Unit 21 lesson 33

FORMATION OF NOUNS, VERBS AND ADJECTIVES FROM ROOT WORDS

Language has continued to evolve and change in many directions. Every student should be familiar with words usage and meaning in today's context. The study of words helps you to recognize parts of speech by their structure and also shows the relationship between classes of words – noun, verb, adjective, etc.

Often new words are formed from the existing root words by adding small units either at the beginning or the end - this is known as word formation. As you are aware, the three important principles in word formation are affixation, conversion and compounding.

Now we shall see the role of derivational affix in changing grammatical category of words.

Verb to Noun

Accept – Acceptance

Accredit – Accreditation

Achieve – Achievement

Appreciate – Appreciation

Apprehend – Apprehension

Boost – Booster

Calculate – Calculation

Disturb – Disturbance

Document – Documentary

Fashion – Fashionable

Greet – Greeting

Grumble – Grumbling

Guide – Guideline

Immerse – Immersion

Imitate – Imitation

Partner – Partnership

Refrigerate – Refrigerator

Verb to Adjective

Absorb – Absorbed

Bereave – Bereaved

Captivated – Captivating

Care – Careless

Fascinate – Fascinated

Grieve – Grievous

Manipulate – Manipulative

Thank – Thankful

Noun to Adjective

Access – Accessible

Distress – Distressed

Effusion – Effusive

Efficiency – Efficient

Truth – Truthful

Effort – Effortless

Farce – Farcical

Hazard – Hazardous

Provision – Provisional

Spite - Spiteful

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Formation of nouns, verbs and adjectives from root words

Root	Meanings	Sample Words and Definitions
a/n	not, without	Abyss (noun) - without bottom Anhydrous (adjective) - without water
a	on	Ashore (verb) - on the shore; aside (verb) - on the side, carry away by force, abnormal (Adjective, noun) abnormally (verb)
ac, ad	to, toward, near	Accelerate (verb) - to increase the speed of; accessible (adjective, noun, verb) - easily entered, approached admittance (noun) admitted (verb)
acro	top, height, tip, beginning	acrobat (noun) - a high walker; acrophobia (noun) - fear of height Aerobatic (adjective)
ami/o	love	amiable (adjective) - friendly
aqu/a	water	Aquarium (noun) – container where fish is kept. for fish Aquatic (adjective)
bell/i	war	bellicose (noun, adjective) - warlike; belligerent (adjective) – hostile
bene	Good well	Benefactor (noun) – a person who gives money to a cause Benevolent (adjective) Beneficial (verb)

Root	Meanings	Sample Words and Definitions
capt, cept, ceive	take, hold	intercept (verb) - to stop or interrupt; captivating (adjective)
cede, ceed, cess	go, yield	exceed (verb) - to go beyond the limits; recede (verb) - to go back; accessible (noun, adjective) - easily entered
cerebr/o	brain	cerebral (noun, adjective) - pertaining to brain; cerebrate (verb) - to use the brain;
clud, clus	close	conclusion (noun) - the end; conclude (verb) - exclusion - shutting out (noun), exclude (verb)
col	together, jointly	Collaborate (verb) - to work together; collision (noun) - smashing together
dec/a, deka	ten	decade (noun) - 10 years;
dent, dont	tooth	dental (verb) - relating to teeth; dentist (noun) - a doctor for the teeth; dentures - a set of false teeth
di/s	apart, away, not, to the opposite	digression (noun) - a departure from the main issue, diagress (verb) disappear (verb) - to move out of sight; dissect (verb) - to cut apart piece by piece.
domin	master	dominate (verb) - to be the master of; domineering (adjective) - excessively controlling; predominate (verb) - to have more power than others
ego	self	egoistic (adjective) - self-centered; egomania (noun) - excessive preoccupation with oneself.
en, in	inside, inwards	envision (verb) - to picture in the mind; enclose (verb) - lock

Root	Meanings	Sample Words and Definitions
		inside; enclosure (noun)
ethno	race, people	ethnic (adjective, noun) - pertaining to a defined group of people; ethnocentric (adjective) - focusing on the ethnicity of people; ethnology (noun) - the science of people and races.
fer	bear, bring, carry	confer (verb) - honor someone; ferry (noun) - a boat that carries passengers
fid	faith	confide (verb) - place trust in someone, fidelity (noun)- faithfulness; fiduciary (noun) - a trustee;
fug	flee, run away, escape	fugitive (noun) - a person who is running away; refuge (noun, verb) - a sheltered place to flee to; refugee (noun) - a person seeking protection
gen/o/e/ genesis	birth, production, formation, kind	genealogy (noun) - the study of the history of a family; generation (noun) - all the people born at approximately the same time; genetic (verb) - relating to heredity encoded in the genes.
geo	earth, soil, global	Geography (noun) - study of the earth's surface; geology (noun) - study of the structure of the earth; geoponics (noun) - soil based agriculture.
grat	pleasing	gratify (verb) - to please someone; grateful (adjective) - feeling thankful; gratuity (noun) - token of appreciation.
gyn/o/e	woman, female	Gynecology (noun) - the science of female reproductive health; gynephobia (noun) - fear of women; gynecoid (noun) - resembling a woman.
hemi	half, partial	hemicycle (noun) - a semicircular structure; hemisphere (noun) - one half of the earth
hem/o/a	blood	hemorrhage (noun) - clotting of the blood; hemorrhoids (noun) - swelling of the blood vessels
hepa	liver	hepatitis (noun) - inflammation of the liver; hepatotoxic (adjective) - toxic and damaging to the liver.
hetero	different, other	heterogeneous (noun) - made up of unrelated parts; heteronyms (noun) - words with same spelling but different meanings; heterodox (noun, adjective) - not conforming to traditional

Root	Meanings	Sample Words and Definitions
		beliefs.
hydr/o	liquid, water	hydrophobia (noun) - intense fear of water; hydraulic (verb, adjective) - operated by force created by a liquid.
hyper	too much, over, excessive, beyond	hyperactive (noun, adjective) - very restless; hypercritical (adjective) - too critical; hypertension (noun) - above normal pressure; hypothesis (noun)
icon/o	image	icon (noun) - an image; iconoclast (noun) - someone who destroys religious images and traditional beliefs.
ig, il, im, in, ir	not, without	illegal (noun, adjective) - not legal; impossible (adjective) - not possible; intravenous (verb) – into vein, introvert (noun) – a person who does not openly express himself
intra, intro	within, inside	intrastate - existing in one state; intravenous - inside or into a vein; introvert (noun, adjective)- shy person who keeps within him/herself.
junct	join	conjunction (noun) - a word that joins parts of sentences; junction (noun) - a place where two things join.
juven	young	juvenile (adjective) - youthful or childish; rejuvenate (verb) - to bring back to youthful strength or appearance.
kine/t /mat	motion, division	kinetics (noun)- study of the force of motion
leuk/o, leuc/o	white, colorless	leukemia (noun) - abnormal increase of white blood cells in the blood; leukocyte (noun) - a mature white blood cell
loc	place	dislocate (verb) - to put something out of its usual place; relocate (verb) - to move to a new place.
loqu, locu	speak	eloquent (adjective) - speaking beautifully and forcefully ; loquacious (adjective) - very talkative; elocution (noun) - art of public speaking.
magn/a/i	great, large	magnify (verb) - make larger; magnificent (adjective) - grand; magnate (noun) - a powerful person, especially in business or industry.

Root	Meanings	Sample Words and Definitions
melan/o	black	melancholy (noun) - a state of dark emotions; melanoma (noun) - malignant dark tumour of the skin; melodrama (noun) - a dark, pathetic drama.
meta	change, after, beyond, between	metaphysics (noun) - study of nature and reality; metamorphosis (noun) - a complete change of form
mort	death	immortal (noun, adjective) - living forever, unable to die; mortal (noun, adjective) - certain to die
nat	born	innate (adjective) - included since birth
omni	all	omnipotent (noun) - with all the power; omniscient (noun, adjective) - knowing all things
opt	best	optimal (adjective) - the best, the most desirable; optimize (verb) - to make the best of; optimum (noun) - the best something could be.
path	feeling, emotion	empathy (noun) - ability to understand another's feelings; empathize (verb)
pel	drive, force	compel (verb) - to force someone to act; expel (verb) - to drive someone out of a place; repel (verb) - to force back.
pod/e	foot	podiatrist (noun) - a doctor for the feet; podium (noun) - a small platform to stand on; tripod (noun) - a stand or frame with 3 legs.
prot/o	primitive, first, chief	prototype (noun) - the first of a kind; proton (noun) - on of the very basic parts of an atom; protocol (noun) - a first draft from which a document is prepared.
quad/r/ri	four	quadrant (noun) - open space with buildings on 4 sides; quadrennium (noun) - period of 4 years; quadruped (noun) - a 4-footed animal.
reg	guide, rule	regent (noun) - a person who rules on behalf of a king or queen; regime (noun) - a government that rules
rid	laugh	deride (verb) - to make fun of someone; ridicule (verb) - to make fun or mock; ridiculous (adjective) - silly, causing laughter.

Root	Meanings	Sample Words and Definitions
serv	save, keep	conserve (verb) - to save or keep something safe; preserve (verb) - to save something; reservation (noun) - a place kept for a person.
tact, tang	touch	contact (noun, verb) - a state in which two things touch; tactile (noun, adjective) - relating to the sense of touch; tangible (adjective) - able to be touched
terr/a/i	land, earth	extraterrestrial (noun, adjective) - existing outside the earth; terrain (noun) - ground or land
trans	across,beyond, through	transcontinental (noun) - across the continent; transfer (noun) - to move from one place to another; transferred (verb)
urb	city	suburb (noun, adjective) - residential area on the edge of a city; urban (noun, adjective) - relating to a city
ven/t	come	circumvent (verb) - to go around or bypass restrictions; convention (noun) - a gathering or assembly of people with a common interest; intervene (verb) - to come between.
vers, vert	turn	reverse (verb) - to turn around; introvert (verb) - being turned towards the inside; version (noun) - a variation of an original; controversy (noun) - a conversation in which positions are turned against each other.
voc/i	voice, call	advocate (noun) - to speak in favour of; equivocate (verb) - to use misleading language that could be interpreted two different ways; vocalize (verb) - to produce with your voice.
xen/o	foreign	xenophobic (verb) - afraid of foreigners; xenogenesis (noun) - the creation of offspring that is completely different from either parent; xenophile (noun) - attracted to foreigners.
zo/o	animal life	zoology (noun) - study of animals
zyg/o	pair	zygote (noun) - a cell formed by the union of two gametes and the organism developing from that

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Assignment

Can you think of a word which has as many as five different grammatical functions?

Answer

Example – ‘Down’

1) Life is full of ‘ups’ and ‘downs’ (noun)
2) a) The down train met with an accident (adjective)
   b) I feel a bit down today (adjective)
3) a) Storms downed the power lines (verb)
   b) Down with the traitor (verb)
4) a) Down came the plane, when it was hit by a missile (verb)
   b) Down poured the rain and we were drenched (adverb)
5) a) We watched as the Sun went down (preposition)
   b) His stumbled and fell down, while he was coming down the stairs (preposition)

Try and write at least three more words as done above.