PREFIX + ROOT WORD + SUFFIX
Prefixes, Root Words, & Suffixes

What are root words?
A root word is a word that has **nothing** added at the beginning or the end. It stands on its own as a word, it has a meaning. New words can be made from root words by adding **beginnings** (prefixes) and **endings** (suffixes).

A root word is a real word and you make new words from it by adding prefixes and suffixes.
For example, *clear* is a root word. By adding prefixes and suffixes you can make these new words:

- *unclear, clearly, cleared.*

All of these words have *grown* from their *root word*. They share parts of the same spelling and they are linked in terms of meaning. They are known as a *word family*. 
Root Words

- A root word is a real word.
- We make new words from root words by adding prefixes and suffixes.
- A word’s root is the part of the word that carries the most meaning.
- A root word is also known as a base word.
- At least half of English words have roots from Latin and Greek.
- Root words may have a prefix, suffix, or both attached to them.
- Adding a prefix or suffix changes the meaning of the root word.
- A word family is a group of words that share the same root word.
• Understanding root words will help you with spelling other words because word families share spelling patterns. If you recognize the root of an unfamiliar word, it will help you to figure out what the word is and what it means.
Prefixes

- Prefixes are added to the beginning of words to change the words' meanings.
- Words can have more than one prefix. Ex.: unenlightened
- Adding a prefix often changes the spelling of the root word.
Suffixes

- A suffix is a letter or group of letters added at the end of a word.
- Suffixes usually change the function, or part of speech, of the word (noun to verb, adjective to adverb, etc.).
- Adding a suffix usually changes the meaning of the root word.
- Words can have more than one suffix. Ex.: mindlessly.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Root word</th>
<th>With prefixes/suffixes</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>act</td>
<td>action, acting, acted, inaction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>add</td>
<td>addition, additional</td>
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<tr>
<td>apply</td>
<td>application, applicant</td>
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<tr>
<td>care</td>
<td>careful, careless, caring, cared, cares, carefully</td>
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<td>complete</td>
<td>completely, completed, completing, completion, incompletely</td>
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<td>decide</td>
<td>decided, deciding, decisive, indecisive, decision, indecision</td>
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<td>electric</td>
<td>electricity, electrician</td>
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<td>enjoyment, enjoyable, enjoyed</td>
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<td>excitement, excitable, excited, exciting, unexciting</td>
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<tr>
<td>friend</td>
<td>friendly, friendship, unfriendly, friendless</td>
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<td>happy</td>
<td>happiness, unhappy, unhappiest, unhappiness, happier, unhappier</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>use</td>
<td>usable, useless, used, using, user, misuse</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Psychology**

**psycho** + **logy** = Study of the mind

**Archaeology**

**arch** + **logy** = The study of firsts

**Photography**

**phon** + **graph** = Written sound
hydrophobia
hydro + phobia = fear of water

bibliography
biblio + graph = Written books
Putting It Together wksht.

#1
rehydration - the condition of watering again

#2
microscope - to see small objects

#4
telephone - far off sounds, voices