

Lesson 1

A **suffix** is an ending added to a root to change the meaning slightly.
-ness and *-less* are suffixes

Circle the endings and write the syllables in the squares.

1.	kindness		<u>k</u> <u>i</u> <u>n</u> <u>d</u>	<u>n</u> <u>e</u> <u>s</u> <u>s</u>	2
2.	thankfulness	_ _ _ _ _	_ _ _	_ _ _ _ _	
3.	bottomless	_ _ _	_ _ _	_ _ _ _ _	
4.	wilderness	_ _ _	_ _ _	_ _ _ _ _	
5.	regardless	_ _	_ _ _ _ _	_ _ _ _ _	
6.	foolishness	_ _ _ _ _	_ _ _	_ _ _ _ _	
7.	helpfulness	_ _ _ _ _	_ _ _	_ _ _ _ _	

Now count the syllables in each word and write the number in the margin.
 (Tap the desk to help yourself hear the syllables.)

Unscramble the syllables to make a word that fits the meaning.

a feeling of being
alone too much = ness
li
lone > loneliness

Remember: *i* before many endings says /ē/ or is short, even though
it ends the syllable.

1. having no bottom = tom
bot
less >

2. an act of assisting
or being helpful = ful
help
ness >

3. something foolish = ness
sil
li >

4. having no power = less
pow
er >

5. refusing to change
one's mind = born
stub
ness >

6. a large, wild area where
no people live = wil
ness
der >

7. not worth much = ue
val
less >

Circle the roots and complete the sentence with the word.

stubborn
stubbornness

Tracy is a very stubborn girl. Her stubbornness often gets her into trouble.

Note: When the root ends in e, it usually drops the e if the suffix begins with a vowel (*strange* + *er* = *stranger*.) When the root ends in y, the y changes to *i* when you add a suffix (*gloomy* + *ness* = *gloominess*.)

1.

stranger	There was a _____ about the old
strangeness	house that made even a _____ shiver.
2.

polite	_____ is something that teachers
politeness	like. If you are _____, they will often
	praise you.
3.

noise	A buzzing fly makes a lot of _____.
noiseless	Someone would develop a _____ fly.
4.

value	Many people put great _____
valueless	on their cars. I have an old rusted car that is
	_____, but I love it anyway.
5.

slippery	The _____ of the icy sidewalks
slipperiness	made it too _____ to walk without boots.
6.

gloomy	The _____ of the day began to
gloominess	affect us all. Why can't the sun shine on such a
	_____ day?
7.

reckless	Eric was a very _____ bike rider.
recklessness	His _____ caused him to smash into his
	mother's parked car.

Find the word that means the opposite of the given word and write it in the boxes.

A word that means the opposite is called an **antonym**.

weightless
rudeness
hopeless

kindness
careless
fearless

smoothness
helpfulness
emptiness

1.

Roughness:

s m o o t h n e s s

2.

Cruelty:

□ □ □ □ □ □ □ □

3.

Careful:

□ □ □ □ □ □ □ □

4.

Politeness:

□ □ □ □ □ □ □ □

5.

Heavy:

□ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □

6.

Fullness:

□ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □

7.

Afraid:

□ □ □ □ □ □ □ □

Circle the correct word below.

Look at the suffix *-less* and think about the words we have used with this suffix. A sleeveless dress is one _____ sleeves. You now know that the suffix *-less* means “_____.” *-ness* means “a state of being”; for example, *happiness* means “being happy.”

1. When you have been home alone for a long time, will you feel a sense of

loneliness

 or largeness?
2. When you cannot change something that has happened and you wish you could, might you feel

powerless or politeness?
3. It is a splendid day with sun and blue sky. Would you describe the day as

countless or cloudless?
4. When you taste a piece of lemon and it makes you wrinkle your nose, is it



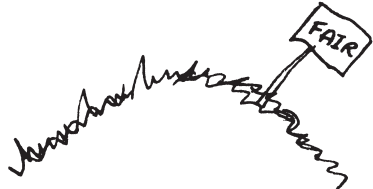
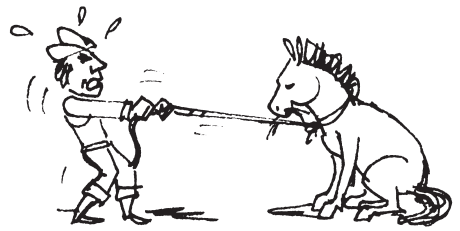
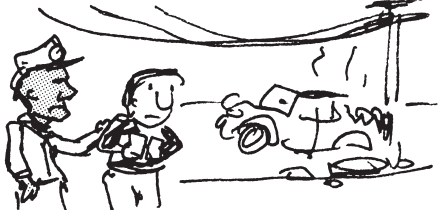


the sourness or the snugness?
5. On a windy, stormy night a huge tree blew down near your house but nothing was hurt. Do you have a feeling of

thanklessness or thankfulness?
6. It has rained all week and even the towels and the sheets on your bed feel wet. Is what you feel in the air

deafness or dampness?
7. The dog and cat get into a fight and tip over Mom’s best vase, smashing it to bits. Mom is angry when she gets home. Are you

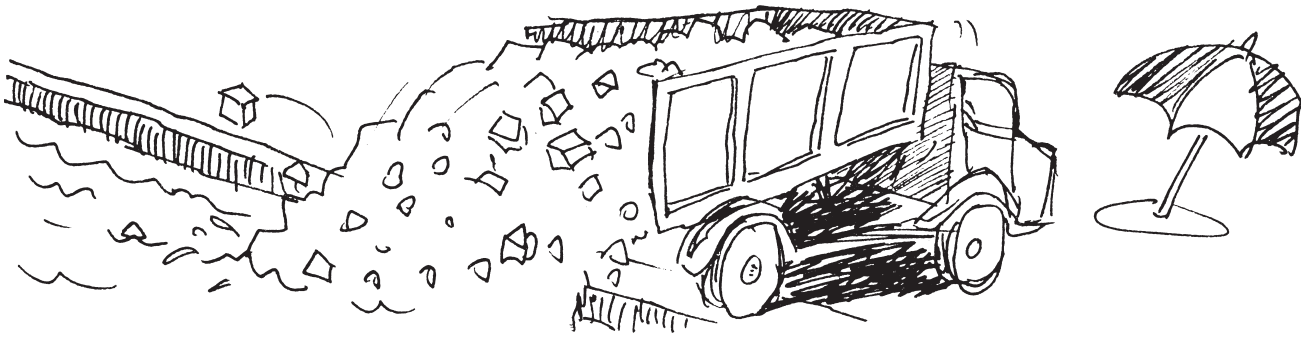
blameless or softness?

Put an X after the headline that matches each picture.

1.	<p>Mouse Powerless with Cat <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Dog's Politeness Wins Cat <input type="checkbox"/></p>	
2.	<p>Brainless Idea Helps Humankind <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Brightness Of Moon Unusual Tonight <input type="checkbox"/></p>	
3.	<p>Glassy Ice Cream Wins for Smoothness <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Grassy Hill Chosen for Festival <input type="checkbox"/></p>	
4.	<p>Stubbornness of Mule—Can't Be Budged <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Steepness of Road Makes for a Hard Race <input type="checkbox"/></p>	
5.	<p>Reckless Driver Stopped for Speeding <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Reckless Tail Sweeps Table Top <input type="checkbox"/></p>	
6.	<p>Pete Powerless to Stop Earthquake <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Helpfulness of Pet Aids Child <input type="checkbox"/></p>	
7.	<p>Kindness to Others Is Rewarded <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Carelessness Results in Lost Bracelet <input type="checkbox"/></p>	

Yes or no?

1.	Is it foolishness to help a friend?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
2.	If your full cup is bottomless, will you ever be thirsty?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3.	Can you get holes in the elbows of a sleeveless sweater?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4.	Is the wilderness slowly being destroyed by humans?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5.	When you help your friend do her homework, is it kindness?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6.	If you never thanked your sister, would she praise your politeness?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7.	Is it careless to leave your new bike in the middle of the driveway?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>



Rena's Cool Idea

It was a hot, cloudless day in July. Dampness hung in the air. The flies buzzed slowly.

It was very humid and too hot to move. Even swimming in the pool was foolishness because the water was so warm.

Everyone felt listless—but not Rena! She picked up the phone and said, “I want to order one truckload, please.”

Her friend Tess laughed, but soon, Rena's silliness turned to cleverness. A truck arrived and dumped five hundred pounds of ice in the pool!

“Thanks for your kindness, Cousin Gene,” said Rena.

“Maybe I'll take a swim, too,” said her cousin. “After all, what good is having an ice company if you can't enjoy the coolness?”

1. Circle all the words that end with the suffix *-ness* or *-less*.
2. Underline the words that tell why this day was so bad.
3. When you have a problem like Rena's and you don't know how to solve it, you feel h _ _ _ less.
4. Would you praise Rena for her rudeness or her smartness? (Circle one.)
5. If you had been Rena, what would you have done? (Circle one.)
 - a. Blamed the weather forecaster for not warning you?
 - b. Rung the fire alarm to let your friends know about the burning heat?
 - c. Rubbed your skin with frozen ice cream cones?
 - d. Other _____