

List of Suffixes and their Influence on Word Stress

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Suffixes that will attract the stress on the Last Syllable /-1/

→ the last syllable is always stressed (except for the exceptions)

Suffix	-ade	-aire	-ee	-eer	-ese	-ette	-oo	-que	-sce	-oon
Examples	arcADE balusTRADE blockADE brigADE cascADE crusADE parADE serenADE	astAIRE doctrinAIRE legionnAIRE millionAIRE questionnAIRE solitAIRE	absentEE addressEE adoptEE advisee referEE refugee	mountainEER auctionEER commandEER enginEER marketEER voluntEER	BurmESE ChinESE JapanESE JournalESE LebanESE PortuguESE VietnamESE	cigarETTE cassETTE silhouETTE gazETTE etiquETTE brunETTE roulette kitchnETTE	bambOO kangarOO shampOO tattOO	antIQUE arabESQUE burLESQUE opAQUE grotESQUE picturESQUE romanESQUE unIQUE	acquiESCE convalESCE reminISCE	afterNOON balLOON carTOON saLOON laGOON coCOON monSOON tyPHOON
Exceptions	Accolade DEcade MARmalade REnegade		comMIttee COffee TOffee YANkee JUbilee PEdigree	REINdeer	MANganese	Omelette PAlette	Igloo			

Suffixes that will attract the stress to the syllable just before the last one /-10/

→ the syllable before the last one is always stressed (except for the exceptions)

Suffix	-ia	-ial	-ible	-ic(s)	-ian	-ient	-ious	-ish
Examples	MEDIA vicTORia criTERia multiMEdia deMENTia bacTERia miLItia nosTALgia leuKAEmia schizoPHREnia pneuMONia	SOcial maTERial SPEcial offICIAL potENTIAL esSENTial resiDENTIAL presiDENTIAL influENTIAL diffeREntial confiDENTIAL seQUENTIAL prefeREntial expoNENTIAL	POSSible resPONSible imPOSSible TERRible VISible SENSible FLEXible HORrible acCESSible inVISible eLigible inCREdible compATible PLAUsible FEASible susCEPTible conVERTible	characteRISTics staTISTics ecoNOMics CRITics GRAphics matheMATics PHYSics rePUBlic TOPic elecTRONics meCHANics	poliTician muSician phySician techNICian mathemaTICian elecTRician maGIcian cliNICian statisTician paTRician opTician obsteTRician theoreTician	PATient suffICIENT effICIENT ANcient inGREDIENT conVENient reCIpient insuffICIENT GRADient coeffICIENT NUtrient Orient imPATient outPATient inconVENient	VARious SERious PREvious Obvious reLigious Curious CONScious Anxious PREcious ambITious susPICious unCONScious Furious mystERious	ENGLISH esTABlish FINish PUBlish PARish disTINGuish RUBbish POLish aBOLish diMINish VANish FLOURish PUNish acCOMplish FURNish
Exceptions			Eligible, Egligible, inCORrigible, inTElligible	Politics, Arabic, CATHolic, LUNatic RHEtoric,				

Suffix	-osis	-sion	-tion
Examples	diagNOSis fiBROSis tubercuLOSis progNOSis hypNOSis osMOSis	deCIssion comMIssion proVIsion diVIsion teleVIsion disCUssion VERsion ocCAsion conCLUssion SESSion exPRESsion imPRESsion PENSion	informATIion educATIion situATIion populATIion applicATIion operATIion associATIion organizATIion legislATIion administrATIion conversATIion

Suffixes that will attract the stress to the syllable on the third last /-100/

→ the thirds syllable counting from the end of the word is always stressed (except for the exceptions)

Suffix	-ate	-cy	-eous ¹	-ical	-ify	-inal	-itive	-ity
Examples	(for words of 3 or more syllables) INdicate Operate SEparate apPRoPriaTe CANdidaTe ESTimate asSOciate CONcentrate DEmonstrate inVESTigate GEnerate ILLustrate apPREciate	Policy Agency deMOcracy eMERgency CURrency effICIency TENdency FREquency PREgnancy acCUracy reDUNdancy buREAUcracy conSPIracy LEgacy	spontANEous ouTRAGEous simulTANEous GORGeous homoGENeous advanTAgeous couRAgeous HIDEous heteroGENeous COURTeous miscelLANEous instanTANEous RIGHTeous	poLitical PHYSical MEDical PRACTical CHEMical TECHnical CRITical hisTORical RADical TYpical CLASsical MUSical theoREtical CLInical eLECTrical	iDENTify JUSTify SPEcify QUALify MODify CLARify CLASsify NOTify SIGNify SIMPLify inTENSify TESTify VERify	oRiginal CRIminal TERminal MARginal CARdinal NOMinal inTESTinal abDOMinal gastroinTESTinal meDICinal longiTUDinal VAginal aboRiginal SEMinal Urinal	POsitive comPETitive SENSitive PRImitive inFINitive COGNitive deFINitive rePETitive inTUitive FUGitive ADditive PUnitive inSENSitive inQUisitive TRANsitive	comMUnity auTHOrity uniVERsity QUALity acTivity seCUrity opporTUnity responsiBility maJORity aBility possiBility reAlity capAcity
Exceptions		PREsidency constITUency						

Suffix	-ize	-phy	-ogy
Examples	REalize REcognize ORganize EMphasize CRIticize chaRACterize SUMmarize MInimize aPOlogize AUthorize SPEcialize MAximize MODernize PRIVatize	geOgraphy phiLOsophy biOgraphy phoTOgraphy bibliOgraphy autobiOgraphy porNOgraphy toPOgraphy ethNOgraphy calLIgraphy choreOgraphy icoNOgraphy chromaTOgraphy tyPOgraphy	techNOlogy STRAtegy psyCHOlogy ideOlogy sociOlogy theOlogy biOlogy methoDOlogy aNAlOlogy aPOlogy termiNOlogy geOlogy anthroPOlogy
Exceptions			

¹ -eous can be pronounced in 2 syllables [i.əs] as in *spontaneous* or in 1 syllable [əs] as in *outrageous*. The stress always falls on the syllable before -eous.

Suffixes that do not affect stress patterns

The following suffixes do not influence the placement of the word stress:

- al
- ally
- ess
- ful
- ish
- less
- ly
- hood
- ship

Suffix	-al	-ally	-ess	-less	-hood
Examples	PERson → PERsonal fiNANce → fiNANcial	ACTual → ACTually eVENT → eVENTually	aWARE → aWAREness HAppy → HAppiness	reGARD → reGARDless MEANing → MEANingless	BROther → BROtherhood Likely → Likelyhood

Similarly, grammatical suffixes (-ed, -s, -es, -ing, -en, -est,) do not influence the placement of the word stress.