

Word Roots, Prefixes, and Suffixes

The authors of “Daydream Believers,” Jennifer Huntington and Andy Falender, want readers to have *respect*—and a *vision*—for wilderness areas.

Both *respect* and *vision* contain word roots that have to do with seeing. A **word root** contains the main meaning of a word, but it can’t stand on its own. Many words are made by adding prefixes, suffixes, or both to word roots. A **prefix** is a word part added to the beginning of a word or word root. A **suffix** is a word part added to the end of a word or word root. Prefixes and suffixes add their own meanings to words.

respect = *re-* (“back; again”) + *spect* (“look at; watch”)

visible = *vis* (“see”) = *-ible* (“can be”)

Here are some more prefixes and suffixes that can be added to *spect* or *vis* to make words.

Prefix	Suffix	Some Common Meanings
<i>in-</i>		in; not
<i>pro-</i>		forward
<i>super-</i>		above, beyond, over
	<i>-ion</i>	state or condition (of); action or process (of)
	<i>-or</i>	one that performs a certain action

Complete each sentence with a word made by adding a prefix, a suffix, or both to the word root in parentheses. Use the prefixes and suffixes in the box above, and use each just once. You may refer to a dictionary.

1. In glaring sunlight, a cap with a _____ comes in handy. (*vis*)
2. A mechanic will _____ the engine to determine the problem. (*spect*)
3. All afternoon, we enjoyed the _____ of an evening feast. (*spect*)
4. Children are not allowed here without adult _____. (*vis*)

Challenge

In a dictionary, find six more words that contain the word root *spect* or *vis*. Check the word history given in the dictionary entry to be sure that word contains the word root *spect* or *vis*. Then write a sentence using the word.