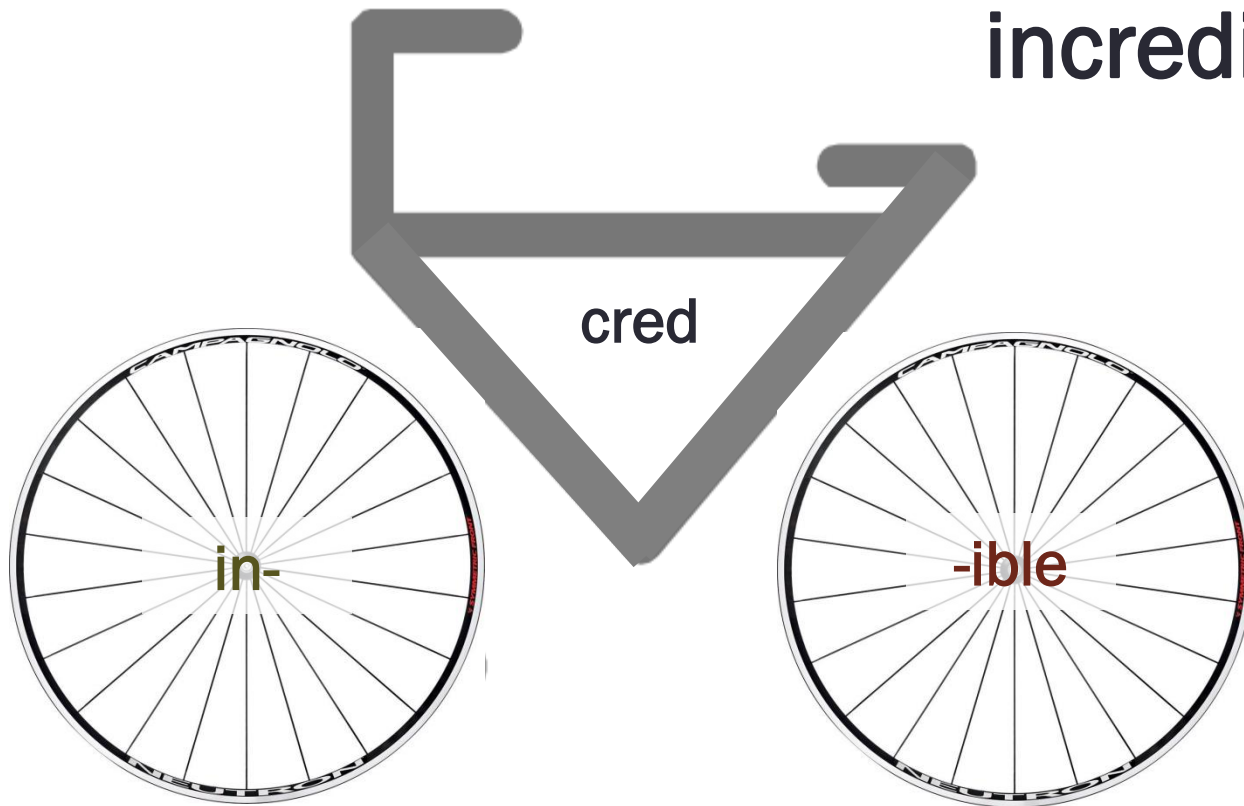


# Vocabulary



# Vocabulary

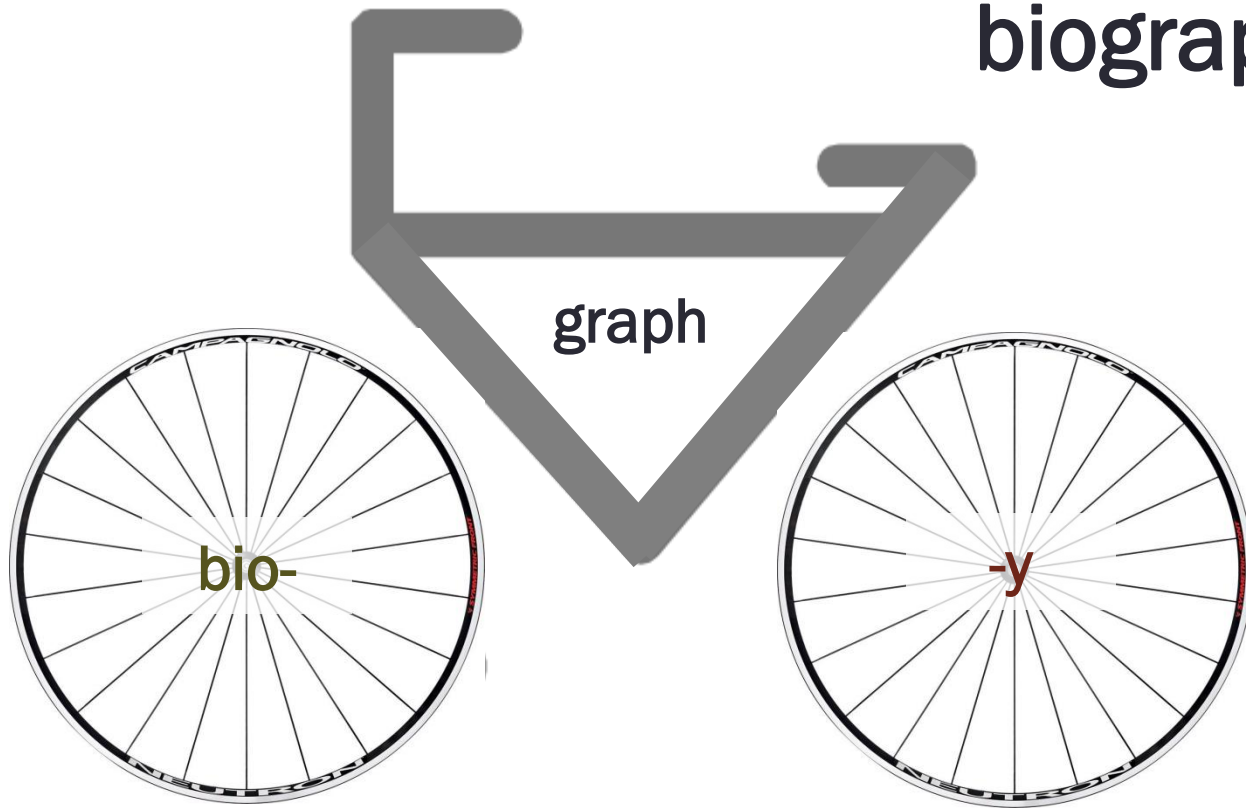
incredible



**not** + believe + **able to**

# Vocabulary

biography



life + write + condition of



# Root & Affix Flipbooks

- o Use the lists of **prefixes**, **roots**, and **suffixes** on the slides that follow to create vocabulary flip books. We will be using our flip books to practice analyzing and building different words.
- o On the **front side** of the card (hole in the top left-hand corner), write the **root or affix**. Try to add a **picture or graphic**, if can think of one, to help you remember the meaning.
- o On the **back side** of the card, write the **definition** of the word part, and at least **two examples** within-a-word.

On my website, go to “STAAR Review Centers” on the right-side.

# Prefixes

Root, Prefix or Suffix	Meaning	Examples
anti, ant	against, opposite	antisocial, antiseptic, antithesis, antibody, antinomies, antifreeze, antipathy
de-	from, down, away, to do the opposite, reverse, against	detach, deploy, derange, decrease, deodorize, devoid, deflate, degenerate
ex-	out of, away from, lacking, former	exit, exhale, exclusive, exceed, explosion, ex-mayor
exter-, extra-, extro-	outside of, beyond	external, extrinsic, extraordinary, extrapolate, extraneous, extrovert
in, im	into, on, near, towards	instead, import
in, im, il, ir	not	illegible, irresolute, inaction, inviolate, innocuous, intractable, innocent, impregnable, impossible, imposter

Notice that some affixes have multiple meanings. You may have to look at the context clues to figure out which meaning works best.



# Prefixes

Root, Prefix or Suffix	Meaning	Examples
inter	between, among	international, intercept, interject, intermission, internal, intermittent,
mal	bad, badly	malformation, maladjusted, dismal, malady, malcontent, malfunction, malfeasance, maleficent
mis	wrong, bad, badly	misconduct, misinform, misinterpret, mispronounce, misnomer, mistake
mono	one	monopoly, monotype, monologue, mononucleosis, monorail, monotheist,
multi	many, much	multifold, multilingual, multyped, multiply, multitude, multipurpose, multinational

# Prefixes

Root, Prefix or Suffix	Meaning	Examples
non	not	nonferrous, nonsense, nonabrasive, nondescript
omni	all, every	omnipotent, omniscient, omnipresent, omnivorous
post	after, behind	postpone, postdate
pre, pur	before	Precede
pro	for, foward	Propel

# Prefixes

Root, Prefix or Suffix	Meaning	Examples
re	back, again	report, realign, retract, revise, regain
sub, suc, suf, sup, sur, sus	under, below, from, secretly, instead of	sustain, survive, support, suffice, succeed, submerge, submarine, substandard, subnormal, subvert
super, supra	over, above	superior, suprarenal, superscript, supernatural, superimpose, supercede
trans	across, beyond, change	transform, transoceanic, transmit, transportation, transducer
un	not, against, opposite	unceasing, unequal



# Roots

Root, Prefix or Suffix	Meaning	Examples
act, ag	do, act, drive	active, react, agent, active, agitate
alt	high, deep	altar, altitude
aqu	water	aqueous
aud, audi, aur, aus	to hear, listen	audience, audio, audible, auditorium, audiovisual, audition, auricular, auscultate
aut, auto	self	automobile, automatic, automotive, autograph, autonomous, autoimmune
bibl, bibli, biblio	book	bibliophile, bibliography, Bible
bio, bi	life	biography, biology, biometrics, biome, biosphere
brev	short	abbreviate, brevity, brief

# Roots

Root, Prefix or Suffix	Meaning	Examples
cad, cap, cas, ceiv, cept, capt, cid, cip	to take, to seize, to hold	receive, deceive, capable, capacious, captive, accident, capture, occasion, concept, intercept, forceps, except, reciprocate
chron	time	chronology, chronic, chronicle chronometer, anachronism, synchronize
circum	around	circumnavigate, circumflex, circumstance, circumcision, circumference, circumorbital, circumlocution, circumvent, circumscribe, circulatory
co, cog, col, coll, con, com, cor	with, together	cohesiveness, cognate, collaborate, convene, commitment, compress, contemporary, converge, compact, confluence, convenient, concatenate, conjoin, combine, correct
contr, contra, counter	against, opposite	contradict, counteract, contravene, contrary, counterspy, contrapuntal
cosm	universe, world	cosmos, microcosm, cosmopolitan, cosmonaut
crat, cracy	rule	autocrat, aristocrat, theocracy, technocracy
cred	believe	creed, credo, credence, credit, credulous, incredulous, incredible

# Roots

Root, Prefix or Suffix	Meaning	Examples
dic, dict, dit	say, speak	dictation, dictionary, dictate, dictator, Dictaphone, edict, predict, verdict, contradict, benediction
dis, dif	not, opposite of, reverse, separate, deprive of, away	dismiss, differ, disallow, disperse, dissuade, divide, disconnect, disproportion, disrespect, distemper, disarray
fall, fals	deceive	fallacy, falsify, fallacious
fid, fide, feder	faith, trust	confidante, fidelity, confident, infidelity, infidel, federal, confederacy, semper fi
fig	shape, form	figurem, effigy, figure, figment
fin	end, ended, finished	final, finite, finish, confine, fine, refine, define, finale
fix	repair, attach	fix, fixation, fixture, affix, prefix, suffix
fract, frag, frai	break	fracture, infraction, fragile, fraction, refract, frail



# Roots

Root, Prefix or Suffix	Meaning	Examples
geo	earth	geometry, geography, geocentric, geology
graph, gram, graf	write, written, draw	graph, graphic, autograph, photography, graphite, telegram, polygraph, grammar, biography, lithograph, graphic
hydr, hydra, hydro	water	dehydrate, hydrant, hydraulic, hydraulics, hydrogen, hydrophobia
hyper	over, above	hyperactive, hypertensive, hyperbolic, hypersensitive, hyperventilate, hyperkinetic
liber, liver	free	liberty, liberal, liberalize, deliverance
luc, lum, lun, lus, lust	light	translucent, luminary, luster, luna, illuminate, illustrate

# Roots

Root, Prefix or Suffix	Meaning	Examples
magn	great	magnify, magnificent, magnanimous, magnate, magnitude
mem	recall, remember	memo, commemoration, memento, memoir, memorable
mob, mov, mot	move	motion, remove, mobile, motor
oper	work	operate, cooperate, opus
path, pathy	feeling, suffering	pathos, sympathy, antipathy, apathy, telepathy
phobia, phobos	fear	phobia, claustrophobia, acrophobia, aquaphobia, ergophobia, homophobia
phot, photo	light	photograph, photoelectric, photogenic, photosynthesis, photon

# Roots

Root, Prefix or Suffix	Meaning	Examples
rupt	break	rupture, interrupt, abrupt, disrupt, ruptible
sci, scio, scientia	know	science, conscious, omniscient, cognocienti
scrib, script	write	scribe, scribble, inscribe, describe, subscribe, prescribe, manuscript
syn, sym	together, at the same time	sympathy, synthesis, synchronous, syndicate
tact, tang, tag, tig, ting	touch	tactile, contact, intact, intangible, tangible, contagious, contiguous, contingent
terr, terra	earth	terrain, terrarium, territory, terrestrial
vade	go	evade, invader
vid, vis	see	video, evident, provide, providence, visible, revise, supervise, vista, visit, vision, review, indivisible
viv, vita, vivi	alive, life	revive, survive, vivid, vivacious, vitality, vivisection, vital, vitamins, revitalize



# Suffixes

Root, Prefix or Suffix	Meaning	Examples
-able, -ible	Adjective: worth, ability	solvable, incredible
-age	Noun: activity, or result of action	courage, suffrage, shrinkage, tonnage
-al	Noun: action, result of action	referral, disavowal, disposal, festival
-al, -ial, -ical	Adjective: quality, relation	structural, territorial, categorical
-an	Noun: person	artisan, guardian, historian, magician
-ance, -ence	Noun: action, state, quality or process	resistance, independence, extravagance, fraudulence
-ancy, -ency	Noun: state, quality or capacity	vacancy, agency, truancy, latency

# Suffixes

Root, Prefix or Suffix	Meaning	Examples
-ant, -ent	Noun: an agent, something that performs the action	disinfectant, dependent, fragrant
-ant, -ent, -ient	Adjective: kind of agent, indication	important, dependent, convenient
-ar, -ary	Adjective: resembling, related to	spectacular, unitary
-ate	Noun: state, office, function	candidate, electorate, delegate
-ate	Verb: cause to be	graduate, ameliorate, amputate, colligate
-ate	Adjective: kind of state	inviolate
-ation	Noun: action, resulting state	specialization, aggravation, alternation

# Suffixes

Root, Prefix or Suffix	Meaning	Examples
-ed	Verb: past tense	dressed, faded, patted, closed, introduced
-ed	Adjective: having the quality or characteristics of	winged, moneyed, dogged, tiered
-ence, -ency	Noun: action or process, quality or state	reference, emergency, dependence, eminence, latency
-er, -ier	Adjective: comparative	better, brighter, sooner, hotter, happier
-er, -or	Noun: person or thing that does something	flyer, reporter, player, member, fryer, collector, concentrator
-er, -or	Verb: action	ponder, dishonor, clamor
-es, -ies	Noun: plural of most nouns ending in -ch, -s, -sh, -o and -z and some in -f and -y	passes, glasses, ladies, heroes
-es, -ies	Verb: third person singular present indicative of verbs that end in -ch, -s, -sh, - and some in -y	blessees, hushes, fizzes, defies
-est, -iest	Adjective or Adverb: superlative	latest, strongest, luckiest



# Suffixes

Root, Prefix or Suffix	Meaning	Examples
-ful	Noun: an amount or quantity that fills	Handful, spoonful
-ful	Adjective: having, giving, marked by	Fanciful, wonderful
-ian, an	Noun: related to, one that is	pedestrian, human
-ing	Noun: material made for, activity, result of an activity	flooring, swimming, building
-ing	Verb: present participle	depicting
-ing	Adjective: activity	cohering

# Suffixes

Root, Prefix or Suffix	Meaning	Examples
-ion	Noun: condition or action	Abduction
-ish	Adjective: having the character of	Newish
-ist	Noun: person or member	Podiatrist
-ity, ty	Noun: state or quality	lucidity, novelty
-less	Adjective: without, missing	Motiveless
-ly	Adverb: in the manner of	Fluently

# Suffixes

Root, Prefix or Suffix	Meaning	Examples
-ment	Noun: condition or result	Document
-ness	Noun: state, condition, quality	Kindness
-or	Noun: condition or activity	valor, honor, humor, minor
-ous, -eous, -ose, -ious	Adjective: having the quality of, relating to	adventurous, courageous, verbose, fractious
-y	Noun: state, condition, result of an activity	society, victory
-y	Adjective: marked by, having	hungry, angry, smears, teary