

Vocabulary Practice 5: Suffixes

Suffixes: -ant, -ar, -er, -ist, -or

A **suffix** is a word part that is added to the end of a base word. A suffix changes the meaning of a word.

The suffix **-or** means "one who." Adding **-or** to the base word *act*, meaning "perform," makes *actor*, which means "one who acts." The suffixes **-ant**, **-ar**, **-er**, and **-ist** also mean "one who does, makes, or is concerned with."

A. Write the base word and suffix for each word. Some words require a spelling change. Then, write the number of the description that belongs with each word. The first one is an example.

	Base Word and Suffix	Description Matches	Description
1. activist	active and -ist	5	1. writes a column or article for a newspaper or magazine
2. defendant	_____	_____	2. settles differences between people
3. conductor	_____	_____	3. helps or aides another in a task or job
4. specialist	_____	_____	4. is skilled in giving powerful speeches
5. designer	_____	_____	5. takes an active role in issues or causes
6. orator	_____	_____	6. has a very specific occupation or area of learning
7. machinist	_____	_____	7. makes laws for a political area
8. employer	_____	_____	8. has been charged with an offense in a court case
9. accountant	_____	_____	9. is competing for an award
10. columnist	_____	_____	10. hires and pays wages to employees
11. legislator	_____	_____	11. has advanced study in a particular field
12. finalist	_____	_____	12. figures tax returns or business expenses
13. arbitrator	_____	_____	13. leads an orchestra or band
14. assistant	_____	_____	14. works with machinery
15. scholar	_____	_____	15. creates plans for a design or style

B. On separate paper, write five words with each suffix that means "one who."