

Name: _____

XL 0201: Strategies for Learning
Study Strategy- Word Attack Skills

Prefixes (word beginnings) and suffixes (word endings) provide clues about word meaning. Here are some common examples from Latin and Greek.

Prefixes	Meaning	Example
a, ab	without or not	atheist; nonbeliever in God
ad	to	advocate: to speak for
ambi	both	ambivalent: uncommitted
con	together	convention: formal gathering
de	from or down	despicable: abhorrent
dis	not	disinterest: boredom
ex	over	exaggerate: to magnify
hyper	above	hyperactive: overactive
hypo	under	hypodermic: under skin
mono	single	monolingual: speaking one language
non	not	nonresponsive: not reacting
pro	forward	production: process of making
re	back, again	revert: return to former state
sub, sup	under	subordinate: in a lower position
trans	across	transpose: to change places

Suffixes	Meaning	Example
-able, -ible (adjective)	capable of	responsible: in charge
-ac, -al, -il (adjective)	pertaining to	natural: related to nature
-ance, -ence (noun)	state of status	dalliance: playful activity
-ant, -ent (noun)	one who does	servant: person who waits on others
-er, -or (noun)	one who does	contractor: one who builds
-ive (adjective)	state or status	festive: partylike
-ish (adjective)	quality of	foolish: like a fool
-less (adjective)	without	heartless; harsh, unfeeling
-ly (adjective/adverb)	like	miserly: like a miser
-ness (noun)	state of	peacefulness: state of peace