

SUFFIXES: -al, -ive, -ish, -ic

*Suffixes are syllables added to the end of base words or roots.
Suffixes change the meaning of the base word or root.*

-al means “relating to, of or like”

- ** this suffix changes the part of speech of the word
- ** words with the suffix –al are adjectives or nouns

Example: music + al becomes musical

(adj) of or relating to music or musicians; having an interest in music
(n) a movie or play containing dialogue, singing and dancing

- ** sometimes the suffix is needed to create the word because the root cannot stand alone

Example: pedal, vocal, local

-ive means “relating to, of or like”

- ** this suffix changes the part of speech of the word
- ** words with the suffix –ive are adjectives

Example: create + ive becomes creative

(adj) having the power to create; imaginative

- ** sometimes the suffix is needed to create the word because the root cannot stand alone

Example: positive, negative, native

-ish means “quality of”

** this suffix changes the part of speech of the word

** words with the suffix –ish are adjectives or verbs

Example: boy + ish becomes boyish

(adj) like a boy

** sometimes the suffix is needed to create the word because the root cannot stand alone

Example: publish (v), furnish (v), finish (v)

-ic means “nature of, like or chemical term”

** this suffix changes the part of speech of the word

** words with the suffix –ic are adjectives or nouns

Example: rust + ic becomes rustic

(adj) pertaining to or characteristic of the country, rural, simple

** sometimes the suffix is needed to create the word because the root cannot stand alone

Example: civic, tragic, gigantic

Remember that all previous learned endings rules apply when adding these suffixes to base words or roots.