



*Individual task*  
*"Word-building"*

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# Plan:

- 1. Morphological structure of English words.
- 2. Affixation.
- 3. Native and borrowed affixes.
- 4. Semantics of affixes.
- 5. Conclusion.
- 6. Literature and sources.

# 1. Morphological structure of English words.

- We can study the structure of language in a variety of ways. For example, we can study classes of words (parts of speech), meanings of words, with or without considering changes of meaning (semantics), how words are organised in relation to each other and in larger constructions (syntax), how words are formed from smaller meaningful units (morphology), the sounds of words (perception and pronunciation or articulation), and how they form patterns of knowledge in the speaker's mind (phonetics and phonology) and how standardized written forms represent words (orthography).

- Morphology is the study of the structure and form of words in language or a language, including inflection, derivation, and the formation of compounds. At the basic level, words are made of "morphemes." These are the smallest units of meaning: roots and affixes (prefixes and suffixes). Native speakers recognize the morphemes as grammatically significant or meaningful. For example, "schoolyard" is made of "school" + "yard", "makes" is made of "make" + a grammatical suffix "-s", and "unhappiness" is made of "happy" with a prefix "un-" and a suffix "-ness".

- Inflection occurs when a word has different forms but essentially the same meaning, and there is only a grammatical difference between them: for example, "make" and "makes". The "-s" is an inflectional morpheme.
- In contrast, derivation makes a word with a clearly different meaning: such as "unhappy" or "happiness", both from "happy". The "un-" and "-ness" are derivational morphemes. Normally a dictionary would list derived words, but there is no need to list "makes" in a dictionary as well as "make."

## • Phonetics

All words are, at the their most basic, collections of different sounds. Phonetics is the branch of linguistics that deals with the sounds of speech and their production, combination, description, and representation by written symbols. Sounds are generally categorized by place of articulation, method of articulation, and voicing. While these individual sounds are the most basic elements of language, they do not have meaning in of themselves (apart from some sounds which can be considered sound symbolic).

## • Latin and Greek Morphology

Many of the words in English are derived from Latin and Greek morphemes. In many cases words taken from Latin or Greek retain the inflectional characteristics and gender from their original languages. Thus, the masculine singular form of "alumni" is "alumnus," while the feminine singular form is "alumna." This example also shows that despite the retention of these Latinate forms, particularly in "learned" language, they are often discarded in casual speech, and "alumni" has come to be a singular noun as well as a plural one.

## 2. Affixation

- Affixation is the morphological process in by which bound morphemes are attached to a roots or stems to mark changes in meaning, part of speech, or grammatical relationships.

An affix is a bound morpheme that attaches to a root or stem to form a new word, or a variant form of the same word. In English we primarily see 2 types. Prefixes precede the root or stem, e.g., re-cover, while suffixes follow, e.g., hope-ful. A third type of affix known as a circumfix occurs in the two words en-ligh-en and em-bold-en, where the prefix en/m- and the suffix -en/m are attached simultaneously to the root.

Derivational affixes derive new words by altering the definitional meaning or the grammatical category of a word, whereas inflectional affixes show grammatical relationships between words or grammatical contrast.

### **3. Native and borrowed affixes.**

- From the etymological point of view affixes are classified into the same two large groups as words: native and borrowed. It would be wrong, though, to suppose that affixes are borrowed in the same way and for the same reasons as words. The term borrowed affixes is not very exact as affixes are never borrowed as such, but only as parts of loan words. To enter the morphological system of the English language a borrowed affix has to meet certain conditions.

- The borrowing of the affixes is possible only if the number of words containing this affix is considerable, if its meaning and function are definite and clear enough, and also if its structural pattern corresponds to the structural patterns already existing in the language. If these conditions are fulfilled, the foreign affix may even become productive and combine with native stems or borrowed stems within the system of English vocabulary like -able < Lat -abilis in such words as laughable or unforgettable and unforgivable. The English words balustrade, brigade, cascade are borrowed from French. On the analogy with these in the English language itself such words as blockade are coined.



## 4. Semantics of affixes.

- Meanings of affixes are specific and considerably differ from those of root morphemes. The noun-forming suffix -er could be roughly defined as designating persons from the object of their occupation or labour (painter — the one who paints) or from their place of origin or abode (southerner — the one living in the South).
- Some words with this suffix have no equivalents in Ukrainian and may be rendered in descriptive way:

The sheriff might have been a slow talker, but he was a fast mover .

– Можливо, шериф і говорив повільно, та рухався він швидко.

- Other noun-forming suffixes designating the same semantic field both in English and Ukrainian are given in **table 1**:

English	Ukrainian
<p>-er teacher, banker, thinker, worker, miner, driver, dancer, reader, owner, leader, worker, robber, producer, owner, knower, observer, singer, programmer</p> <p>-ar/or liar, proprietor, vendor, ambassador, dictator</p> <p>-ant/ent participant, claimant, student</p> <p>-ist philologist, scientist</p> <p>-ee detainee, employee</p> <p>-ess (feminine) actress, proprietress</p> <p>-an/ian vegeterian, politician, Mancunian</p> <p>-ette (fem) usherette, suffragette</p> <p>-ite laborite, Muscovite</p>	<p>-ар шахтар, лікар</p> <p>-ір/-ир/-ер-/ор банкір, бригадир, офіцер, лідер, диктатор</p> <p>-ТЕЛЬ вчитель, мислитель</p> <p>-ик/-ник робітник, виробник, радник, грабіжник, власник, передовик, відмінник</p> <p>-ій водій, тюхтій</p> <p>-ун брехун, товстун</p> <p>-ець підприємець, митець, знавець, українець</p> <p>-ач оглядач, попихач, позивач, читач</p> <p>-ак співак, мастак</p> <p>-іст машиніст, програміст</p> <p>-ант/ент практикант, дилетант, студент, кореспондент</p> <p>-ака писака, зівака</p> <p>-ан критикан</p> <p>-ло брехло, вайло</p> <p>-нь учень, злидень, здоровань</p>

THE ADJECTIVE-FORMING SUFFIX -FUL HAS THE MEANING OF “FULL OF”, “CHARACTERISED BY” (BEAUTIFUL, CAREFUL) WHEREAS -ISH MAY OFTEN IMPLY INSUFFICIENCY

OF QUALITY (GREENISH — GREEN, BUT NOT QUITE; YOUNGISH — NOT QUITE YOUNG BUT LOOKING IT):

although polly was twelvish, a year younger, she did not seem it.

## **5. Conclusion.**

- An important part of increasing your vocabulary is understanding word building to make new words. Not inventing new ones, but using the way the language works to build on existing ones.

All this advice will hopefully help you increase your vocabulary. You can play with the words you already know, and of course every time you learn a new word you can explore some new possibilities.

# 6. Literature and sources.

- NIKOLENKO A.G. "ENGLISH LEXICOLOGY. THEORY AND PRACTICE" 2007
- [HTTPS://STUDFILE.NET/PREVIEW/3846077/PAGE:6/](https://studfile.net/preview/3846077/page:6/)
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**Thanks for the  
attention!**



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