

Polysyllabic words activity



All the words in this activity have three parts to them. Multiple words can be made using different parts in different order.

I have used this with L1 and L2 learners and they love it. I let them work in groups – no more than 5, otherwise it gets a bit too busy and confusing.

You may need to have pre-taught some common prefixes and suffixes and rules; how prefixes never change the spelling of the root word they join, etc.

Explain to the learners that the words they will be asked to make all have three syllables or parts and that the same parts may be used in more than one word. Give an example of, say, *protection* and *production*.

Place the word parts at random on a table and let the learners mix and match the parts to form words. Once words have been formed, move them to a separate part of the table.

The lesson can be further developed to reinforce some spelling rules for learners on some of the antonym prefixes: for example **IM** going before words that start with either M or P; **IL** going before words that start with L; **-CIAN** is used as the prefix for professions or skills.

Polysyllabic words activity



im	prove
ment	im
port	ant
at	tach
ment	dis
hon	est
poi	son
ous	im

Polysyllabic words activity



pri	son
ad	vert
ise	cho
col	ate
po	ta
to	to
ma	to
ref	er

Polysyllabic words activity



ee	en
gag	ed
part	icu
lar	com
ed	ian
mag	ic
ian	tre
mend	ous

Polysyllabic words activity



dis	app
oint	lem
on	ade
pro	tec
tion	mo
tor	way
de	liv
er	tele

Polysyllabic words activity



ph	one
all	oca
tion	sim
pli	fy
en	er
gy	ass
ess	ment
ass	ign

Polysyllabic words activity



ment	am
use	ment
poss	ib
ly	pro
duc	tion
bus	in
ess	con
di	tion

Polysyllabic words activity



spec	tacu
lar	im
press	ive
dis	cov
er	in
fec	tion
ro	man
tic	sac

Polysyllabic words activity



rif	ice
hap	pin
ess	emb
arr	ass
dis	ast
er	un
pleas	ant
und	er

Polysyllabic words activity



neath	ex
act	ly
myst	er
ious	de
lic	ate
de	lic
ious	per
cent	age

Polysyllabic words activity



dis	app
ear	auto
ma	tion
mea	sure
ment	av
er	age

Sample answers

Name _____ Date _____



im prove ment	com ed ian	con di tion	per cent age
im port ant	mag ic ian	im press ive	dis app ear
at tach ment	tre mend ous	dis cov er	auto ma tion
dis hon est	dis app oint	in fec tion	mea sure ment
poi son ous	lem on ade	ro man tic	av er age
im pri son	mo tor way	sac rif ice	
ad vert ise	de liv er	emb arr ass	gar den er
cho col ate	tele ph one	hap pin ess	de lic ate
po ta to	all oca tion	dis ast er	bus in ess
to ma to	sim pli fy	un pleas ant	am use ment
ref er ee	en er gy	und er neath	spec tacu lar
en gag ed	ass ess ment	ex act ly	pro tec tion
part icu lar	poss ib ly	myst er ious	
ass ign ment	pro duc tion	de lic ious	