# Root Words, Phrases, Phrasings, Prefixes, and Suffixes: The Basics with Appendix

Words are the building blocks of language. They allow us to communicate our thoughts, ideas, and feelings. But where do words come from? And how are they put together?



Contemporary Medical Terminology 2024: Root words, Phrases, Phrasings, Prefixes, and Suffixes (The Basics) with Appendix (Review of Basic Roots, Prefixes,

Suffixes) by Donald E. Westlake

★★★★★ 4.4	out of 5
Language	: English
File size	: 3136 KB
Text-to-Speech	: Enabled
Screen Reader	: Supported
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled	
Print length	: 742 pages
Lending	: Enabled
Hardcover	: 495 pages
Item Weight	: 1.9 pounds
Dimensions	: 6.14 x 1.06 x 9.21 inches



The answers to these questions lie in the realm of etymology, the study of the origin and history of words. Etymology can help us understand the meaning of words, their relationships to other words, and how they have changed over time. One of the most important concepts in etymology is the root word. A root word is the basic form of a word, from which all other forms are derived. For example, the root word *mit* means "to send." From this root word, we get a number of other words, such as *mission*, *missive*, and *transmit*.

In addition to root words, there are also phrases, phrasings, prefixes, and suffixes. These elements can be added to root words to change their meaning or function.

Phrases are groups of words that function as a single unit. For example, the phrase "in the end" means "at the ." Phrases can be added to root words to create new words, such as *endpoint* or *endless*.

Phrasings are variations on root words or phrases. They can be used to change the emphasis or meaning of a word or phrase. For example, the phrasing "on the other hand" means "in contrast." Phrasings can be added to root words or phrases to create new words or phrases, such as *on the other hand* or *on the other side*.

Prefixes are letters or groups of letters that are added to the beginning of root words to change their meaning. For example, the prefix *un*-means "not." When added to the root word *happy*, it creates the new word *unhappy*.

Suffixes are letters or groups of letters that are added to the end of root words to change their meaning or function. For example, the suffix *-ment* means "state of being." When added to the root word *happy*, it creates the new word *happiness*.

Root words, phrases, phrasings, prefixes, and suffixes are all essential elements of language. They allow us to create new words and phrases, and to change the meaning or function of existing words and phrases.

# The Functions of Root Words, Phrases, Phrasings, Prefixes, and Suffixes

Root words, phrases, phrasings, prefixes, and suffixes all serve different functions in language. Here is a summary of their functions:

- Root words are the basic form of a word, from which all other forms are derived.
- Phrases are groups of words that function as a single unit.
- Phrasings are variations on root words or phrases.
- Prefixes are letters or groups of letters that are added to the beginning of root words to change their meaning.
- Suffixes are letters or groups of letters that are added to the end of root words to change their meaning or function.

By understanding the functions of root words, phrases, phrasings, prefixes, and suffixes, we can better understand the meaning and structure of words.

#### Examples of Root Words, Phrases, Phrasings, Prefixes, and Suffixes

Here are some examples of root words, phrases, phrasings, prefixes, and suffixes:

- Root words:mit (to send), scribe (to write), port (to carry)
- **Phrases:** *in the end, on the other hand, by the way*

- Phrasings:unhappy, happiness, missionary
- Prefixes:un- (not), re- (again), pre- (before)
- Suffixes:-ment (state of being),-ion (action or process),-er (person who does something)

These are just a few examples of the many root words, phrases, phrasings, prefixes, and suffixes that exist in the English language.

Root words, phrases, phrasings, prefixes, and suffixes are essential elements of language. They allow us to create new words and phrases, and to change the meaning or function of existing words and phrases.

By understanding the basics of root words, phrases, phrasings, prefixes, and suffixes, we can better understand the meaning and structure of words.

#### Appendix: List of Common Root Words, Prefixes, and Suffixes

The following is a list of common root words, prefixes, and suffixes:

#### **Root Words**

- *mit* (to send)
- *scribe* (to write)
- port (to carry)
- *duc* (to lead)
- *vid* (to see)
- *aud* (to hear)
- dict (to say)

- *scrib* (to write)
- fract (to break)
- *mit* (to send)
- *pugn* (to fight)
- reg (to rule)
- *scrib* (to write)
- *solv* (to loosen)
- spec (to look)
- tend (to stretch)
- *vert* (to turn)
- *voc* (to call)

#### Prefixes

- *un-* (not)
- *re-* (again)
- *pre-* (before)
- *in-* (not)
- inter- (between)
- *intra-* (within)
- post- (after)
- *sub-* (under)

- *super-* (above)
- *trans-* (across)

#### Suffixes

- *-ment* (state of being)
- *-ion* (action or process)
- *er* (person who does something)
- *-ness* (state or quality)
- *-ful* (full of)
- -ive (having or tending to)
- -able (capable of being)
- *-ible* (capable of being)
- *-logy* (study of)
- -ism (doctrine or system of)

This list is just a starting point. There are many other root words, prefixes, and suffixes that exist in the English language.



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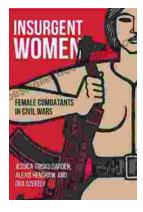
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