

## Verb formation

### I. Verbs formed with suffixes

### II. Verbs formed with prefixes

#### I. Verbs formed with suffixes

Suffix	Examples
<b>-ate</b>	approximate, calibrate, evaporate, hyphenate, integrate
<b>-en</b>	broaden, harden, lengthen, quicken, soften, strengthen
<b>-ify</b>	identify, justify, modify, qualify, simplify, specify, verify
<b>-ize</b>	computerize, economize, emphasize, globalize, industrialize, magnetize, modernize, normalize, rationalize, specialize, standardize

#### Notes:

- The suffix **-ize** is also spelled **-ise**, especially in BE.
- The verbs **advertise**, **advise**, **analyse** (in AE *analyze*), **surprise** are, however, always spelled with **-s**.

#### II. Verbs formed with prefixes

Prefix	Examples
<b>co-</b>	co-author, cochair, coexist, cofound, cooperate, coproduce
<b>counter-</b>	counteract, counterbalance, countercheck, countersign
<b>de-</b>	debug, decode, decentralize, decompose, defrost, destabilize
<b>dis-</b>	disagree, disappear, disbelieve, discolour, disconnect, discover, disintegrate, dislike, disqualify
<b>em-</b>	embed, embody, empower
<b>en-</b>	enclose, encode, endanger, enlarge, enrich, entitle
<b>fore-</b>	forecast, foresee, foretell
<b>inter-</b>	interact, interchange, interconnect, interlink, international, interrelate
<b>mis-</b>	miscalculate, misinform, misinterpret, mislead, mismanage, misunderstand
<b>out-</b>	outdo, outnumber, outperform
<b>over-</b>	overdo, overestimate, overheat, overreact, overwork
<b>re-</b>	rearrange, reboot, recharge, reconsider, redo, re-elect, re-enter, re-establish, re-examine, reformulate, rewind, rewrite
<b>sub-</b>	subcontract, subdivide, sublet
<b>un-</b>	undo, unload, unpack, unplug, unscrew
<b>under-</b>	underestimate, underline, underpay

#### Notes:

- The **prefixes** usually have a **secondary, i.e. weaker stress**.  
*mislead* [ˌmɪsˈliːd]  
When in doubt, check the stress and pronunciation with a dictionary.
- Verbs formed with the **prefix co-** are **sometimes hyphenated**.

*cooperate* or *co-operate*.

- When the **prefix re-** expresses **repetition of activity**, it has a **secondary stress**. When not, it has no stress.

*re-form* [ˌri:ˈfo:m] (= form again)

*reform* [riˈfo:m] (= improve, make better)

- With the **prefix re-**, the **hyphen** is used to **prevent ambiguity of meaning** (see above) or to **indicate pronunciation**.

*re-elect* [ˌri:ˈilekt] NOT: [ri:lekt]

### Common mistakes:

- Wrong use of the **suffix –ate** (analogically with e.g. *eliminate* – *elimination*)

#### Wrong

*determinate*  
*examine*  
*simplificate*  
*modificate*

#### Right

##### Verb

*determine*  
*examine*  
*simplify*  
*modify*

##### Noun

*determination*  
*examination*  
*simplification*  
*modification*

- Use of the **suffix –alize** instead of **–ize** (Czech interference)

#### Wrong

*maximalize*  
*minimalize*  
*optimalize*

#### Right

##### Verb

*maximize*  
*minimize*  
*optimize*

##### Noun

*maximization*  
*minimization*  
*optimization*

- Use of the **suffix –ize** instead of **–ate**

#### Wrong

*automatize*

#### Right

##### Verb

*automate*

##### Noun

*automation*

- Wrong pronunciation of the **suffix –ate** used to form **verbs, adjectives, and nouns**.

#### Verbs /eɪt/

*approximate*  
*associate*  
*elaborate*  
*estimate*  
*graduate*  
*separate*

#### Adjectives /ət/

*approximate*  
*associate*  
*elaborate*  
*estimate*  
*graduate*  
*separate*

#### Nouns /ət/

-  
*associate*  
-  
-  
*graduate*  
-

## EXERCISES

### I. Complete the following table

Adjective	Noun	Verb
1. broad		
2. high		
3. long		
4. strong		
5. wide		

### II. Tick the correct pronunciation.

1. They **estimate** the damage at 1,000 dollars. /eit/ /ət/
2. The Rector's Office and the International Office are in two **separate** buildings. /eit/ /ət/
3. Dr Wilde works as an **associate** professor at MIT. /eit/ /ət/
4. Would you please **elaborate** on what you said about wind power? /eit/ /ət/
5. The cost of the new laboratory equipment will **approximate** CZK 100,000. /eit/ /ət/
6. John is a **graduate** of Oxford University. /eit/ /ət/
7. People often **associate** products imported from the West with high quality, which is not always true. /eit/ /ət/
8. They **separate** recyclable waste from non-recyclable. /eit/ /ət/
9. Our quality evaluation system is very **elaborate**. /eit/ /ət/
10. What is your **estimate** of the damage? /eit/ /ət/
11. In which year did you **graduate**? /eit/ /ət/
12. What is the **approximate** number of students specializing in power electronics? /eit/ /ət/

### III. Complete the sentences with the right forms of the verbs below.

debug	cochair	embed	misinterpret	emphasize
disagree	outnumber	outdo	subcontract	counterbalance
misunderstand	underestimate	evaporate	recharge	qualify
overdo	interact	reconsider		

1. This conclusion is rather strange; the results must have been .....
2. In engineering, men greatly ..... women.
3. .... temperature detectors are thermocouples built into a machine in order to ascertain the temperature of a part which is inaccessible under working conditions.
4. Students who spend a part of their studies at a foreign university often lose a semester because their study abroad is not recognized by their home faculty. This loss is, however, ..... by the experience they gain.
5. Dr Novák from the University of West Bohemia and Professor Kinsey from Brunel

- University will ..... the afternoon session.
6. Don't ..... the time it takes to write the report. There's not much time left – the deadline is next Wednesday.
  7. They ..... over the interpretation of the data.
  8. They did the experiment to find out how these two chemicals .....
  9. After the rainfall, water in the streets ..... quickly in the bright sunshine.
  10. The management ..... the need to improve the safety measures.
  11. In learning languages, women often ..... men.
  12. My mobile battery is flat. I'll have to ..... it.
  13. A Master's degree in Engineering, good English language and computer skills ..... you for work with this company.
  14. It took a lot of time to ..... the program.
  15. A big company often ..... some of its work to smaller companies.
  16. Some economists believe that worries about our economy are .....; in comparison with some other countries it is in relatively good shape.
  17. I'm afraid I ..... your message; I thought we were to meet in my office, not in yours.
  18. Do you think that my application will be ..... ?

**IV. Complete the sentences. Make sure that you understand them, because the context will help you make the right choice. Use verbs formed with prefixes and suffixes listed in the tables at the beginning of this section. Try to do the exercise without looking at the lists.**

1. What's done can't be .....
2. I'm not surprised by this recession. I ..... it.
3. The paper has five sections. Each section is ..... into several parts.
4. This procedure is too complex. It will have to be .....
5. PhD students often complain that they are ..... and .....
6. To prevent any accidents, it is safer not only to switch off the device but also to ..... it.
7. The generation gap has ..... in the last decade.
8. Your paper is too long; you'll have to ..... it.
9. The grant has been badly ..... They may have to pay back some of the money they had received.
10. As he didn't pay the bill, his phone was .....
11. Searching for a book in the University library is very easy now, because all its services have been .....
12. Today, school-leavers often spend a year travelling before they go to university, because they want to ..... their horizons.
13. Messages are ..... for greater security. That means that unauthorized people cannot ..... them.
14. Deforestation and expansion of farmland are ..... wildlife, especially in Africa and South America.
15. He has simply ..... his abilities; he should not have taken the course in advanced mathematics.
16. Your definition of the problem is rather difficult to understand. Could you .....

it?

17. The circuits are ..... with each other and the mains.

**V. Translate**

1. Navrhovaná reforma vysokého školství zvýšila napětí mezi akademickou obcí a ministrem.  
.....

2. Vedoucí naší katedry chce posílit vztahy se Škoda Transportation.  
.....

3. Než koupíme nábytek, musíme změřit délku a šířku kanceláře.  
.....

4. V některých případech bylo bakalářské studium prodlouženo ze tří na čtyři roky.  
.....