

# Does it have a prefix or a suffix?

Prefixes and suffixes can help you understand a word. They give you important information about the word.

Some prefixes give adjectives the **opposite** meaning:

- un-** happy - unhappy
- im-** possible - impossible
- dis-** satisfied - dissatisfied
- ir-** regular - irregular
- il-** legal - illegal

Other prefixes make a word **negative**:

- anti-** social - antisocial
- non-** profit - non-profit

Suffixes can tell you what type of word it is, e.g. nouns often end in **-ment** (enjoyment), **-ness** (happiness) or **-tion** (education). Here are some common suffixes for nouns.

- ment** - management / arrangement
- ism** - racism / communism
- ness** - happiness / sadness
- ship** - friendship / relationship
- er/-or** - director / teacher
- tion** - communication / education

Common suffixes for verbs:

- ate** - create / activate
- ify** - verify / solidify
- ise/-ize** - authorise / categorise

Common suffixes for adjectives:

- able** - reliable / capable
- al** - accidental / universal
- ful** - helpful / wonderful
- ous/-ious** - dangerous / nervous / religious
- ive** - creative / sensitive

## Grouping: prefixes

Put the words with the correct prefix.

18 items remaining

agree  rational  honest  convenient  patient  start  obedient   
comfortable  cycle  mature  regular  formal  possible  happy   
able  use  dependent  responsible 

im

un

in

dis

ir

re

## Suffixes

Add a suffix and change these words to nouns.

friend

enjoy

inform

direct

member

forgetful

arrange

appoint