

GREEK AND LATIN SUFFIXES

1. SUBSTANTIVE SUFFIXES

A) LATIN

suffix	meaning	example
-io	act of, result of, process of	inflammat-io <i>inflammation</i>
-or	agent	flex-or <i>a muscle the action of which is to flex a joint</i>
-ura	act or result of action	flex-ura <i>flexion, result of bending</i>
-itas	quality, state	obes-itas <i>obesity</i>
-mentum	instrument, tool	liga-mentum <i>ligament</i>
-culus, a, um -ulus, a, um -olus, a, um -illus, a, um -ellus, a, um	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
-ia	disease	allerg-ia <i>allergy</i>
-iasis	disease, pathological state	psor-iasis <i>a chronic skin disease characterized by circumscribed red patches covered with white scales</i>
-ismus	1. state 2. addiction	nan-ismus <i>dwarfism (a genetic abnormality resulting in short stature)</i> alcohol-ismus <i>alcoholism</i>
-itis	inflammatory disease	gastr-itis <i>inflammation of the stomach</i>
-osis	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>
-oma	tumor	carcin-oma <i>a malignant tumor of epithelial origin</i>

2. ADJECTIVE SUFFIXES

A) Latin

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

B) Greek

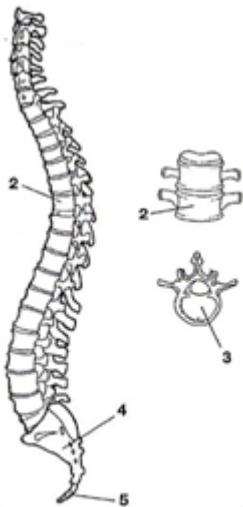
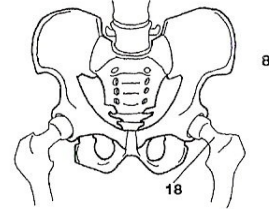
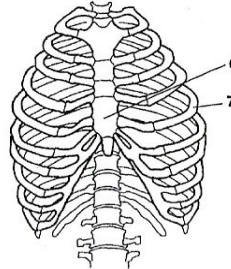
suffix	meaning	example
-icus, a, um	relation	thorac-icus
-ideus, a, um	similar to	xipho-ideus

EXERCISE 1

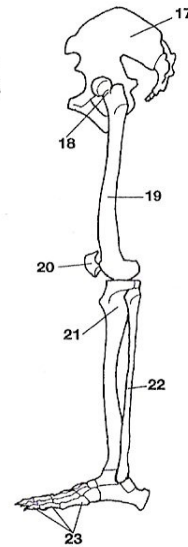
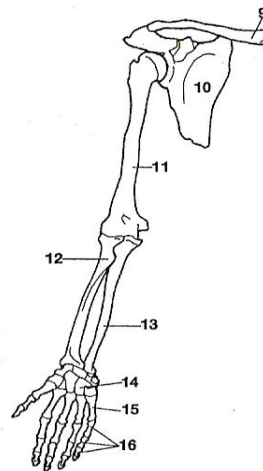
Form adjectives from the given nouns:



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.



- 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 _____ |