

Name: _____

Latin and Greek Suffixes -ism and -eer

Many suffixes we use in English originally come from Greek or Latin word endings. The suffix -ism is from Greek meaning “characteristic,” “condition” or “process.” The suffix -eer is from Latin meaning “one engaged in or with.” Suffixes often change the meaning of the root word. For example, the word mountain means “a tall steep hill.” Combine mountain with -eer, and it becomes the word mountaineer. Based on its original meaning, mountaineer means “one who engaged with a mountain” or a person who climbs mountains.

Use the list in the bank to make five different English words out of -ism and -eer. You may add a prefix or change the spelling a little if needed. And write a sentence for each word you make and circle the word you made with the suffix. Be sure to use words for both -ism and -eer.

Word Bank

1. Sentences:

2.

3.

4.

5.

Answers key

Actual answers may vary.

1. Student's choice

2.

3.

4.

5.