

## GREEK AND LATIN SUFFIXES

### 1. SUBSTANTIVE SUFFIXES

#### A) LATIN

suffix	meaning	example
<b>-io</b>	act of, result of, process of	inflammat-io <i>inflammation</i>
<b>-or</b>	agent	flex-or <i>a muscle the action of which is to flex a joint</i>
<b>-ura</b>	act or result of action	flex-ura <i>flexion, result of bending</i>
<b>-itas</b>	quality, state	obes-itas <i>obesity</i>
<b>-mentum</b>	instrument, tool	liga-mentum <i>ligament</i>
<b>-culus, a, um</b> <b>-ulus, a, um</b> <b>-olus, a, um</b> <b>-illus, a, um</b> <b>-ellus, a, um</b>	diminutive	canali-culus <i>small canal</i> capit-ulum <i>small head</i> alve-olus <i>small cavity or pit</i> pupilla <i>pupil (the dark circular aperture at the centre of the iris of the eye)</i> cereb-ellum <i>posterior brain mass</i>

#### B) GREEK

suffix	meaning	example
<b>-ia</b>	disease	allerg-ia <i>allergy</i>
<b>-iasis</b>	disease, pathological state	psor-iasis <i>a chronic skin disease characterized by circumscribed red patches covered with white scales</i>
<b>-ismus</b>	1. state 2. addiction	nan-ismus <i>dwarfism (a genetic abnormality resulting in short stature)</i> alcohol-ismus <i>alcoholism</i>
<b>-itis</b>	inflammatory disease	gastr-itis <i>inflammation of the stomach</i>
<b>-osis</b>	1. non-inflammatory disease 2. degenerative disease	nephros-osis <i>a non-inflammatory disease of a kidney</i> arthr-osis <i>a degenerative disease of a joint</i>
<b>-oma</b>	tumor	carcin-oma <i>a malignant tumor of epithelial origin</i>

### 2. ADJECTIVE SUFFIXES

#### A) Latin

suffix	meaning	example
<b>-alis, e</b>	relation	vertebr-alis
<b>-aris, e</b>	relation	muscul-aris
<b>-inus, a, um</b>	relation	uter-inus
<b>-eus, a, um</b>	relation	cartilagin-eus
<b>-osus, a, um</b>	full of	ven-osus
<b>-atus, a, um</b>	equipped with	caud-atus
<b>-bilis, e</b>	possibility	mo-bilis
<b>-ilis, e</b>	having the quality	frag-ilis

#### B) Greek

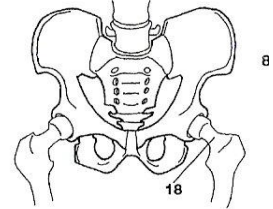
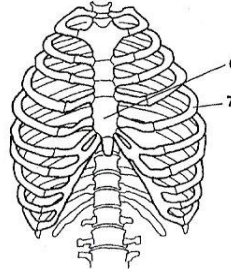
suffix	meaning	example
<b>-icus, a, um</b>	relation	thorac-icus
<b>-ideus, a, um</b>	similar to	xipho-ideus

**EXERCISE 1**

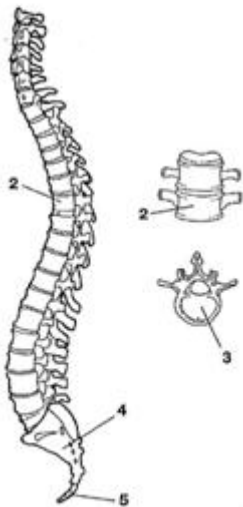
Form adjectives from the given nouns:



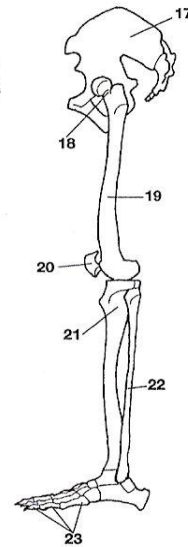
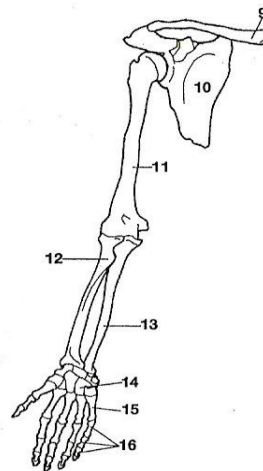
1. *cranium*, ii, n.
- 1a. *facies*, ei, f.
2. *vertebra*, ae, f.
3. *corpus*, oris, n.
4. *os (sacrum)*, ossis, n.



5. *coccyx*, gis, f.
6. *sternum*, i, n.
7. *costa*, ae, f.
8. *pelvis*, is, f.
- 9.-16. *manus*, us, f.



9. *clavicula*, ae, f.
10. *scapula*, ae, f.
11. *humerus*, i, m.
12. *radius*, ii, m.
13. *ulna*, ae, f.
14. *carpus*, i, m.
15. *metacarpus*, i, m.
16. *digitus*, i, m.
17. *pelvis*, is, f.
18. *cervix*, icis, f.
19. *femur*, oris, n.
20. *patella*, ae, f.
21. *tibia*, ae, f.
22. *fibula*, ae, f.
23. *phalanx*, gis, f.



**EXERCISE 2**

Give the nouns which the following adjectives come from:

Note: The adjectives contain the suffix *-icus*, *-a*, *-um*, which is usually combined with nouns of Greek origin.

gastricus, a, um  
 diabeticus, a, um  
 traumaticus, a, um  
 allergicus, a, um

thoracicus, a, um  
 hepaticus, a, um  
 caroticus, a, um  
 diphthericus, a, um

**EXERCISE 3**

Use the suffixes to derive adjectives with the meaning of words in brackets:

- osus:** arteria > ..... (arterious, arterial)  
 gangrena > ..... (gangrenous)  
 nervus > ..... (nervous)  
 ligamentum > ..... (limagentous, ligamental)

- icus** allergia > ..... (allergic)  
 anatomia > ..... (anatomic, anatomical)  
 diphtheria > ..... (diphtherial)  
 haemorrhagia > ..... (haemorrhagic)  
 lymphia > ..... (lymphatic)  
 ovarium > ..... (ovarian)
- inus** palatum > ..... (palatal, palatine)  
 uterus > ..... (uterine)

**EXERCISE 4**

**Derive names of inflammatory diseases from the given nouns:**

*Example: gaster → genitive gastr-is → gastr-itis (gastritis, inflammatory disease of stomach)*

- |          |            |
|----------|------------|
| bronchus | hepar      |
| meninx   | periosteum |
| larynx   | myocardium |
| colon    | pharynx    |

**EXERCISE 5**

**Derive names of inflammatory diseases from the given nouns, and match them with the adjectives in the correct form:**

*Example: duodenum + acutus, a, um → duodenitis acuta*

- appendix + gangraenosus, a, um  
 pharynx + chronicus, a, um  
 meninx + tuberculosus, a, um  
 myocardium + purulentus, a, um  
 colon + mucosus, a, um  
 pericardium + siccus, a, um  
 pancreas + acutus, a, um

**EXERCISE 6**

**Fill in missing diminutives/nouns which the diminutives were derived from:**

- |                   |                 |
|-------------------|-----------------|
| _____ ventriculus | _____ septulum  |
| tuber _____       | os (bone) _____ |
| _____ cuticula    | _____ musculus  |
| canalis _____     | vena _____      |
| _____ nodulus     | _____ auricula  |
| dens _____        | valva _____     |