

## Senior 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 an affix. Circle the **root**.

painfully	happiness	Impossible	roughest	precaution
Punishment	inadvertently	boredom	uninhabited	ownership

**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!

semi	im	non	mis	sub	anti	re	un
under	mid	trans	em	dis	over	de	inter

- The two of them had been driving on the busiest part of the \_\_\_\_\_**state**.
- Her father took one look at the \_\_\_\_\_**array** that was her apartment and exploded.
- Joey had been out in the sun all day and he began to \_\_\_\_\_**heat**.
- Athena had \_\_\_\_\_**formed** her vain pupil into a spider.
- The coach told the football team not to \_\_\_\_\_**estimate** their opponents.
- It took time for those on the \_\_\_\_\_**marine** to become accustomed to the conditions.
- I had to take an \_\_\_\_\_**biotic** in order to clear up the infection in my lungs.
- My dad likes to golf regularly because it helps him to \_\_\_\_\_**stress**.
- We are going to be driving \_\_\_\_\_**stop** until we get to Cleveland.
- The baker dropped the cake so she was going to have to \_\_\_\_\_**make** it.

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

ous	er	ic	ward	al	est	y	ing
ation	ive	ity	ally	ment	ly	ness	ful

1. Arachne was extremely **boast**\_\_\_\_\_, telling others that she could not be Athena's student, because she was far more talented.
2. Everyone present applauded his **hero**\_\_\_\_\_ actions.
3. He tried his best but he could not contain his **excite**\_\_\_\_\_.
4. Dane felt great **sad**\_\_\_\_\_ when he found out about the accident.
5. Her **great**\_\_\_\_\_ student was a poor girl, named Arachne, who wove stunning fabrics.
6. As the car veered **erratic**\_\_\_\_\_ toward the shoulder, a pickup hit their rear bumper.
7. Darren wants to be more physically **act**\_\_\_\_\_, so he is going to start jogging.
8. The **courage**\_\_\_\_\_ man leaped into the water to save the struggling child.
9. **Sudden**\_\_\_\_\_ everything was eerily silent.
10. She marvels at dust particles **shimmer**\_\_\_\_\_ like diamonds.