

AAE103

L4 : Derivational Suffixes

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Derivational Suffixes

- either change meaning :
 - un+happy
 - mis+understand
 - hope+less
 - tiger+ess
- or change word class :
 - happy+ness (Adj → N)
 - educate+ion (V → N)

Practice : what change is there?

atom+ic
civil+ize
electric+ity
employ+er
amaze+ment

a few prefixes change word class

be + devil
be + friend

a + wake
a + sleep

stress shift

three kinds of derivational suffix:

- stress preserving
- stress shifting
- stress attracting

stress preserving

where is the stress?

fulfill – fulfillment
happy – happiness
colour – colourful
terror – terrorize

stress shifting

where is the stress?

atom – atomic

educate – education

civil – civility

stress placement

stress-shifting suffixes tend to fix stress on the syllable preceding the suffix

-ic

nearly every word ending in –ic has stress on the penultimate syllable

electric	photographic	systemic	ballistic
atomic	geographic	phonetic	systematic
botanic	hemispheric	syntactic	sclerotic
terrific	telegraphic	specific	soporific

exceptions

Arabic

rhetoric

arithmetic

Catholic

-ity

every single word ending in –ity has stress on the antepenultimate syllable

electricity	complicity	simplicity	audacity
civility	serenity	domesticity	felicity
duplicity	timidity	musicality	turgidity
rapidity	severity	serendipity	mendacity

there are no exceptions

-tion

every single word ending in –tion has stress on the penultimate syllable

education	pollution	convention	termination
derivation	solution	collection	reduplication
contraption	sanitation	devolution	presumption
conception	adoption	sedation	subordination

there are no exceptions

stress attracting

where is the stress?

employ – employee

cigar – cigarette

mountain – mountaineer

stress attracting suffixes

stress falls on the suffix itself

employee	cigarette	mountaineer
addressee	novelette	engineer
evacuee	majorette	profiteer
refugee		

some suffixes are variable

temporal

inventory

compound nouns

always have stress on first element

goalkeeper

handbag

postman

English teacher

police car

traffic lights

practice: where is the stress?

captivity	contrition	domestic	merriment
donation	mousepad	proclivity	devotee
failee	phosphoric	temptation	handmaiden
silliness	banality	finalize	corporatization

Reading

- SoE 98-101
- GoE 10-11