

Pip's Phonics Power: Mastering Suffixes

Learning objective: To understand and apply the rules for adding the suffixes -ation, -ly, and -ous to root words.

Read the information about Pip the bookworm's word collection below. Use the rules to help you complete the tasks. Remember to check your spellings carefully!

Pip the bookworm loves collecting words! Pip has discovered that adding a suffix to the end of a root word can change its meaning. For example, adding '-ly' to 'happy' makes 'happily'. If a word ends in a consonant and a 'y', we often change the 'y' to an 'i' before adding the suffix. When adding '-ous' to 'courage', we simply drop the 'e' and add '-ous'. Keep an eye out for these patterns in your writing today!

Word bank: information · happily · courageous · admiration · slowly · poisonous · hesitation · brightly

1. Pip wants to turn the word 'hesitate' into a noun. Which suffix should Pip add to the end to make it 'hesitation'? (2 marks)

2. Look at the word 'slowly'. Identify the root word and explain what the suffix '-ly' tells us about how an action is performed. (2 marks)

3. If you add the suffix '-ous' to the root word 'danger', what is the correct spelling of the new word? (2 marks)

4. Change the word 'angry' into an adverb by adding '-ly'. Remember the rule about the letter 'y'! (2 marks)

5. Write a sentence using the word 'courageous' to describe a hero in one of your favourite stories. (2 marks)

Draw: Draw a picture of Pip the bookworm sitting on a giant mushroom, surrounded by floating bubbles that each contain a different word ending in -ation, -ly, or -ous.



Extension challenge: Can you find three words in your current reading book that end in a suffix? Write them down and identify the root word for each one.