

Max's Magnificent Morphing Morphemes Quiz

Learning objective: To understand and apply prefixes and suffixes to root words to change their meaning and word class.

Join Max the monkey as he tackles his latest maths-themed word puzzles! Read each question carefully and circle the correct answer. You have 10 marks to earn!

Answer Key: 1.C, 2.True, 3.misunderstand, 4.B, 5.True, 6.careful, 7.A, 8.False, 9.unhappy, 10.B. Note: A prefix is added to the start of a root word, while a suffix is added to the end. These changes can alter the meaning or the grammatical function of the word.

Word bank: dis- · re- · mis- · -ful · -less · -ly · -ness · root word

1. 1. Max wants to do his homework again. Which prefix means 'again'? A) dis- B) mis- C) re- D) un- * (1 mark)

2. 2. True or False: Adding the suffix '-less' to the word 'fear' makes an adjective that means without fear. (1 mark)

3. 3. If someone gets the wrong idea about a maths problem, what is the word for it using the prefix 'mis-'? (1 mark)

4. 4. Which suffix turns the adjective 'quick' into an adverb? A) -ness B) -ly * C) -ful D) -ment (1 mark)

5. 5. True or False: 'Disrespect' uses the prefix 'dis-' to mean the opposite of respect. (1 mark)

6. 6. Fill in the blank: Ellie is very ____ (care) when she handles old historical scrolls. (1 mark)

7. 7. Which word contains a suffix that indicates a state or condition? A) Kindness * B) Unzip C) Rebuild D) Miscount (1 mark)

8. 8. True or False: Adding '-ful' to 'hope' makes it a verb. (1 mark)

9. 9. Max is feeling sad. Can you add a prefix to 'happy' to mean the opposite? (1 mark)

10. 10. Which of these words has a prefix? A) Teacher B) Disagree * C) Helpful D) Brightness (1 mark)

Draw: Draw a 'Morphing Machine' that Max is using. Show a root word entering one side of the machine, and a word with a prefix or suffix popping out the other side!



Extension challenge: 1. Explain why adding a suffix can change a word from an adjective to a noun (e.g., 'dark' to 'darkness'). 2. Compare and contrast the prefixes 'un-' and 'dis-'. Can you justify why we use one over the other for certain words? 3. What might happen if our language did not have prefixes or suffixes? 4. Create a table of five root words and add both a prefix and a suffix to each. 5. Rewrite this sentence using more sophisticated vocabulary by adding appropriate prefixes or suffixes: 'The boy was happy to see the toy was broken.' 6. Investigate: Why do some words change their spelling when a suffix is added (e.g., 'happy' becomes 'happiness')? Justify the rule.