

Intermediate Level II

Roots and Affixes

Score: /25

The **root** is the most basic form and meaning of a word.

Affixes are additions to root words that form new words in order to change the meaning. There are two types of affixes: prefixes and suffixes. A **prefix** is added to the beginning of a root word. A **suffix** is added to the end of a word. For example: Add the prefix "semi" to the root word "final" to form "semifinal." The meaning changes from "last" to "second last." Add the suffix "less" to the root word "care" to form "careless." The meaning changes from "attention and regard" to "indifferent and without care."

Activity #1 (5 points): The following words contain a root and one or more affix. Circle the **root** of each word.

weighing	subdesert	extremely	redefine	distinctive
worldwide	disgrace	guilty	westward	poisonous

Activity #2 (10 points): Add a prefix to each bolded word to complete the sentence. Select from the prefixes in the box below to fill in each blank. Careful, some are decoys!

semi	im	tele	mis	super	anti	Re	Un
under	mid	trans	em	dis	micro	de	inter

1. He was the first true rock and roll _____ **star**.
2. To find out, he decided to examine them under a _____ **scope**.
3. However, mechanical and pilot errors made this _____ **possible**.
4. The noise of the **roar** _____ waters can be heard from miles away.
5. In 1930, he graduated with a degree in **electric** _____ engineering.
6. He had a hugely influential musical style that helped _____ **define** popular music.
7. In 1928, she became the first woman to complete a _____ **atlantic** flight.
8. By 1953, audiences were able to watch the event on their _____ **vision** sets.
9. Animals use their teeth to help _____ **fend** themselves against predators.
10. They, along with their airplane, _____ **appeared**.

Activity #3 (10 points): Add a suffix to each bolded word so that it fits the sentence.
 Select from the suffixes below to fill in each blank. Careful, some are decoys!

ous	ed	ic	ward	al	ible	y	ing
ation	ive	ity	ate	ment	ly	ness	ful

1. Vampire bats are nocturnal, which means they operate under cover of **dark**_____ .
2. Earhart discovered that she was **passion**_____ about airplanes.
3. The fish with one of the most **power**_____ bites in nature is the great white shark.
4. **Poison**_____ snakes have hollow teeth called fangs.
5. Known for **artist**_____ buildings that break with tradition, Gehry is an architect.
6. They **launch**_____ the first satellite to orbit Earth.
7. He created a fastener that is easy to pull apart but has an **amazing**_____ tight grip.
8. Vampire bats are **distinct**_____ for a sinister reason.
9. The Iguazu River grows in volume as it travels **west**_____ across southern Brazil.
10. The best time to visit would be during the **rain**_____ season.