



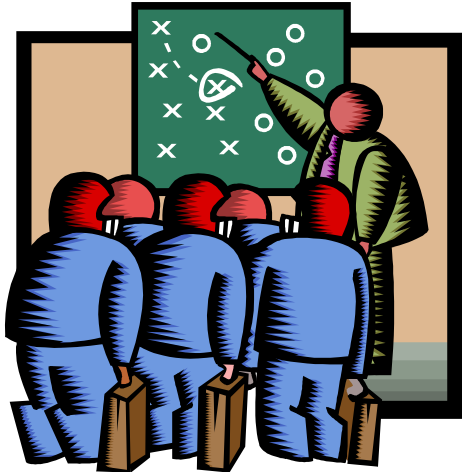
IT'S ALL GREEK TO ME



Building Blocks of Words




○ What's the language?

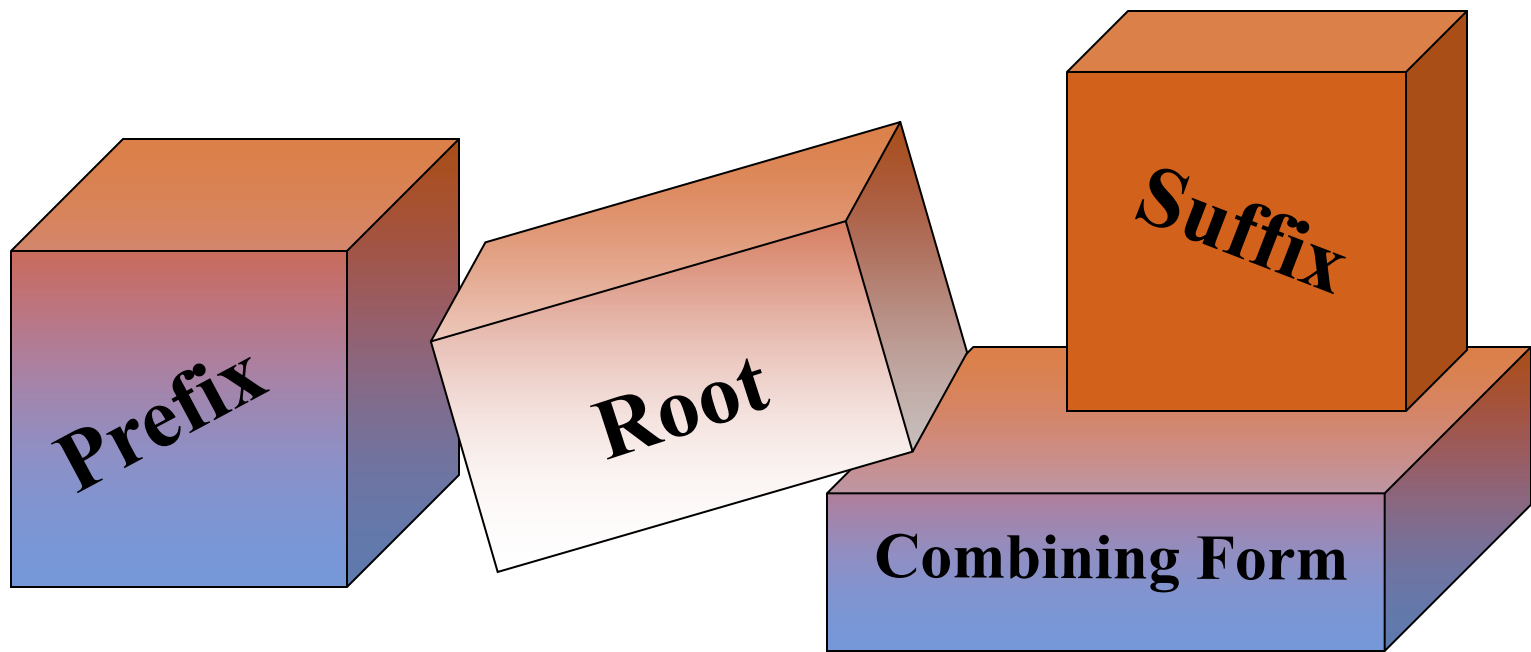


LATIN (SCIENTIFIC) ADJECTIVES:

Common Name	Latin	Derived Adj.
Dog	Canis	Canine
Cat	Felis	Feline
Horse	Equus	Equine
Cattle	Bos	Bovine
Sheep	Ovis	Ovine
Goat	Capra	Caprine
Pig	Sus	Pocine
Bird	Avis	Avian
Mouse	Mus	Murine
Rat	Rattus	Murine



The Building Blocks



WORD STRUCTURE

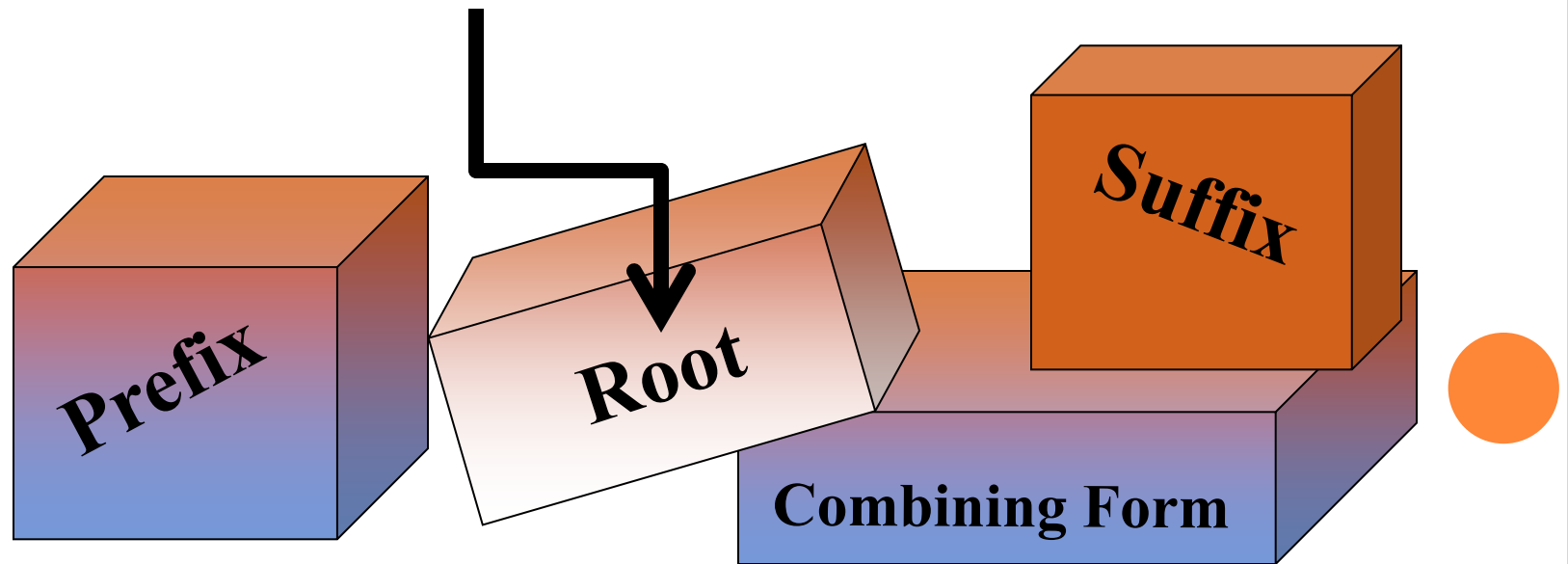
- Root Word
- Prefix
- Suffix
- Combining Vowel
- Compound Word

The key to learning terminology is to break down each word into parts and learn the most common roots, prefixes, suffixes, and combining forms.



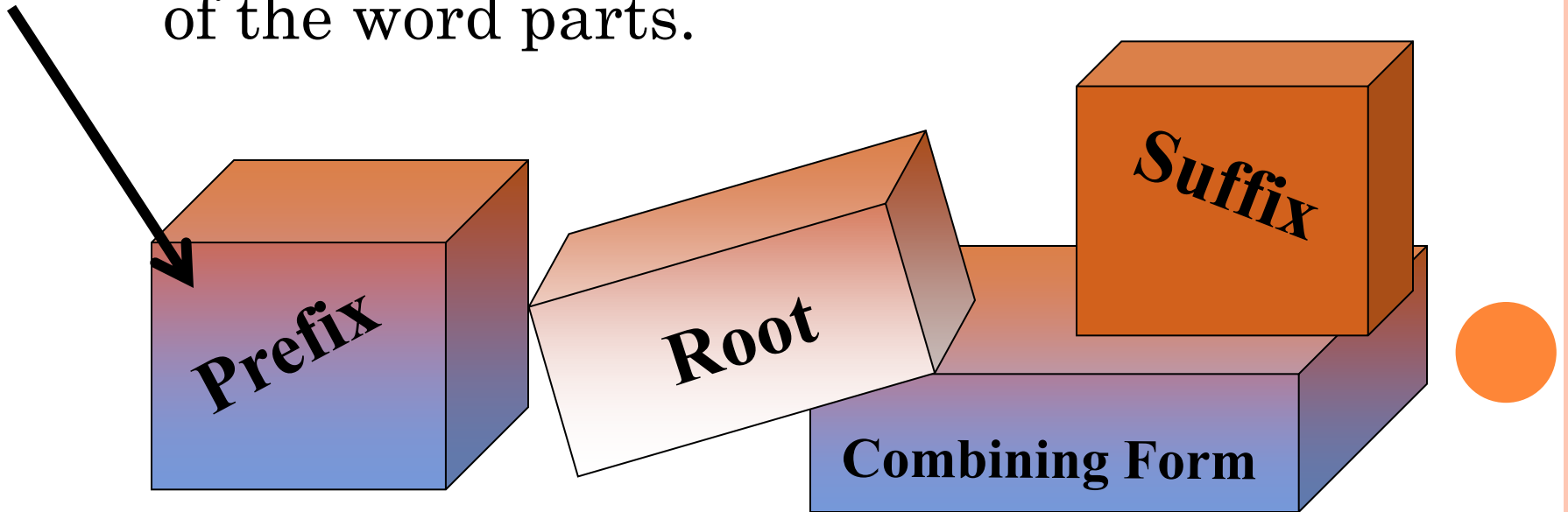
ROOT WORD

- Definition - the **foundation** of the word
- Gives substance to the meaning.
- There can be more than one in a word.



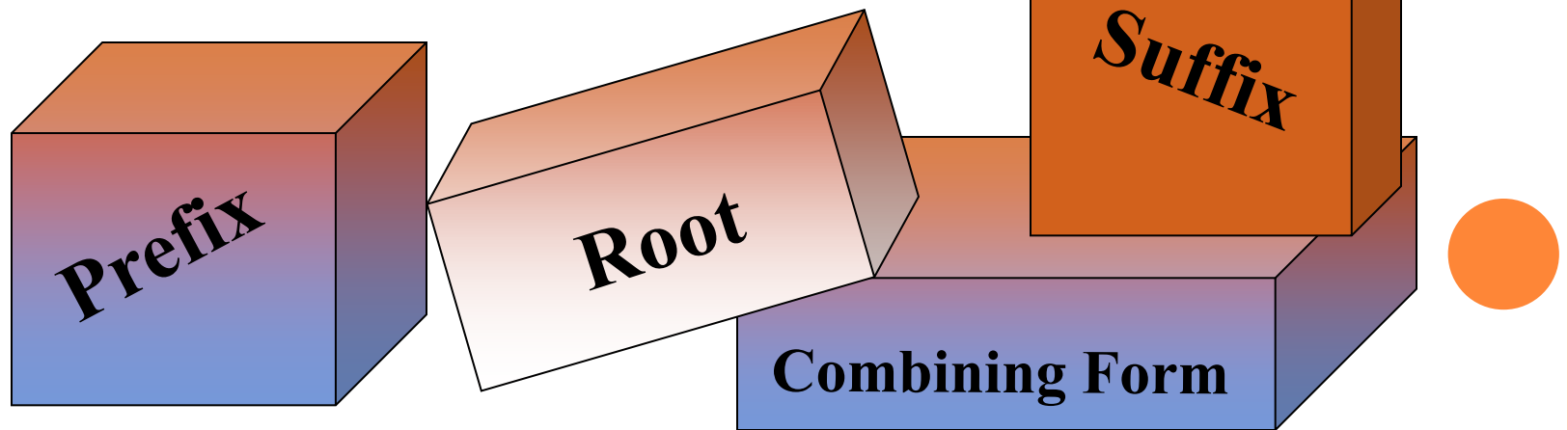
PREFIX

- Word that **precedes/BEFORE** the root, modifying the roots meaning to form a **new** word.
- Alone they have some meaning, but they are not complete words without the rest of the word parts.



SUFFIX

- Written **AFTER** a root word to form a **NEW** word.
- Follows root word altering the words meaning.
- Determines if word is a noun, adjective or other type of word.



WORD STRUCTURE: COMBINING VOWEL

- Vowel commonly used: “O”
- **General Rule 1:** If the suffix starts with a consonant, **connect** the rootword and the suffix with the vowel “o”.

○ Example 1:

<u>Root Word</u>	+	<u>CV</u>	Suffix	<u>New word</u>
Cardi	+	-o-	-logy	Cardi o logy
“Heart” heart			study of	Study of the



WORD STRUCTURE: COMBINING VOWEL

- Vowel commonly used: “o”
- **General Rule 2:** If the suffix starts with a vowel (a,e,i,o,u) **DO NOT USE** the vowel “o”.
Just attach the suffix to the root word.

○ Example 2:


<u>Root Word</u>	+	<u>Suffix</u>	<u>New word</u>
Trache/o		-itis	Tracheitis
Trachea		-inflammation	-
Inflammation of the			

trachea 

WORD STRUCTURE: COMBINING VOWEL

- Vowel commonly used: “o”
- **General Rule 3**: If the suffix begins with the same vowel as the root word, DO NOT repeat the vowel.
- Example 3:

<u>Root Word</u>	+	<u>Suffix</u>		<u>New word</u>
Cardi		-itis		Carditis
heart		-inflammation of		- inflammation of the heart



Prefixes

A-, an-	Without, lack of, not	Anemia: lack of blood Asymptomatic: without symptoms
Anti-	Against, opposing	Antibiotic: against microbial life
Brady-	Abnormally slow	Bradycardia: abnormally slow heart rate
De-	Down, from	Dehydrate: remove water from Decay: break down
Dys-	Difficulty	Dyspnea: difficulty breathing
Hyper-	Excessive, abnormally high	Hyperthermia: abnormally high body temperature
Hypo-	Insufficient, abnormally low	Hypothermia: abnormally low body temperature
Mal-	Bad, poor	Malocclusion: poor positioning of the teeth
Poly-	Many, much, multiple	Polyuria: producing much urine
Tachy-	Abnormally fast	Tachycardia: abnormally fast heart rate

Suffixes

-cyte	Cell	Erythrocyte: red blood cell
-ectomy	To surgically remove	Lobectomy: to surgically remove a lobe
-pnea	Breathing	Tachypnea: abnormally fast breathing
-itis	Inflammation	Arthritis: inflammation of the joints
-logy	Study of	Biology: the study of life
-oma	Tumor	Carcinoma: cancerous tumor
-penia	Deficiency of	Leukopenia: deficiency of white blood cells
-scope	Instrument for examining	Microscope: instrument for examining minute objects
-tomy	Cutting, incision	Cystotomy: cutting into the urinary bladder

Roots

Cardi/o	KAHR-dee-oh	Heart
Cephal/o	SEH-fal-loh	Head
Dent/i, dent/o	DEHN-tee, DEHN-toh	Teeth
Mamm/a, mamm/o	MAM-mah, MAM-moh	Mammary gland
Nas/o	NAZ-zoh	Nose
Ophthalm/o	Afh-THAL-moh	Eye
Ot/o	OH-toh	Ear
Steth/o	STETH-oh	Chest
Thorac/o	THOR-ah-koh	Thorax
Trache/o	TRAY-kee-oh	Trachea