

Derived adjectives

Where did they come from? Where do they go?

How to...?

stem + suffix

REMINDER: stem comes from genitive!

Adjectives that mean:
related to

alis, e / aris, e

the most common
III declension,
pelvis/rete

aris, e is used
if there is an
L close by

vertebralis, costalis,
ulnaris, radialis,
muscularis, cerebralis,
carpalis, orbitalis,
nodularis, vascularis,
brachialis, scapularis,
clavicularis, lateralis,
medialis, sagittalis,
ciliaris, vestibularis,
ventricularis, dentalis, ...

— — —

eus, a, um
aneus, a, um
aceus, a, um

I and II declension

pharyngeus, laryngeus,
phalangeus, cutaneus,
coccygeus, felleus,
calcaneus, sanguineus,
parotideus, tendineus,
osseus, membranaceus,
vitreus, ...

— — —

icus, a, um
inus, a, um
arius, a, um

I and II declension

coronarius, mammarius,
palatinus, uterinus,
urinarius, thoracicus,
caroticus, traumaticus,
caninus, pelvicus,
pelvinus, periphericus,
rheumaticus, ophthalmicus,
lymphaticus, gastricus,
stomachicus, hepaticus,
diabeticus, aorticus, ...

— — —

acus, a, um

I and II declension

cardiacus

comes from the Greek
word for heart: *cardia*

īvus, a, um

I and II declension

operativus, auditivus



itus, a, um

I and II declension

mellitus

comes from *mel*
(gen. *mellis*),
“honey”

Which suffix should I choose? How can I know?

- 1) See Adjectives formation KEY in IS
- 2) Think about the English adjectives that you know (they are mostly taken from Latin).
- 3) Think about the anatomical and clinical terms you already know.
- 4) The safest bet is choosing alis/aris, which is the most common suffix.

Adjectives that mean:
shaped-like

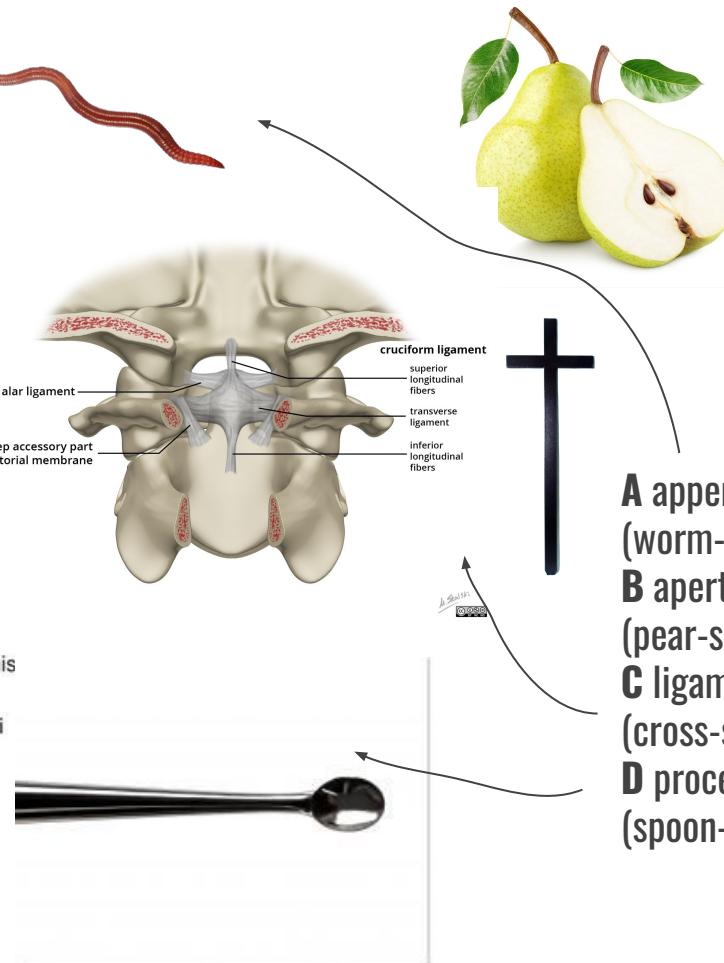
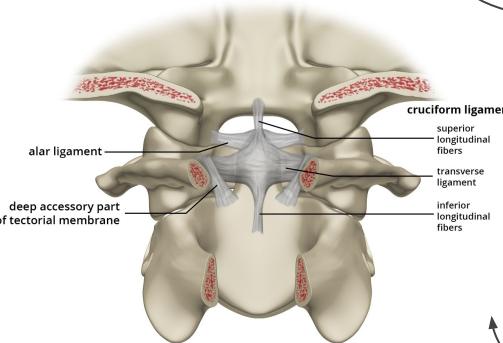
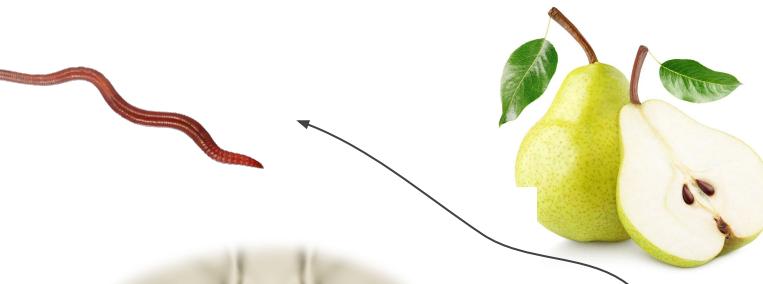
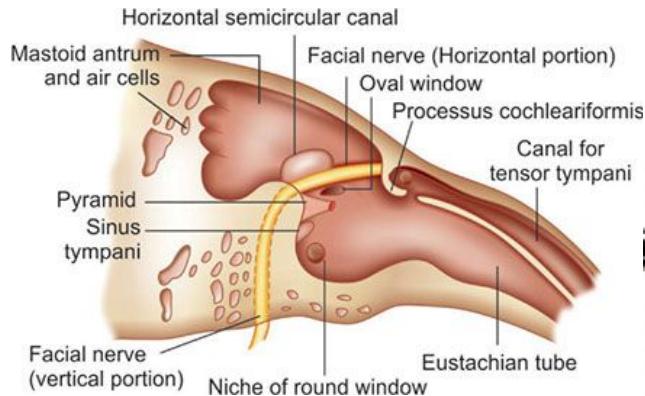
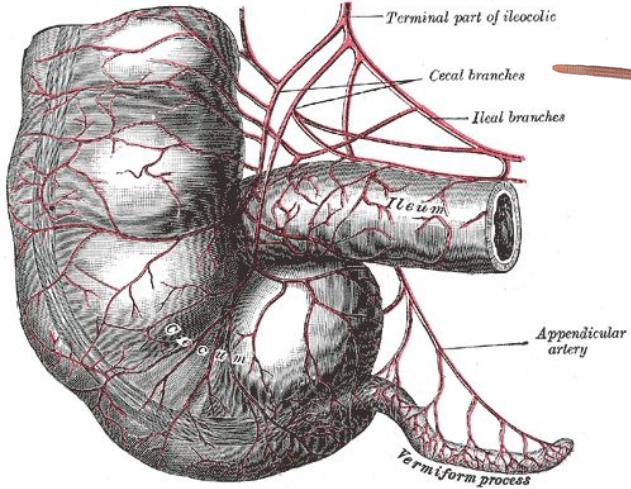
-formis, e

III declension
from **forma, ae, f.** (shape)

vermiformis, piriformis,
cuneiformis, cruciformis,
sacciformis, falciformis,
multiformis, lentiformis,
cochleariformis

stem + connector -i- + *formis, e*

— — —



A appendix vermiformis
(worm-shaped)

B apertura piriformis
(pear-shaped)

C ligamentum cruciforme
(cross-shaped)

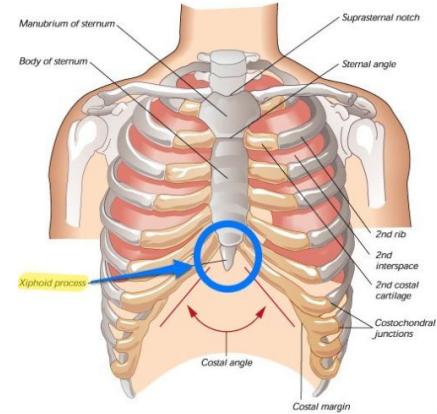
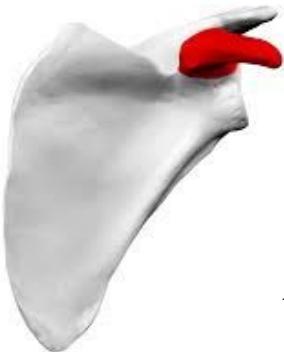
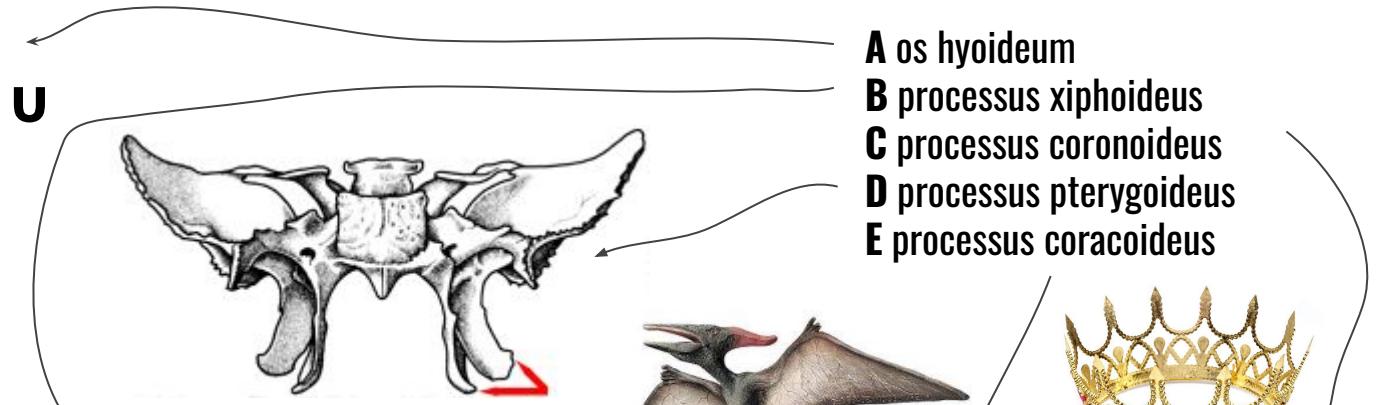
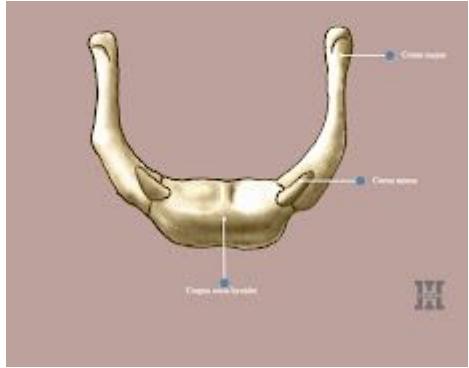
D processus cochleariformis
(spoon-shaped)

-oideus, a, um

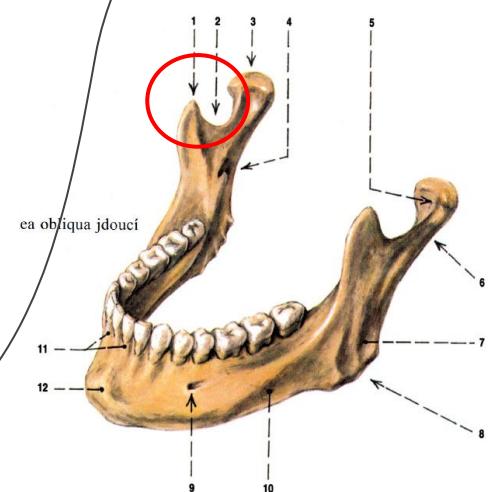
I and II declension
of Greek origin

mastoideus, pterygoideus,
styloideus, hyoideus,
sigmoideus, deltoideus,
xiphoideus, coronoideus,
coracoideus, rhomboideus,
thyroideus, choroideus

— — —



A os hyoideum
B processus xiphoides
C processus coronoideus
D processus pterygoideus
E processus coracoideus



Adjectives that mean:
full of

osus, a, um

I and II declension

periculosus, spinosus,
tuberculosus, venosus*,
oleosus, nervosus*

* these can also simply
mean “related to”

— — —

Adjectives that mean:
being equipped with

atus, a, um

I and II declension

capitatus, serratus,
quadratus, spinatus,
caudatus, arcuatus,
dentatus, cruciatus, ...

— — —

Adjectives that mean:
being able to

bilis, e

III declension
pelvis/rete

*operabilis, solubilis,
mobilis*



Adjectives that mean:
of an origin

genes

III declension
dolor/corpus
of Greek origin

nephrogenes, odontogenes,
endogenes, carcinogenes,
isogenes, cryptogenes,
myogenes, ...

— — —

Adjectives that mean:
carrying

fer(us), a, um

I and II declension
from the verb **ferre** (to
carry)

stem + connector -i- + *fer*

bilifer, seminifer,
sudorifer, lactifer

“sweat-carrying”
(*glandula sudorifera*)