

What is Word Formation by Affixation?

Worksheet

Affixation is the process of adding morphemes—prefixes (before) and suffixes (after)—to root words to form new words and change meanings, as in unhappy, darkness, and quickly.

Questions

1. Which is the prefix in 'unhappy'?
A) hap
B) un-
C) -y
D) happy
2. What does the suffix -ness do?
A) makes verbs
B) creates adjectives
C) creates nouns from adjectives
D) changes tense
3. Identify the suffix in 'slowly'.
A) -ly
B) slow
C) -ow
D) -w
4. Which word has both a prefix and suffix?
A) happy
B) darkness
C) unhappiness
D) quickly
5. Add a prefix to 'happy' to make it negative.
6. Add a suffix to 'dark' to make it a noun.
7. Add a suffix to 'quick' to make it an adverb.
8. Define: What is affixation?
9. Define: Examples of prefixes
10. Define: Examples of suffixes

Answer Key

1. B) un- — un- is the prefix added before the root 'happy'.
2. C) creates nouns from adjectives — -ness transforms adjectives into abstract nouns (dark → darkness).
3. A) -ly — -ly is the adverb suffix added to 'slow'.
4. C) unhappiness — unhappiness = un- (prefix) + happy (root) + -ness (suffix).
5. Root: happy Prefix un- means not Result: unhappy (not happy)
6. Root: dark Suffix -ness creates nouns from adjectives Result: darkness (state of being dark)
7. Root: quick Suffix -ly creates adverbs Result: quickly (in a quick manner)
8. The process of adding morphemes (prefixes or suffixes) to root words.
9. un-, re-, dis-, pre-, mis-, over-, under-
10. -ness, -ment, -tion, -ing, -ly, -ful, -less

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