

Assessment Preparation: *Base Words/Root Words/Affixes*

Chapter One

An effective approach to deciphering unfamiliar words either in context or in an assessment situation, such as a state test when dictionaries are not available or allowed, is to break down the words into smaller parts. In order to break words into smaller parts, you must be familiar with common prefixes, suffixes and root words. For example, if you know that the "un" in the word "untrue" means "not," then you can usually make the assumption that other words with the same prefix also means "not" and can decipher the words "unoccupied," "unsubstantiated", and "unqualified," for example.

Directions: Look up the following vocabulary words from Chapter 1. For each word, find its base word, word root, and name any prefixes or suffixes, which are called affixes. Then write the definition for each word on the line provided, followed by a sentence which reflects the meaning in context. An example has been done for you.

Example: benevolent

Base Word: benevolent Root: benevolens Affix(es): none
Definition: adj.—showing kindness or goodwill
Sentence: Because of her hours of unselfish volunteer work, Gina was known as a benevolent perso

1. cynical

Base Word: _____ Root: _____ Affix(es): _____
Definition: _____
Sentence: _____

2. enmity

Base Word: _____ Root: _____ Affix(es): _____
Definition: _____
Sentence: _____

3. ensconced

Base Word: _____ Root: _____ Affix(es): _____
Definition: _____
Sentence: _____

4. lurched

Base Word: _____ Root: _____ Affix(es): _____
Definition: _____
Sentence: _____

5. regarded

Base Word: _____ Root: _____ Affix(es): _____
Definition: _____
Sentence: _____

6. scullery

Base Word: _____ Root: _____ Affix(es): _____
Definition: _____
Sentence: _____