

Read the introductory comments below, and write out answers to the questions that follow:

There are two common ways to categorize the way that derivational morphemes combine to form new words.

### ***Bound vs. Free Morphemes***

A bound morpheme cannot stand alone as an English word. It includes many prefixes and suffixes like *-ity* in *cordiality*.

A free morpheme can stand alone, as illustrated in *cordial* and both halves of *over-take* and *cook-book*. When two free morphemes combine, like *cookbook*, it gives a compound word.

### ***Base and Affix***

This distinction is similar to the one above except that a base does not need to have independent status as a word. An affix is either a prefix or a suffix. Examples from class included the consistent element in a sequence like **refer, defer, infer, prefer**.

**Question 1:** Would you add "**offer**" to that list? Why or why not? Does etymology decide?

### **Question 2:**

Consider the following list: **inflect, deflect, reflect, genuflect**

How would you divide them into bound and free morphemes? Into base and affix?

**Question 3:** Break down each of the following words into as many of the four categories as apply (bound, free, base, affix) and write them in the appropriate cell in the table below. Refer to this table for questions 4-7 below.

	<b>bound</b>	<b>free</b>	<b>base</b>	<b>affix</b>
jumped				
insight				
intuits				
discrete				
cineplex				

**Question 4:** Can a bound morpheme be a base?

**Question 5:** Can a bound morpheme be an affix? Must it be?

**Question 6:** Can a free morpheme be a base? Must it be?

**Question 7:** Can a free morpheme be an affix?

To test your conclusions, try to think of counterexamples.