

## WHAT IS MORPHOLOGY?

**PREFIX**

**ROOT**

**SUFFIX**

A morpheme is the smallest unit of meaning in language, and morphology is the study of morphemes. Prefixes, roots or base words, and suffixes are the three morphemes. Prefixes attach to the beginning of a root word; suffixes, to the end of a root word. These affixes may or may not combine with others. The word, perfected, consists of three morphemes: the **prefix PER**, the **base word FECT**, and the **suffix ED**. The word, professional includes four morphemes: the **prefix PRO**, the **root word FESS**, and the **suffixes SION and AL**. When a root or base word adds a prefix, the meaning of the word changes. When a root word adds a suffix, the grammar may change. Affixes, attachments of prefixes and/or suffixes, join a multitude of base words.

## WHY STUDY MORPHOLOGY?

### **TO EXPAND VOCABULARY & INCREASE COMPREHENSION**

Listening and reading comprehension decrease if the listener or reader does not know the meanings of the words heard or seen.

### **TO SPEAK & WRITE EFFECTIVELY**

Knowing a variety of specific nouns, verbs, and adjectives enables a person to express facts, thoughts, and ideas clearly in speaking, reading, and writing.

### **TO LEARN NEW WORDS RAPIDLY**

By mastering one new root with six different prefixes, a person can add over forty-eight related words to his/her vocabulary within a week or two. A quick way to learn new words benefits everyone.

### **TO UNDERSTAND & APPLY GRAMMAR USAGE**

By learning how to change verbs into nouns, adjectives, and adverbs, people better understand syntax. Consequently, their oral expression, reading comprehension, and writing skills improve.

### **TO PROMOTE FLEXIBLE & CRITICAL THINKING**

## HOW TO USE THE METHODOLOGY

### LEARN TO TURN 1 ROOT WORD INTO 6 & 6 WORDS INTO 48!

**PREFIX**

**ROOT**

**SUFFIX**

*More Morphology Magic* presents a remarkable methodology for quickly expanding vocabulary. Morphology consists of prefixes, root or base words, and suffixes.

- A root or base word contains the core meaning of the word in its simplest form.
- A **prefix** is an attachment **before** the word, like **pro**gress & **re**gress. Prefixes change the meaning of the word.
- A **suffix** is an attachment **after** the word, like progress**ive** & progress**ed**. Suffixes change the grammatical function of the word.

### HOW MORPHOLOGY WORKS TO CREATE NEW WORDS

- Start with one root or base word.
- Add 6 different prefixes to that root word to build 6 new words.
- Add suffixes to these new words to transform their part of speech. A verb may turn into **nouns**, **adjectives**, and/or **adverbs**.
- 1 root and 1 prefix can change into 3 verb forms, **2 noun forms**, **3 adjective forms**, and sometimes **an adverb**. Some roots can create even more than eight words. Therefore, by adding different suffixes to each root, 6 root words times 8 create 48 new words.
- Learning 48 words in a week or two is AN EFFECTIVE METHOD!

### MORPHOLOGY IN ACTION: THE “TRANSFER” EXAMPLE

#### TRANSFER MEANS:

#### MOVE FROM ONE PLACE OR PERSON TO ANOTHER

#### TRANSFER as a VERB:

- Zoe transferred from one school to another.
- Jess transfers from a trolley to a bus.
- Administrators will be transferring student records from middle to high school at the end of grade eight.

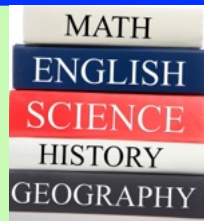
HOW IMPORTANT IS A PREFIX TO THE ROOT, **SIST**?  
**SIST MEANS STAND.**  
PREFIXES CHANGE MEANING.

**STAND  
WITH**



**ASSIST** = HELP, AID, SUPPORT  
A supportive hockey player **assists** with goals.

**STAND  
WITHIN**



**CONSIST** = INCLUDE, BE MADE OF  
A school day typically **consists** of classes in several subject areas.

**STAND  
AWAY FROM  
AN ACTION**



**DESIST** = CEASE, DISCONTINUE, QUIT  
Sometimes, a person writes a “cease and **desist**” letter that leads to a business closing. (adjective)

**STAND  
FIRM WITH  
FORCE**



**INSIST** = DEMAND, ASSERT, PRESS  
The history teacher **insists** that students place their homework on his desk before the class begins.

**STAND  
ONE'S  
GROUND,  
DETERMINED**



**PERSIST** = CARRY ON, PERSEVERE  
Firefighters **persist** in battling flames even though they risk their own lives.

**STAND TO  
STAY ALIVE  
ON VERY  
LITTLE**



**SUBSIST** = SURVIVE, ENDURE, LAST  
Despite the flooding, people **subsisted** at Red Cross centers set up to feed and house them.

**PREFIXES CHANGE THE MEANING OF A WORD.**  
**THE PREFIX, PER, MEANS THROUGH, COMPLETELY.**

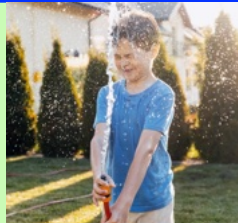
**MOVE  
THROUGH**



**PERAMBULATE = WALK THROUGH, TRAVEL (verb)**

Tourists perambulated the Brooklyn Botanical Gardens.

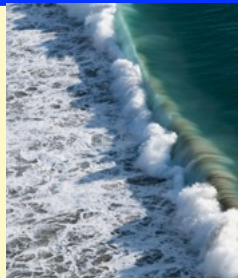
**PENETRATE  
THROUGH**



**PERMEATE = SPREAD THROUGH, PERVADE, SOAK (verb)**

The sprinkler permeated the boy's clothing.

**LASTING  
THROUGH  
TIME**



**PERPETUAL = ETERNAL, EVERLASTING, CONSTANT (adjective)**

Perpetual ocean waves continuously crash on the shore of the beach.

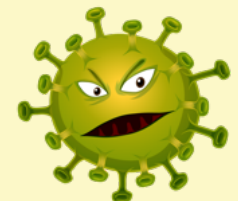
**CONTINUE,  
CARRY ON  
THROUGH**



**PERSEVERE = NEVER QUIT, STEADY DETERMINATION (verb)**

The champion persevered until he won an Olympic gold medal.

**EXTENDING  
THROUGH**



**PERVASIVE = UNWELCOME, OMNIPRESENT, WIDESPREAD (adjective)**

COVID exemplifies a pervasive disease.

**TURNUED  
COMPLETELY  
WRONG**



**PERVERSE = UNREASONABLE AND/OR WICKED (adjective)**

A perverse witch mistreated Hansel and Gretel in the fairy tale.