

Lesson 9—Roots and Suffixes

Root	Meaning	Suffix	Meaning
medi	half, middle, halfway between	-an	like, related to
		-ate	to make, to act; one who, that which
		at-or	one who, that which
		-um	of or belonging to



Activity A

Underline the suffixes and circle the roots in the choice box below. Then write the correct word for each definition.

.....
: mediate medium median mediator :
.....

1. To act or come between opposing sides to solve a problem: _____
2. One who acts between opposing sides to solve a problem: _____
3. Of a middle size, amount, or quality; not large nor small: _____
4. Something that is related to or in the middle: _____



The word *mediocre* is from two roots: **medi** and **ocris** (stony mountain). It originally meant going only halfway up the mountain. The use of this word has evolved over time to mean something done half as good as is possible. This is an excellent example of word etymology.