

Grammar – Suffixes

A **suffix** is a word ending.

The suffix **ed** tells us that an action has happened in the past.

I smashed**ed** the plate.

The suffix **ing** is used with the verb “to be” to tell us that an action is in the present tense or the past tense.

I **am** throwing**ing** the ball.

I **was** throwing**ing** the ball.

The suffix **er** makes a new word.

Lots of these new words are comparative adjectives, comparative adverbs or nouns.

One lady was calm**er** than the other one.

Hint: comparative adverbs and comparative adjectives are used to compare things.

When we add **ed**, **ing**, or **er** to words, we sometimes have to double the last letter.

We usually double the last letter if the one before it is a single vowel.

skip skip**ped** skip**ping** skip**per**
fit fitt**ed** fitt**ing** fitt**er**

Hint: the vowels are **a**, **e**, **i**, **o**, and **u**.

Section 1

Complete the table, adding the suffixes to the end of the root words.

Word	“ed” - suffix	“ing” - suffix	“er” - suffix
warm	warmed	warming	warmer
jump			
fill			
wrap			
clean			
help			
count			

Section 2

Add the **suffix** “ed”, “ing” or “er” to complete each sentence.

1. The ice cream is big___ than that one.
2. The pirates were look___ for the treasure.
3. We search___ and search___ but we could not find it.
4. The run___ who was first received the medal.
5. Cook___ is one of my hobbies.
6. The long___ you take to get ready, the less time we will have for fishing.

Hint: remember, you may need to double the last letter of the root word.

Section 3

Use the **suffix** “ing” to change these sentences into the present tense.

1. The birds circled overhead.
2. A stranger moved into the village.
3. The garage door creaked in the wind.
- 4 I tried hard with my fractions.

Hint: find the verb ending in “ed”. Use the verb “to be” and an “ing” word in its place.

Section 4

Use the **suffix** “ed” to change these sentences into the past tense.

1. We were wondering if our decision was the right one.
2. I am posting a letter to my friend.
3. They are electing the team captain.
4. We are sailing into the harbour.

Hint: find the two words that make up the present tense verb. Use one word with “ed” instead.