**Word formation**

## Common suffixes and examples

### Noun suffixes

| suffix | examples of nouns |
| --- | --- |
| *-age* | *baggage, village, postage* |
| *-al* | *arrival, burial, deferral* |
| *-ance/-ence* | *reliance, defence, insistence* |
| *-dom* | *boredom, freedom, kingdom* |
| *-ee* | *employee, payee, trainee* |
| *-er/-or* | *driver, writer, director* |
| *-hood* | *brotherhood, childhood, neighbourhood* |
| *-ism* | *capitalism, Marxism, socialism (*philosophies*)* |
| *-ist* | *capitalist, Marxist, socialist (*followers of philosophies*)* |
| *-ity/-ty* | *brutality, equality, cruelty* |
| *-ment* | *amazement, disappointment, parliament* |
| *-ness* | *happiness, kindness, usefulness* |
| *-ry* | *entry, ministry, robbery* |
| *-ship* | *friendship, membership, workmanship* |
| *-sion/-tion/-xion* | *expression, population, complexion* |

Adjective suffixes

| suffix | examples of adjectives |
| --- | --- |
| *-able/-ible* | *drinkable, portable, flexible* |
| *-al* | *brutal, formal, postal* |
| *-en* | *broken, golden, wooden* |
| *-ese* | *Chinese, Japanese, Vietnamese* |
| *-ful* | *forgetful, helpful, useful* |
| *-i* | *Iraqi, Pakistani, Yemeni* |
| *-ic* | *classic, Islamic, poetic* |
| *-ish* | *British, childish, Spanish* |
| *-ive* | *active, passive, productive* |
| *-ian* | *Canadian, Malaysian, Peruvian* |
| *-less* | *homeless, hopeless, useless* |
| *-ly* | *daily, monthly, yearly* |
| *-ous* | *cautious, famous, nervous* |
| *-y* | *cloudy, rainy, windy* |

Verb suffixes

| suffix | examples of verbs |
| --- | --- |
| *-ate* | *complicate, dominate, irritate* |
| *-en* | *harden, soften, shorten* |
| *-ify* | *beautify, clarify, identify* |
| *-ise/-ize* | *economise, realise, industrialize (-ise* is most common in British English; *-ize* is most common in American English) |

Adverb suffixes

| suffix | examples of adverbs |
| --- | --- |
| *-ly* | *calmly, easily, quickly* |
| *-ward(s)* | *downwards, homeward(s), upwards* |
| *-wise* | *anti-clockwise, clockwise, edgewise* |

http://dictionary.cambridge.org/grammar/british-grammar/word-formation/suffixes