

Grammar - Suffixes

© Beverly Schmitt 1997-2002, all rights reserved

Many of us that attended government school were not taught that suffixes or word endings will frequently give a clue as to what part of speech a word may belong (e.g., noun, verb, adjective, adverb). Yet, this is a relatively simple way in which to easily recognize what part of speech a word may belong.

Week #1

Noun

Review that a noun is a name of a person, place, thing, or idea. (For more help with nouns, see The Noun Game below). Sound like a siren while saying, "Red Alert ! Red Alert ! Red Alert !" The reason for this is that the articles (or words) **a**, **an**, and **the** is giving a Red Alert ! that a noun is soon to appear. These Red Alert ! articles (or words) comprise the noun test.

Fill in the blank behind the article ...

Noun Test: **a** _____, **an** _____, **the** _____,

Examples: **a** coward, **an** inquiry, **the** man, **a** reward, **an** elephant, **the** book

Review the noun definition and the Noun Red Alert ! Test Flashcard daily. (Note: Our family only spent approximately 2 seconds per flashcard per day. In this first week, there are 9 flashcards so that would be flashing, minimally, 18 seconds per day. We would not go on to other flashcards until instant recognition, which we defined as 2 seconds or less, was achieved).

Verb

Review that a verb is a word that tells action or being. (For more help with nouns, see The Verb Game below.) Again, sound like a siren while saying, "Red Alert ! Red Alert ! Red Alert !" The Verb Test is fairly simple. It is a fill-in-the-blank sentence. If the sentence can be filled in with a word and makes sense, it is a verb. The Verb Red Alert ! Test is ...

Verb Test: **Let us** _____.

Examples: Let us construct. Let us eat. Let us explore. Let us hide. Let us play. Let us skate. Let us dance.

The first verb suffix we will take is good ole Mr. "Ed". When **-ed** is at the end of a word, it means it has already happened. Take both your thumbs and fling them over your shoulder showing that this action word is behind you. This simple gesture will help your scholars remember this verb occurred in the past.

Suffixes

A suffix is a letter or group of letters added on at the end of a word. Frequently, we can tell what part of speech a word may be by looking at the suffix.

- **tion**

- **sion**

noun suffix

e.g., vacat**ion**, foundat**ion**, miss**ion**, conclus**ion**, hibernat**ion**, delus**ion**, humiliat**ion**, explos**ion**, inspirat**ion**

- **ment**

noun suffix

e.g., achiev**ement**, embarrass**ment**, equip**ment**, engag**ement**, arrang**ement**, involv**ement**

- **ness**

noun suffix

e.g., sudden**ness**, enormous**ness**, earnest**ness**, drunken**ness**

- **ed**

verb suffix / past participle

Remember: This is good ole Mr. "**Ed**"

e.g., guard**ed**, leap**ed**, astonish**ed**, inquir**ed**, increas**ed**, neglect**ed**, irritat**ed**, justific**ed**

Need a Quick Review ?

The Noun Game

Let your little one know that a noun is a name of a person, place, thing or idea. Go to a local feed store and get a feed sack (which would be close to what a farmer would use in the middle ages to sow seed). Either make an arm loop yourself or have someone experienced in sewing make one for you. Send your child off to find 10 nouns in the backyard, the front yard, his room, the frontroom, the kitchen, the bathroom, or where you choose. As your child pulls the noun out of his feed sack, have the child identify the noun while you say, "A noun is a name of a person, place, thing or idea." This only needs to take about 5-10 minutes. Do not drag it out. Take only one target area a day (e.g., front yard, bedroom, etc.). In that way, your child will have plenty of practice picking up and identifying nouns. Children have a tendency to be very concrete. This concrete exercise will help him understand nouns in such a way that he will become VERY comfortable with them. One child, for example, was sent into the frontroom to retrieve 5 nouns. She came back carrying her little sister. When asked how this could cover 5 nouns, the child responded exasperatedly with, "Oh ma ! why she is a girl, sister, daughter, child, friend!"

The Verb Game

You will need: kitchen timer

Again, this game should only take 5-10 minutes daily. Explain to your child that many verbs may be acted out. Do not drag this game out. Take turns with your child acting out verbs. One will pantomime the verb while the other needs to guess it. (e.g., eating, sleeping, snoring tended to be a great hit around here as well as burping, barking, walking, running, etc.). Take turns miming various verbs.

Flashcards: Cut on the solid lines and fold on the dotted line.

Front

Back

<p style="text-align: center;">Noun (Definition)</p> <p>© Beverly Schmitt 1997-2002</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Name of a person, place, thing, or idea</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Noun Test</p> <p>© Beverly Schmitt 1997-2002</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">a _____, an _____, the _____</p> <p style="text-align: center;">e.g., a coward, an inquiry, the man, a reward, an elephant, the book</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Verb (Definition)</p> <p>© Beverly Schmitt 1997-2002</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">a verb is a word that tells action or being</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Verb Test</p> <p>© Beverly Schmitt 1997-2002</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Let us _____.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">e.g., Let us construct. Let us eat. Let us explore. Let us hide. Let us play. Let us skate. Let us dance.</p>

Flashcards: Cut on the solid lines and fold on the dotted line.

Front

Back

<p style="text-align: center;">Suffix (Definition)</p> <p>© Beverly Schmitt 1997-2002</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">a letter or group of letters added on at the end of a word</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">- tion - sion</p> <p>© Beverly Schmitt 1997-2002</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Noun Suffix</p> <p>e.g., vacation, foundation, mission, conclusion, hibernation, delusion, humiliation, explosion, inspiration</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">- ment</p> <p>© Beverly Schmitt 1997-2002</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Noun Suffix</p> <p>e.g., achievement, embarrassment, equipment, engagement, arrangement, involvement</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">- ness</p> <p>© Beverly Schmitt 1997-2002</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Noun Suffix</p> <p>e.g., suddenness, enormousness, earnestness, drunkenness</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">- ed</p> <p>© Beverly Schmitt 1997-2002</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Verb Suffix / past</p> <p>e.g., guarded, leapeded, astonisheded, inquireded, increaseded, neglecteded, irritateded, justifieded (Remember: Good ole Mr. Ed & throw thumbs over should to show past)</p>

Week #1 - Suffix Test

© Beverly Schmitt 1997-2002, all rights reserved

Directions: Circle the correct part of speech

1. vacation

noun verb adjective adverb

2. achievement

noun verb adjective adverb

3. suddenness

noun verb adjective adverb

4. guarded

noun verb adjective adverb

5. foundation

noun verb adjective adverb

6. embarrassment

noun verb adjective adverb

7. enormousness

noun verb adjective adverb

8. leaped

noun verb adjective adverb

9. mission

noun verb adjective adverb

10. equipment

noun verb adjective adverb

11. earnestness

noun verb adjective adverb

12. astonished

noun verb adjective adverb

13. conclusion

noun verb adjective adverb

14. engagement

noun verb adjective adverb

15. drunkenness

noun verb adjective adverb

16. inquired

noun verb adjective adverb

17. hibernation

noun verb adjective adverb

18. arrangement

noun verb adjective adverb

19. likeness

noun verb adjective adverb

20. increased

noun verb adjective adverb

Week #1 - Suffix Test

© Beverly Schmitt 1997-2002, all rights reserved

Answers

1. noun
2. noun
3. noun
4. verb
5. noun
6. noun
7. noun
8. verb
9. noun
10. noun
11. noun
12. verb
13. noun
14. noun
15. noun
16. verb
17. noun
18. noun
19. noun
20. verb