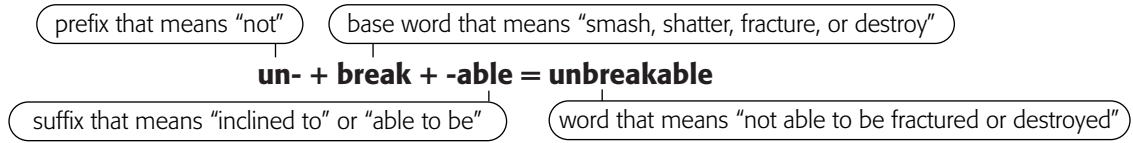


**Lesson
16**

Analyzing Base Words, Roots, and Affixes

Teaching

Base words are words that cannot be broken into parts. Other words are made up of base words or **roots** (word parts that cannot stand alone) and **affixes** (prefixes and suffixes). Breaking a difficult word into smaller parts can help you understand its meaning.



Base words sometimes change spelling when combined with other word parts. If you are unsure of the spelling of a word, check a dictionary.

Study the common base words, roots, and affixes in the charts below.

Prefix	Base Word/Root	Suffix
<i>uni-</i> (one)	<i>ceive</i> or <i>cept</i> (take)	<i>-al</i> (relating to)
<i>bi-</i> (two)	<i>color</i>	<i>-ation, -ion, -sion</i> (state or quality of)
<i>tri-</i> (three)	<i>cycl</i> (circle or ring)	<i>-d, -ed</i> (changes a verb from present to past)
<i>pre-</i> (before)	<i>form</i>	<i>-er, -or</i> (one who does)
<i>re-</i> (back or again)	<i>lingu</i> (language)	<i>-ist</i> (one who does)
<i>per-</i> (throughout)	<i>port</i> (carry)	<i>-s</i> (makes a noun plural or a verb present tense)
<i>tele-</i> (across)	<i>view</i>	

A. Identifying Base Words, Roots, and Affixes

For each item, write the letter of the correct meaning in the blank. Use the chart above and your knowledge of word parts to help you. You may also use a dictionary if needed.

EXAMPLE tricycle D

- | | |
|-----------------------|--|
| 1. receives _____ | A. saw <i>or</i> understood |
| 2. reporter _____ | B. the state of being created again |
| 3. previewed _____ | C. someone who carries bags |
| 4. bicolor _____ | D. a three-wheeled cycle |
| 5. uniform _____ | E. someone who gathers news |
| 6. porter _____ | F. used again |
| 7. bicyclist _____ | G. having two colors |
| 8. perceived _____ | H. someone who rides a two-wheeled cycle |
| 9. recycled _____ | I. takes |
| 10. reformation _____ | J. having only one shape |
| | K. looked at beforehand |

Analyzing Base Words, Roots, and Affixes*More Practice***B. Base Words, Roots, and Affixes in Action**

For each item, circle the word that fits the sentence. Use the chart on the previous page, context clues, and your knowledge of word parts to help you. You may also use a dictionary if needed.

1. A (linguist, performer) is someone who studies different languages.
2. The French flag is (bicolored, tricolored)—blue, white, and red.
3. The science fiction movie was about (perception, teleportation), or moving people and objects from one place to another instantly.
4. Maribel is (bilingual, performed); she grew up speaking Spanish and English.
5. Our school held a (reception, previewer) so we could meet the new exchange students.
6. I can't hear you very well—I don't think the telephone's (preformed, receiver) is working.
7. The (unicyclist, formation) juggled six oranges while balancing on a single wheel.
8. Damien is a superb (performer, reporter). He can sing, dance, act, and tell jokes.
9. I always read Arlene Zuker's movie (recycling, reviews) to help me decide which films are worth seeing.
10. Can you (perceive, uniform) any difference between the two paintings?

C. Vocabulary Challenge

For each item, add affixes to the root or base word to form two new words. Then write a sentence using one of the new words. Check a dictionary to be sure that you are spelling and using the words correctly.

EXAMPLE *medi* (middle) *medium* *mediate*

My mother had to mediate the argument between my sister and me.

1. build _____

_____.

2. press _____

_____.

3. *dict* (to speak) _____

_____.

4. *divid* or *divis* (separate) _____

_____.