

Max's Morphing Word Laboratory

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

Max the monkey has collected a series of root words that need your help! Use your knowledge of prefixes (like un-, dis-, mis-, re-, sub-, inter-) and suffixes (like -ation, -ous, -ful, -less, -ly) to transform these words. Follow the boxes below to build your own vocabulary laboratory notes.

Word bank: happy · appear · logic · comfort · agree · vision · connect · kind

1. Prefix Power: Choose two root words from the bank and add a prefix to each to create an antonym or a new meaning. Explain how the prefix changes the word's definition. (4 marks)

2. Suffix Shift: Take two root words and add a suffix to change them into adjectives or nouns. Use these new words in a single, complex sentence. (3 marks)

3. Justify your answer: If you add the prefix 'un-' to the word 'happy', why does the word class remain an adjective, but adding '-ness' changes it to a noun? (3 marks)

4. Compare and contrast: How does the meaning of 'discomfort' differ from 'uncomfortable'? Which root word are they derived from, and how do the different affixes alter the intensity of the meaning? (4 marks)

5. What might happen if we removed all prefixes and suffixes from the English language? How would this affect our ability to communicate precise ideas? (3 marks)

6. Word Investigation: Select one root word and create a 'word family' branch by adding as many valid prefixes and suffixes as possible. List them and define your favourite new creation. (4 marks)

Extension challenge: Challenge: Choose one of your newly created words and write a short, imaginative paragraph about Max the monkey using that word. Try to include at least three other words that use prefixes or suffixes to demonstrate your mastery of word building.