

Max the Math-Monkey's Prefixes and Suffixes Challenge

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

Help Max solve these linguistic puzzles! Read each question carefully. Some require you to choose the best option, others need you to write the answer in the space provided.

Answer Key: 1) C, 2) True, 3) B, 4) False, 5) unhappiness, 6) A, 7) True, 8) re-read, 9) C, 10) False. Note to teacher: Ensure students identify that 'dis-' changes the meaning to the opposite.

Word bank: re- · dis- · mis- · -ful · -less · -ness · -able · misunderstand · careful · thoughtless

1. 1. Which prefix should Max add to the word 'appear' to mean 'to stop being visible'? A) re- B) mis- C) dis- D) un- * (1 mark)

2. 2. True or False: Adding the suffix '-less' to the word 'hope' creates the word 'hopeless'. (1 mark)

3. 3. Which word shows the correct use of the suffix '-able'? A) runable B) enjoyable * C) jumpable D) eatible (1 mark)

4. 4. True or False: The prefix 're-' means to do something wrongly. (1 mark)

5. 5. Add the correct suffix to the word 'unhappy' to turn it into a noun: _____. (1 mark)

6. 6. Which word uses the prefix 'mis-' correctly? A) misbehave * B) mishappy C) mislarge D) misblue (1 mark)

7. 7. True or False: You can add the suffix '-ness' to an adjective to turn it into a noun (e.g., bright -> brightness). (1 mark)

8. 8. Max has to read his book again. What is the prefix for 'read' that means 'to do again'? (1 mark)

9. 9. Which suffix makes the word 'care' mean 'full of care'? A) -less B) -ment C) -ful * D) -ness (1 mark)

10. 10. True or False: Adding 'dis-' to 'agree' creates a word that means 'to agree more'. (1 mark)

Draw: Draw Max the monkey holding a giant magnifying glass, looking at a caterpillar named Pip who is wearing a hat labelled with the prefix 're-'.



Extension challenge: Choose three root words of your own. For each one, write two new words by adding a different prefix or suffix to each. Explain how the meaning changes for each new word.