

CLAS 101: Prefixes and Suffixes (pgs. 29-36 and 49-63)

Key Terms:

- Verb: the word which does the action of the sentence; “Julius **sees** the dog”
- Noun: a person, place, thing, concept or idea; “**Julius** sees the **dog**”
- Adjective: a word which *describes* a noun; “Julius sees the **happy** dog”

- Noun Forming Suffix (**NFS**)
 - general noun
 - abstract noun (“Liberty”, “Equality”)
 - agent noun (“one who...”, “Doctor”, “Actor”, “Communist”)
 - diminutive noun (“a little...”, “Molecule”, “Particle”, “Granola”)
- Adjective Forming Suffix (**AFS**)
- Verb Forming Suffix (**VFS**)

Prefixes come *before* the base(s) and *expand* the base’s original meaning

- Pend- “hang”
- De+pend- “hang down, away from”
 - The basic meaning is still “hang”, “de-” adds more detail

Suffixes come *after* the base(s) and change *how the word is used in the sentence*

- “Strategy” (base: strateg-, from the Greek word *strategos* meaning “military general”) uses the *abstract noun forming suffix* “-y”
- This means you can use the word as an *abstract noun*: e.g. “Alexander was a master of strategy.”
- If the *adjective forming suffix* “-ic” is instead added to the base to get “strategic”, the word can now be used as an adjective: e.g. “Alexander was a strategic genius”.