

Intermediate Level I

Roots and Affixes

Score: /25

The **root** is the most basic form and meaning of a word.

Affixes are additions to root words that form new words in order to change the meaning. There are two types of affixes: prefixes and suffixes. A **prefix** is added to the beginning of a root word. A **suffix** is added to the end of a word. For example: Add the prefix "semi" to the root word "final" to form "semifinal." The meaning changes from "last" to "second last." Add the suffix "less" to the root word "care" to form "careless." The meaning changes from "attention and regard" to "indifferent and without care."

Activity #1 (5 points): The following words contain a root and one or more affix. Circle the **root** of each word.

younger	scolded	unwavering	building	classmates
forgotten	unbearable	discussed	overheard	wonderful

Activity #2 (10 points): Add a prefix to each bolded word to complete the sentence. Select from the prefixes in the box below to fill in each blank. Careful, some are decoys!

grand	im	over	mis	fore	anti	re	un
under	sur	en	em	dis	in	de	inter

1. A fox had fallen into a well and was _____ **able** to get out.
2. She looked warmly into her _____ **daughter's** eyes.
3. As her fingertips tripped across the _____ **face** of the stone, she held her breath.
4. The map that had led her here was _____ **colored** and poorly drawn.
5. A goat, _____ **come** with thirst, came to the well in search of something to drink.
6. She gasped for air under the grip of a cold, _____ **powering** hand.
7. Dump trucks had super powers fueled by _____ **cycled** garbage.
8. He told the goat to put his _____ **feet** on the wall and bend his head.
9. These characteristics make rogue waves almost _____ **possible** to ride over.
10. The circling vultures were _____ **different** to his presence.

Activity #3 (10 points): Add a suffix to each bolded word so that it fits the sentence.
 Select from the suffixes below to fill in each blank. Careful, some are decoys!

ous	er	ance	ence	ist	ible	y	ing
est	ive	ly	less	ment	ily	ish	ful

1. Her classmates sat with their hands over their ears, but she couldn't blame them — the **disturb**_____ had been going on for weeks.
2. It was a lonely, **smell**_____, and mostly unpleasant work site.
3. The thirsty goat thoughtlessly scampered down and started to drink **greed**_____ .
4. Their mom always scolded Meagan first, just because she was **old**_____.
5. They used to make up the most **wonder**_____ stories together.
6. Meagan decided the time had come to teach her **annoy**_____ brother a lesson.
7. After three doctors, a **special**_____, and standing on her head, nothing had worked.
8. Chris agreed with his kids for the first time: he had the **cool**_____ job.
9. Five years of coming to the home for the **elder**_____ had finally affected her.
10. The fox looked back over his shoulder and said, "You **fool**_____ fellow!"