

# Application and Reasoning

## Step 3: Word Families

### National Curriculum Objectives:

English Year 4: (3G6.4) [Word families based on common words, showing how words are related in form and meaning \[for example, solve, solution, solver, dissolve, insoluble\]](#)

### Differentiation:

Questions 1, 4 and 7 (Reasoning)

**Developing** Explain how a suffix has changed the meaning of the root word. Includes word families where the suffix does not change the root word.

**Expected** Explain how a suffix has changed the meaning of the root word. Includes word families where the suffix sometimes changes the root word.

**Greater Depth** Explain how a suffix has changed the meaning of the root word. Includes word families where the suffix changes the root word or a prefix has also been added.

Questions 2, 5 and 8 (Reasoning)

**Developing** Explain which given statement is correct. Includes words where the suffix does not change the root word.

**Expected** Explain which given statement is correct. Includes words where more than one given suffix may be added to the root word.

**Greater Depth** Explain which given statement is correct. Includes words where a suffix and a prefix can be added to the same root word.

Questions 3, 6 and 9 (Application)

**Developing** Sort given words into the relevant word families. Includes word families where the suffix does not change the root word.

**Expected** Create new words using the suffixes provided. Includes word families where the suffix sometimes changes the root word.

**Greater Depth** Create new words using the suffixes provided. Prefix is already added to the root word. Includes word families where the suffix changes the root word or a prefix has also been added.

[More resources](#) from our Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling scheme of work.

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## Word Families

1a. Jack has written two sentences below.

- A. Amy was feeling hopeful about her drama audition.
- B. He felt hopeless and confused after losing his job.

Explain how a suffix has been used to change the meaning of the root word in each sentence.



R

## Word Families

1b. Alima has written two sentences below.

- A. Navid was a thoughtful person who cared for his elderly grandparents.
- B. Crossing the road without looking is a thoughtless decision.

Explain how a suffix has been used to change the meaning of the root word in each sentence.



R

2a. Beatrice and Isaac are talking about the word 'play'.

Beatrice says,



You could add the suffix '-ful' to this root word.

Isaac says,



You could add the suffix '-ly' to this root word.

Who is correct? Explain your answer.



R

2b. Jimmy and Emma are talking about the word 'pain'.

Jimmy says,



You could add the suffix '-er' to this root word.

Emma says,



You could add the suffix '-less' to this root word.

Who is correct? Explain your answer.



R

3a. Sort the words below into the correct word family.

use	thank

thankful

useful

thankless

useless

thanked

used



A

3b. Sort the words below into the correct word family.

power	clever

cleverest

powerless

cleverly

powerful

cleverness

powering



A

## Word Families

4a. Mark has written two sentences below.

A. We readily agreed to start our group project that evening.

B. The warrior's muscles tensed in readiness for action.

Explain how a suffix has been used to change the meaning of the root word in each sentence.



R

## Word Families

4b. Betty has written two sentences below.

A. The grass was overgrown with weeds and was sadly in need of mowing.

B. There was sadness in her voice as she spoke to her beloved husband.

Explain how a suffix has been used to change the meaning of the root word in each sentence.



R

5a. Veronica and Sam are talking about the word 'enjoy'.

Veronica says,



You could add the suffixes '-ment' and '-ing' to this root word.

Sam says,

You could add the suffixes '-ness' and '-ful' to this root word.



Who is correct? Explain your answer.



R

5b. Lee and Fiona are talking about the word 'fear'.

Lee says,



You could add the suffixes '-ful' and '-less' to this root word.

Fiona says,

You could add the suffixes '-ly' and '-ness' to this root word.



Who is correct? Explain your answer.



R

6a. Using the suggested suffixes below, create 3 new words for each root word by using different suffixes.

settle

boast

-ly

-er

-ing

-ness

-ful

-ment



A

6b. Using the suggested suffixes below, create 3 new words for each root word by using different suffixes.

happy

light

-ly

-er

-ing

-ness

-ful

-ment



A

## Word Families

7a. Amina has written two sentences below.

- A. Replacing the fragile, worn windows would be a mammoth task for the builders, but they were up for the challenge.
- B. They ordered a replacement piano as the old one was no longer functional.

Explain how a suffix has been used to change the meaning of the root word in each sentence.



R

## Word Families

7b. Patrick has written two sentences below.

- A. He was ready to give up when suddenly he figured out the solution to all of his problems.
- B. The job advertisement stated that you must be a good problem solver and have a keen eye for detail.

Explain how a suffix has been used to change the meaning of the root word in each sentence.



R

8a. Paul and Lorna are talking about the word 'connect'.

Paul says,



You could add the prefix 're-' and the suffix '-ed' to this root word.

Lorna says,

You could add the prefix 'il-' and suffix '-ly' to this root word.



Who is correct? Explain your answer.



R

8b. Chloe and Teddy are talking about the word 'assign'.

Chloe says,



You could add the prefix 're-' and the suffix '-ment' to this root word.

Teddy says,

You could add the prefix 'inter-' and '-er' to this root word.



Who is correct? Explain your answer.



R

9a. Using the suggested suffixes below, create 2 new words for each word by adding different suffixes.

disagree

unattractive

-ing

-ier

-est

-ness

-ment

-ly



A

9b. Using the suggested suffixes below, create 2 new words for each word by adding different suffixes.

untidy

active

-ful

-er

-ly

-less

-ment

-ness



A

## Application and Reasoning Word Families

### Developing

- 1a. Various possible answers, for example: 'Hopeful' means full of hope whereas 'hopeless' means without hope.
- 2a. Beatrice is correct because the suffix '-ful' can be added to 'play'.
- 3a. use – useless, useful, used  
thank – thankful, thankless, thanked

### Expected

- 4a. Various possible answers, for example: 'Readily' is an adverb which means without hesitation whereas 'readiness' is a noun meaning the state of being prepared.
- 5a. Veronica is correct because the suffixes '-ment' and '-ing' can be added to 'enjoy'.
- 6a. settle – settlement, settling, settler;  
boast – boastful, boasting, boaster

### Greater Depth

- 7a. Various possible answers, for example: 'Replacing' is a verb which means to take the place of, whereas 'replacement' is a noun meaning something that takes the place of another.
- 8a. Paul is correct because the prefix 're-' and the suffix '-ed-' can be added to 'connect' to create the word 'reconnected'.
- 9a. disagree – disagreement, disagreeing  
unattractive – unattractively,  
unattractiveness

## Application and Reasoning Word Families

### Developing

- 1b. Various possible answers, for example: 'Thoughtful' means considerate of others, whereas 'thoughtless' means giving little thought to others.
- 2b. Emma is correct because the suffix '-less' can be added to 'pain'.
- 3b. clever – cleverness, cleverly, cleverest  
power – powerful, powerless, powering

### Expected

- 4b. Various possible answers, for example: 'Sadly' is an adverb meaning in a sad manner, whereas 'sadness' is a noun meaning the condition of being sad.
- 5b. Lee is correct because the suffixes '-ful' and '-less' can be added to fear.
- 6b. happy – happiness, happier, happily  
light – lighting, lightly, lightness, lighter

### Greater Depth

- 7b. Various possible answers, for example: 'Solution' is a noun meaning the answer to a problem, whereas a solver is a noun used for somebody who solves problems.
- 8b. Chloe is correct because the prefix 're-' and the suffix '-ment' can be added to the word 'assign' to create the word 'reassignment'.
- 9b. untidy – untidier, untidiness, untidily  
active – activeness, actively