

# **BASES AND AFFIXES**

## **(BASES)**

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# BASES

- A base morpheme is the part of the word that has the principal meaning.
- Most of bases are free morphemes, but some are bound. A word may contain one base and several affixes.
- Enlighten ..... light (free base)
- Darkness.....dark (free base)
- writings.....writing (free base)
- Gracefully .....grace (free base)

- A bound base: is a base which has the principal meaning of the word, but it cannot be uttered alone as a word in English as they come mostly from other languages like Latin and Greek.
- Reject..... ject (bound base) .....re ( bound morpheme (affix))
- Intervene..... vene (bound base).....inter ( bound morpheme (affix))
- Aquatic ..... aqua (bound base).....tic ( bound morpheme (affix))
- Comprehend..... prehend (bound base)..... com ( bound morpheme (affix))
- Polygamy.....gamy (bound base)..... poly ( bound morpheme (affix))

**Note/** you can find the meaning of bound bases in the exercises 8.5 and 8.6 . They are very important.

**Note:** some words contain more than one base.

- biology ..... bio + logy (two bound bases)
- bibliophile..... biblio+ phile (two bound bases)
- geography ..... geo + graphy (two bound bases)
- notebook..... note+ book (two free bases)
- fireman..... fire+ man (two free bases)

