

Name _____

Date _____

Suffixes and Base Words

A **base word** is a complete word that makes sense by itself. You can add a **suffix** to the end of a base word to change its meaning or how it is used in a sentence. Sometimes, the spelling of the base word changes when you add a suffix.

Suffix	Meaning	Examples
-ize	to make/ to become	fertilize, criticize, apologize
-age	result of an action	manage, drainage, acreage
-ious	full of/ characterized by	adventurous, mysterious,
-ty/-ity	state of/ quality of	prosperity, equality

Read the paragraph and define the words with suffixes.

Farmers often **fertilize** their fields to ensure healthy crops, taking care to manage the land properly and avoid issues like poor **drainage**. Exploring the countryside can be quite **adventurous**, especially when you discover hidden places that feel **mysterious**. Over time, good farming practices can lead to greater **prosperity**, as the land produces more food and supports the community.

Words	Breakdown	Meanings
drainage	+	
mysterious	+	
prosperity	+	

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Suffixes and Base Words – Answer Key

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Words	Breakdown	Meanings
drainage	drain + -age	The process or system of removing excess water from land.
mysterious	mystery+ -ious	Full of mystery.
prosperity	prosper + -ity	The state of being successful or thriving.