



SNS COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING

Kurumbapalayam (Po), Coimbatore – 641 107



AN AUTONOMOUS INSTITUTION

Accredited by NBA – AICTE and Accredited by NAAC – UGC with 'A' Grade
Approved by AICTE, New Delhi & Affiliated to Anna University, Chennai

VOCABULARY

The noun **vocabulary** (or "vocab" for short) refers to the words used in a language. "Vocabulary" can have at least three different meanings:

1. **all of the words in a language**
New words are constantly being added to the *vocabulary of English*.
2. **the words used in a particular context**
If you want to do an MBA you need to improve your *business vocabulary*.
My neighbour is a doctor so he has an extensive *medical vocabulary*.
I've just bought a book on the *vocabulary of slang*.
3. **the words an individual person knows**
The teacher said that *my vocabulary* is good.

When learning a foreign language, our individual vocabulary in that language is one of the most important micro-skills to develop. Of course, all micro-skills like grammar, vocabulary and pronunciation are important. But it is far more difficult to communicate with no vocabulary than with no grammar. :-)

Active and Passive Vocabulary

In our own individual vocabulary, there is a difference between:

- words that we *understand and use* (our **active vocabulary**)
- words that we *understand* but do not or cannot use (our **passive vocabulary**)

This is true for native speakers as well as for learners. In your own language, there are many words that you use regularly when speaking or writing. These words are part of your active vocabulary. And then there are many words that you understand when you hear them, on television for example, but do not use in everyday speech. These words are part of your passive vocabulary.

Synonyms

Synonyms (also metonyms) are words with the same or similar meanings. Words that are synonyms are said to be synonymous, and the state of being a synonym is called synonymy. A word or phrase that means exactly or nearly the same as another word or phrase in the same language, for example *shut* is a synonym of *close*:



SNS COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING

Kurumbapalayam (Po), Coimbatore – 641 107



AN AUTONOMOUS INSTITUTION

Accredited by NBA – AICTE and Accredited by NAAC – UGC with 'A' Grade
Approved by AICTE, New Delhi & Affiliated to Anna University, Chennai

*'the East' was a **synonym** for the Soviet empire*

*'shut' is a **synonym** of 'close'*

Synonyms in English are therefore of many kinds (foreward, preface, introduction)

(teach, educate, indoctrinate instruct, school, tutor-differ from one another principally in degrees of abstraction).

Some argue that there are really no exact synonyms. Certainly there are no two words that are interchangeable in all the contexts in which either might appear. But within a given context, there is often exact synonymy.

I **mis**laid my wallet.

I **mis**placed my wallet.

But, you cannot say, "I mislaid my suitcase", "misplace" is applicable to both small objects and large, 'mislay' applies only to small.

Words which are synonyms in **one** of their meanings may differ considerably in their **other** meanings.

Some groups of words describe the same actions, but imply different relationships among the parties concerned.

We **accompany** our equals; we **attend** or **follow** those to whom we are subordinate; we **conduct** those who need guidance, **escort** those who need protection, and **chaperon** those who need supervision.

Feminine, **effeminate**, **womanly**, **womanish** are much alike in referring to female characteristics, but the second applies only to males, and then in a derogatory sense.

There are occasions in which we have to make choices between **transient** and **transitory**, **mutual** and **reciprocal**, **inherent** and **intrinsic**, **pinnacle** and **summit**, because in a given context one is certain to be more appropriate than the other.

The study of synonyms will help us come closer to saying what we really want to say.



SNS COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING

Kurumbapalayam (Po), Coimbatore – 641 107



AN AUTONOMOUS INSTITUTION

Accredited by NBA – AICTE and Accredited by NAAC – UGC with 'A' Grade
Approved by AICTE, New Delhi & Affiliated to Anna University, Chennai

1. Match the words in column A with their meanings in column B:

Example:

A	B
(a) Hazard	(iii) danger
(b) Consumption	(iv) use
(c) Sustainable	(v) able to continue over a period of time.
(d) Critical	(i) very important
(a) Permeability	(i) Passing through
(b) Core	(ii) the innermost part
(c) Extraterrestrial	(iii) not belonging to the earth
(d) Congestion	(iv) Abnormal accumulation of people, traffic
2.(a) Anticipate	(i) Consider before hand
(b) Indispensable	(ii) Necessary
(c) Informal	(iii) Unconventional
(d) Consider	(iv) Response
(a) Objective	(i) aim
(b) hazard	(ii) Danger
(c) spell	(iii) a condition caused by or as if by magical power.
(d) Stringent	(iv) severe
(a) stimulus	(i) something that rouses people to activity



SNS COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING

Kurumbapalayam (Po), Coimbatore – 641 107



AN AUTONOMOUS INSTITUTION

Accredited by NBA – AICTE and Accredited by NAAC – UGC with 'A' Grade
Approved by AICTE, New Delhi & Affiliated to Anna University, Chennai

- | | |
|------------------------|---------------------------|
| <i>(b) perspective</i> | <i>-(ii) view</i> |
| <i>(c) option</i> | <i>-(iii) Choice</i> |
| <i>(d) drawback</i> | <i>-(iv) disadvantage</i> |

SYNONYMS

Match the words in column A with their meanings in column B :

- | | | |
|----|-------------------|---|
| 1. | A | B |
| | (a) fatal | (i) non - observance |
| | (b) violation | (ii) wandering |
| | (c) stray | (iii) insist on |
| | (d) enforce | (iv) severe |
| | | (v) valuable |
| 2. | A | B |
| | (a) anticipate | (i) pollution |
| | (b) contamination | (ii) empties till little or none remains |
| | (c) depleted | (iii) see beforehand |
| | (d) disaster | (iv) convertible |
| | | (v) great suffering |
| 3. | A | B |
| | (a) penetrate | (i) organism able to live both on land and in water |
| | (b) amphibian | (ii) preservation |
| | (c) flotation | (iii) run through |
| | (d) conservation | (iv) normal |
| | | (v) remaining on the surface |
| 4. | A | B |
| | (a) consumption | (i) splitting or division of an atom |
| | (b) nucleus | (ii) metallic element |
| | (c) uranium | (iii) central part of an atom |



SNS COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING

Kurumbapalayam (Po), Coimbatore – 641 107



AN AUTONOMOUS INSTITUTION

Accredited by NBA – AICTE and Accredited by NAAC – UGC with 'A' Grade
Approved by AICTE, New Delhi & Affiliated to Anna University, Chennai

- (d) fission
- (iv) removal
- (v) use

5. **A**

- (a) breeder
- (b) survival
- (c) accumulated
- (d) fiction

B

- (i) preserve
- (ii) producer
- (iii) life time
- (iv) not factual
- (v) stored up

6. **A**

- (a) innovative
- (b) stagnant
- (c) inedible
- (d) target

B

- (i) objective
- (ii) obsolete
- (iii) not moving
- (iv) unfit to eat
- (v) having the quality of introducing new things

7. **A**

- (a) amalgamation
- (b) radiation
- (c) chip
- (d) jargon

B

- (i) highly technical expressions
- (ii) device composed of silicon
- (iii) bringing together
- (iv) attribute
- (v) giving out rays

8. **A**

- (a) indigenous
- (b) miniature
- (c) feedback
- (d) instantly

B

- (i) small scale portraits
- (ii) immediately
- (iii) objective
- (iv) native
- (v) response

9. **A**

- (a) type
- (b) offset
- (c) lithography

B

- (i) the make up of a page, a book, a newspaper etc.,
- (ii) the art of putting, writing or design on stone for printing impression of them
- (iii) reading matter, as distinct from illustrations



SNS COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING

Kurumbapalayam (Po), Coimbatore – 641 107



AN AUTONOMOUS INSTITUTION

Accredited by NBA – AICTE and Accredited by NAAC – UGC with 'A' Grade
Approved by AICTE, New Delhi & Affiliated to Anna University, Chennai

- | | | |
|-----|----------------------|---|
| | (d) layout | (iv) a process of printing from a flat surface in which the impression is first received by a rubber - surfaced cylinder, from which it is transferred to the paper |
| | | (v) an itemised list of goods in one place. |
| 10. | A | B |
| | (a) technology | (i) dry outer covering of grain, seeds, etc., |
| | (b) coagulum | (ii) scientific knowledge needed for industry |
| | (c) porridge | (iii) thick, sticky, solid mass |
| | (d) husk | (iv) suitable |
| | | (v) soft food made by boiling a cereal in water or milk |
| 11. | A | B |
| | (a) semi - conductor | (i) a part in the computer |
| | (b) microprocessor | (ii) study of India |
| | (c) intaglio | (iii) that which conducts electricity partially |
| | (d) indology | (iv) something viewed as a whole |
| | | (v) an engraving on stone with a greasy substance, and of producing printed impression there from |
| 12. | A | B |
| | (a) entrepreneur | (i) deflection of ray of light |
| | (b) diffraction | (ii) businessman who attempts to profit by risk and initiative |
| | (c) cantankerous | (iii) non-metallic element |
| | (d) cartography | (iv) quarrelsome |
| | | (v) map making |
| 13. | A | B |
| | (a) joystick | (i) shooting forward |
| | (b) infrastructure | (ii) control device for video game |
| | (c) projection | (iii) one who attacks established ideas |
| | (d) iconoclast | (iv) the permanent installation for any business activity |
| | | (v) non - observance |
| 14. | A | B |
| | (a) ballast | (i) property |
| | (b) assets | (ii) substance used for making a foundation |
| | (c) benevolent | (iii) designing of dance |
| | (d) choreography | (iv) producer |



SNS COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING

Kurumbapalayam (Po), Coimbatore - 641 107



AN AUTONOMOUS INSTITUTION

Accredited by NBA - AICTE and Accredited by NAAC - UGC with 'A' Grade
Approved by AICTE, New Delhi & Affiliated to Anna University, Chennai

- | | | | |
|-----|---------------------------|--|----------|
| 15. | A | (v) kind and helpful | B |
| | (a) anticipate | (i) biology dealing with the study of genes | |
| | (b) array | (ii) see beforehand | |
| | (c) genetics | (iii) pliable | |
| | (d) ductile | (iv) arrangement ; order | |
| | | (v) discomfort | |
| 16. | A | | B |
| | (a) panorama | (i) out of date | |
| | (b) obsolescence | (ii) a plan suggested | |
| | (c) proposition | (iii) view | |
| | (d) deforestation | (iv) pollution | |
| | | (v) clearing of forests ; cutting down. | |
| 17. | A | | B |
| | (a) persistent | (i) oiling, greasing | |
| | (b) lubrication | (ii) careless | |
| | (c) inadvertent | (iii) lasting, continuing for a long term. | |
| | (d) exotic | (iv) inedible | |
| | | (v) unusual in style | |
| 18. | A | | B |
| | (a) hazard | (i) trustworthy | |
| | (b) tradefair | (ii) danger | |
| | (c) reliable | (iii) expansion of forests | |
| | (d) afforestation
time | (iv) periodical gathering for sale of goods at fixed place and | |
| | | (v) aim | |
| 19. | A | | B |
| | (a) speculators | (i) money to be paid for buying a commodity | |
| | (b) support price | (ii) necessary | |
| | (c) indispensable | (iii) persons buying and selling goods, stocks and shares | |
| | (d) impediment | (iv) existent | |
| | | (v) hindrance, obstacle | |
| 20. | A | | B |
| | (a) translucent | (i) life time | |
| | (b) survival | (ii) admitting light to pass through, but not transparent | |
| | (c) renowned | (iii) peaceful, calm, quiet | |



SNS COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING

Kurumbapalayam (Po), Coimbatore – 641 107



AN AUTONOMOUS INSTITUTION

Accredited by NBA – AICTE and Accredited by NAAC – UGC with 'A' Grade
Approved by AICTE, New Delhi & Affiliated to Anna University, Chennai

- | | |
|---------------|--|
| (b) stagnant | (ii) take people into services on contract |
| (c) diversity | (iii) confined within narrow limits |
| (d) cramped | (iv) not moving or changing |

[AU, Nov/Dec - 2004]

27. **A** **B**
- | | |
|-------------------|----------------------------|
| (a) contamination | (i) intensify |
| (b) fission | (ii) misuse |
| (c) aggravate | (iii) division of the atom |
| (d) abuse | (iv) pollution |

[AU, Nov/Dec - 2002]

28. **A** **B**
- | | |
|--------------|---|
| (a) hazard | (i) something that rouses people to activity. |
| (b) core | (ii) choice |
| (c) stimulus | (iii) innermost part |
| (d) option | (iv) danger |

[AU, Nov/Dec – 2003, May / June - 2007]

29. **A** **B**
- | | |
|---------------|--------------------|
| (a) breeder | (i) calm, peaceful |
| (b) drawback | (ii) severe |
| (c) tranquil | (iii) producer |
| (d) stringent | (iv) disadvantage |

[AU, April/May - 2004]

30. **A** **B**
- | | |
|---------------|---|
| (a) objective | (i) severe |
| (b) hazard | (ii) aim |
| (c) spell | (iii) danger |
| (d) stringent | (iv) a condition caused by or as if by magical powers |

[AU, May/June - 2007]

[AU, Jan. - 2005]

31. **A** **B**
- | | |
|---------------|-------------------|
| (a) abundance | (i) enormous |
| (b) gigantic | (ii) plenty |
| (c) drawback | (iii) variety |
| (d) diversity | (iv) disadvantage |

[AU, May/June - 2005]



SNS COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING

Kurumbapalayam (Po), Coimbatore – 641 107



AN AUTONOMOUS INSTITUTION

Accredited by NBA – AICTE and Accredited by NAAC – UGC with 'A' Grade
Approved by AICTE, New Delhi & Affiliated to Anna University, Chennai

32. **A** (a) perpetual (b) deforestation (c) layout (d) appropriate
- B** (i) the make –up of a page, a book, a newspaper etc. (ii) never ends or changes. (iii) suitable. (iv) clearing of forests. **[AU, May / June – 2005]**
33. **A** (a) renowned (b) tranquility (c) diversity (d) contamination
- B** (i) variety, having a difference (ii) pollution (iii) calm, peaceful (iv) famous. **[AU, Jan – 2006]**
34. **A** (a) indispensable (b) repercussion (c) afforestation (d) nutrition
- B** (i) a reciprocal action or effect (ii) necessary (iii) nourishment (iv) expansion of forests. **[AU, May / June – 2006, 2007]**
35. **A** (a) permeability (b) core (c) extraterrestrial (d) congestion
- B** (i) not belonging to the earth (ii) abnormal accumulation of people, traffic. (iii) passing through (iv) an additional thing. (v) the innermost part. **[AU, Jan– 2009]**
36. **A** (a) repository (b) jeopardy (c) fission (d) cramped
- B** (i) starting point (ii) confined within narrow limits (iii) place where things are stored (iv) division of the atom. (v) danger. **[AU, May / June – 2009]**
37. **A** (a) dynamism (b) enhance (c) breeder (d) empathy
- B** (i) producer (ii) sympathy (iii) heighten (iv) getting rod of. (v) strength. **[AU, Jan – 2010]**
38. **A** (a) consumption
- B** (i) confined within narrow limits



SNS COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING

Kurumbapalayam (Po), Coimbatore – 641 107



AN AUTONOMOUS INSTITUTION

Accredited by NBA – AICTE and Accredited by NAAC – UGC with 'A' Grade
Approved by AICTE, New Delhi & Affiliated to Anna University, Chennai

- (b) extraction
- (c) cramped
- (d) migrant
- (ii) a person who makes from one place to another for a limited period
- (iii) taking on it.
- (iv) use.

[AU, June – 2010]

Puzzles:

Anagrams

1. raameterp: _____
2. ypheisosth: _____
3. nichet: _____
4. scscae: _____
5. tttuerbia: _____

Cryptograms

- bdxdk _____
- dguzrl _____
- mlqbl _____
- tlacdq _____
- glbmcqdrq _____

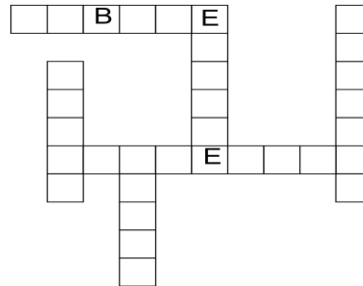
A cryptogram is a code. Solve the puzzle by breaking the code, letter by letter.
Hint: When you see G in the cryptogram, replace it with M.

AWL Puzzle Page: Subset 4

Word Find (find 6 hidden words)

A	R	L	B	I	P	H	R	A	S	E
O	D	R	L	E	R	E	P	Y	W	L
T	Y	E	E	Y	P	N	T	F	F	C
G	X	T	Q	U	H	C	W	V	U	Y
S	T	A	D	U	C	E	N	F	R	C
P	E	I	S	T	A	T	U	S	L	Y
A	I	N	T	D	R	C	N	R	E	M
U	E	C	H	R	F	S	Y	S	H	E

Clueless Mini X-Word



You tube Link:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aZ841VPEhCI> (Vocabulary)

<http://nptel.ac.in/courses/109106066/module5/lecture9/lecture9.pdf>(vocabulary)

Puzzle



SNS COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING

Kurumbapalayam (Po), Coimbatore – 641 107



AN AUTONOMOUS INSTITUTION

Accredited by NBA – AICTE and Accredited by NAAC – UGC with 'A' Grade
Approved by AICTE, New Delhi & Affiliated to Anna University, Chennai

TRUE OR FALSE?

Write **T** or **F** to show whether each statement is *true* or *false*.

1. ____ The words *famous* and *unknown* are antonyms.
2. ____ The word *inductee* contains the prefix *-ee*.
3. ____ The prefix *re-* means “again.”
4. ____ The Greek root *phone* means “sound.”
5. ____ *Lifetime* and *artist* are both compound words.
6. ____ *Musical* is the adjective form of the noun *music*.
7. ____ *Narrator* and *author* are synonyms.
8. ____ A *playwright* is a specific type of *author*.

SPELLING

Circle the correctly spelled word in each group.

1. playwrite playwright playright 4. theatere theatar theater
2. musishun musicain musician 5. artust artist ardist
3. skulptur sculpture sculphure 6. poem poum pome

Activity Based Learning: Analogy

Topic : Vocabulary

Think about how the first pair of words are related to each other. Then, look at the next word and find the word that is related to it in the same way. Recognize the relationship between the pair of words .

For example: fire is to hot, as ice is to *cold*.



SNS COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING

Kurumbapalayam (Po), Coimbatore – 641 107



AN AUTONOMOUS INSTITUTION

Accredited by NBA – AICTE and Accredited by NAAC – UGC with 'A' Grade
Approved by AICTE, New Delhi & Affiliated to Anna University, Chennai

Circle the related analogy.

1. Dull is to vibrant as:

- a. huge is to gigantic
- b. barking is to dogs
- c. clarity is to liquid
- d. bored is to enthusiastic

2. Rock is to heavy as:

- a. car is to fast
- b. feather is to light
- c. large is to giant
- d. rich is to poor

3. Ringing is to telephone as:

- a. dinging is to timer
- b. purple is to grape
- c. sleep is to humans
- d. crawling is to babies

4. Meowing is to cats:

- a. sleeping is to babies
- b. roaring is to lions
- c. noisy is to races
- d. flash is to lightning

5. Water is to liquid as:

- a. salt is to the ocean
- b. music is to the radio
- c. solid is to bread
- d. tall is to giraffe

6. Blue is to sky as:

- a. room is to paint
- b. friend is to foe
- c. pencil is to write
- d. brown is to dirt

7. Brightness is to my eyes as:

- a. shrills are to my ears
- b. walking is to my feet
- c. hair is to my head
- d. food is to my mouth

8. Tree is to climb as:

- a. foot is to toe
- b. big is to little
- c. ocean is to swim



SNS COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING

Kurumbapalayam (Po), Coimbatore – 641 107



AN AUTONOMOUS INSTITUTION

Accredited by NBA – AICTE and Accredited by NAAC – UGC with 'A' Grade
Approved by AICTE, New Delhi & Affiliated to Anna University, Chennai

d. hand is to write

WORD FORMATION

In descriptive linguistics and traditional grammar, the formation of a word by changing the form of the base or by adding affixes to it. In this sense, derivation is also called "word formation." In historical linguistics, the derivation of a word is its history and etymology. A root word is the most basic form of a word that is able to convey a particular description, thought or meaning.

The **Formation of Words** has few rules which determine the nature of the words formed thus. Words can be classified into four types as follows:

- Primary Words
- Compound Words
- Primary Derivatives
- Secondary Derivatives

1. Primary Words:

Words which are not derived or compounded or developed from other words are called Primary Words. They belong to the original stocks of the words.

Examples:

Most of the words in English language are only Primary Words.

Moon, sun, day, night, month, school, boy, girl, road, write, go sit, walk, net, dash, dot,
book, pin, he, she, it etc...

A Primary Word may be of the type of noun, verb, adjective, pronoun, adverb etc...

2. Compound Words:

The Compound Words are formed by joining two or more Primary Words.

Examples:

Moonlight, undertake, nevertheless, man-of-war, misunderstanding etc...

This way the Compound Words are formed.

A Compound Word may be of the type of noun, verb, adjective, pronoun, adverb, conjunction, preposition etc...

An addition to the beginning of a word is a **Prefix**.

An addition to the end of word is a **Suffix**.

Compound Words are the most part Nouns, Adjectives and Verbs

Noun + Noun: Moonlight
 Armchair
 Postman

Adjective + Noun: Sweetheart
 Nobleman
 Shorthand



SNS COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING

Kurumbapalayam (Po), Coimbatore – 641 107



AN AUTONOMOUS INSTITUTION

Accredited by NBA – AICTE and Accredited by NAAC – UGC with 'A' Grade
Approved by AICTE, New Delhi & Affiliated to Anna University, Chennai

Verb + Noun:	Spendthrift Makeshift Breakfast
Gerund + Noun:	Drawing-room Writing-desk Looking-glass
Adverb (or Preposition)+ Noun: Outlaw	Afternoon Forethought Foresight
Verb + Adverb:	Drawback Lock-up Go-between
Adverb + Verb:	Outset Upkeep Outcry
Noun + Adjectives (or Participle):	Blood-red Sky-blue Snow-white Pitch-dark
Adjective + Adjective:	Red-hot Blue-black White-hot
Adverb + Participle:	Longsuffering Everlasting Never-ending Thorough-bred
Noun + Verb:	Waylay Backbite Typewrite Browbeat
Adjective + Verb:	Safeguard Whitewash



SNS COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING

Kurumbapalayam (Po), Coimbatore – 641 107



AN AUTONOMOUS INSTITUTION

Accredited by NBA – AICTE and Accredited by NAAC – UGC with 'A' Grade
Approved by AICTE, New Delhi & Affiliated to Anna University, Chennai

Fulfill

Adverb + Verb:

Overthrow
Overtake
Foretell

3. Primary Derivatives:

These words are formed by making some changes in the body of the Primary Words.

Bond from bind
Breach from break
Wrong from wring

i. Formation of Nouns from Verbs:

Choice from choose
Bliss from bless
Chip from chop
Breach from break

ii. Formation of Nouns from Adjectives:

Dolt from dull
Heat from hot
Pride from proud

iii. Formation of Adjectives from Verbs: Fleet from float

Low from lie

iv. Formation of Adjectives from Nouns:

Milch from milk
Wise from wit

v. Formation of Verbs from Nouns:

Bathe from bath
Bleed from blood
Believe from belief
Breathe from breath
Breed from brood

vi. Formation of Adjectives from Verbs: Cool from chill

Hale from heal

vii. Formation of Nouns from Verbs:

Gold from gild
Grass from graze
Half from halve
Knot from knit
Sale from sell
Sooth from soothe

The most important class of words formed by internal changes consists of the past tenses of the Primary Words. Those past tense-words are not treated as Derivatives



SNS COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING

Kurumbapalayam (Po), Coimbatore – 641 107



AN AUTONOMOUS INSTITUTION

Accredited by NBA – AICTE and Accredited by NAAC – UGC with 'A' Grade
Approved by AICTE, New Delhi & Affiliated to Anna University, Chennai

4. Secondary Derivatives:

Secondary derivatives of a word are formed by adding either a prefix or a suffix to the word.

An addition to the beginning of a word is a **Prefix**.

An addition to the end of word is a **Suffix**.

Examples:

Income is a secondary derivative of the word 'word'. Here the addition 'in' is a prefix.

Undergo is a secondary derivative of the word 'go'. Here the addition 'under' is a prefix.

Friendship is a secondary derivative of the word friend. Here the addition 'ship' is a suffix.

Darkness is a secondary derivative of the word 'dark'. Here the addition 'ness' is a suffix.

Prefixes and suffixes are grammatical and lingual "affixes." Prefixes are affixed before and suffixes after a base word or root word to add information. For example, with the word "prehistoric," the prefix is "pre-" meaning "before," the base word is "history" meaning "recorded events and knowledge", and the suffix is "-ic" meaning "relating to the science of."

In other words, "prefix" simply refers to an attachment before or in front of, in this case, a shorter word or stem. In lingual terms, a "stem" is the main part of a word to which prefixes and suffixes can be added and may not necessarily be a word itself, such as "dod" in "doddle."

Similarly, "suffix" refers to an attachment after the end of an existing word or stem, serving to form a new word or functioning as an inflectional ending, for example, "s" or "es" to make for plurality.

Prefixes : Prefixes are added to the beginning of an existing word in order to create a new word with a different meaning. For example:

<i>word</i>	<i>prefix</i>	<i>new word</i>
happy	un-	Unhappy
cultural	multi-	Multicultural
work	over-	Overwork
space	cyber-	Cyberspace
market	super-	Supermarket

Suffixes Suffixes are added to the end of an existing word. For example:

<i>word</i>	<i>suffix</i>	<i>new word</i>
child	-ish	Childish
work	-er	Worker
taste	-less	Tasteless



SNS COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING

Kurumbapalayam (Po), Coimbatore – 641 107



AN AUTONOMOUS INSTITUTION

Accredited by NBA – AICTE and Accredited by NAAC – UGC with 'A' Grade
Approved by AICTE, New Delhi & Affiliated to Anna University, Chennai

idol -ize/-ise idolize/idolize

like -able Likeable

The addition of a suffix often changes a word from one word class to another. In the table above, the verb *like* becomes the adjective *likeable*, the noun *idol* becomes the verb *idolize*, and the noun *child* becomes the adjective *childish*.

Word creation with prefixes and suffixes

Some prefixes and suffixes are part of our living language, in that people regularly use them to create new words for modern products, concepts, or situations. For example:

word	prefix or suffix	new word
security	bio-	biosecurity
clutter	de-	declutter
media	multi-	multimedia
email	-er	emailer

Most Common Prefixes

Prefix	Meaning	keyword	Key Word
anti-	against	antifreeze	
de-	Opposite	defrost	
dis-*	not, opposite of	disagree	
en-, em-	cause to	encode, embrace	
fore-	Before	forecast	
in-, im-	In	infield	
in-, im-, il-, ir-*	Not	injustice, impossible	
inter-	Between	interact	
mid-	Middle	midway	
mis-	Wrongly	misfire	
non-	Not	nonsense	
over-	Over	overlook	



SNS COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING

Kurumbapalayam (Po), Coimbatore – 641 107



AN AUTONOMOUS INSTITUTION

Accredited by NBA – AICTE and Accredited by NAAC – UGC with 'A' Grade
Approved by AICTE, New Delhi & Affiliated to Anna University, Chennai

pre-	Before	prefix
re-*	Again	return
semi-	Half	semicircle
sub-	Under	submarine
super-	Above	superstar
trans-	Across	transport
un-*	Not	unfriendly
under-	Under	undersea

MOST COMMON SUFIXES

Suffix	meaning	key word
-able, -ible	can be done	comfortable
-al, -ial	having characteristics of	personal
-ed*	past-tense verbs	hopped
-en	made of	wooden
-er	Comparative	higher
-er,	one who	worker, actor
-est	Comparative	biggest
-ful	full of	careful
-ic	having characteristics of	linguistic
-ing*	verb form/ present participle	running
-ion, -tion, -ation, ition	act, process	occasion, attraction
-ity, -ty	state of	infinity
-ive, -ative, -itive	adjective form of a	plaintive
-less	Without	fearless



SNS COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING

Kurumbapalayam (Po), Coimbatore – 641 107



AN AUTONOMOUS INSTITUTION

Accredited by NBA – AICTE and Accredited by NAAC – UGC with 'A' Grade
Approved by AICTE, New Delhi & Affiliated to Anna University, Chennai

-ly*	characteristic of	quickly
-ment	action or process	enjoyment
-ness	state of, condition of	kindness
-ous, -eous, -ious	possessing the qualities of	joyous
-s, -es*	more than one	books, boxes
-y	characterized by	happy