

Morphemic Analysis Graphic Organizer

A *morpheme* is the smallest unit of meaning in language. Morphological ability can help students improve their vocabulary and reading comprehension.

This graphic organizer helps students break down words into their roots, prefixes, and suffixes and record the meaning of each. Then, students combine the individual parts and infer the meaning of the whole word. Finally, students test whether the word makes sense in its original context.

For more information about morphemes and how to implement this graphic organizer into instruction, see the Iowa Reading Research Center's eLearning module, *Effective Morphology Instruction for Secondary Students Across Content Areas*.



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Name: _____

Target Word: _____

Break Down the Word Parts

Step	Instructions
1. Root (the main part of a word that gives it meaning)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Find the root.• Write what the root means.
2. Prefix (the word part that comes before a root)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Find the prefix.• Write what the prefix means.
3. Suffix (the word part that comes after a root)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Find the suffix.• Write what the suffix means.



Put the Word Parts Together

Step	Instructions
4. Whole word meaning	Write the meanings of the word parts together. What do you think the word means?
5. Try the word meaning in the sentence.	Does it make sense? Why?

