

Vocabulary

Grade 4 Unit 4: American Revolution: Building a Nation



Common Suffixes

Introduction: Common Suffixes



A **suffix** is a syllable placed after a *root word*.
Suffixes change the meaning of the root word and the part of speech.

When adding the suffixes below to nouns and verbs the words become adjectives.

-ible

-able

-ible and **-able** both mean *able to*.

Let's practice with the word *enjoy*

Adding **-able** creates the word **enjoyable**.

The suffix changes the verb to an adjective.

enjoy: to take pleasure in doing or experiencing

enjoyable: able to take pleasure in; able to enjoy

Let's Try It Together!



Let's look at this root word:

collect

Add the suffix **-ible** to it. Turn to a partner and whisper what the new word will be with the suffix added.

The new word is **collectible**.

Raise one finger if you think **collectible** is a verb.

Raise five fingers if you think **collectible** is an adjective.

Adding **-ible** changes the meaning and part of speech.

collect means to gather (verb).

collectible means worthy of being collected (adjective).

Let's try one more using the following root word

predict

Add the suffix **-able** to it. Turn to a partner and whisper what the new word will be with the suffix added.

The new word is **predictable**.

Raise your hand if you think adding **-able** changes the meaning and part of speech.

Adding **-able** does change the meaning and part of speech.

predict means to know in advance (verb).

predict**able** means able to be known in advance (adjective).

Now try one by yourself!



Add the suffix **-able** to the root word *comfort*.

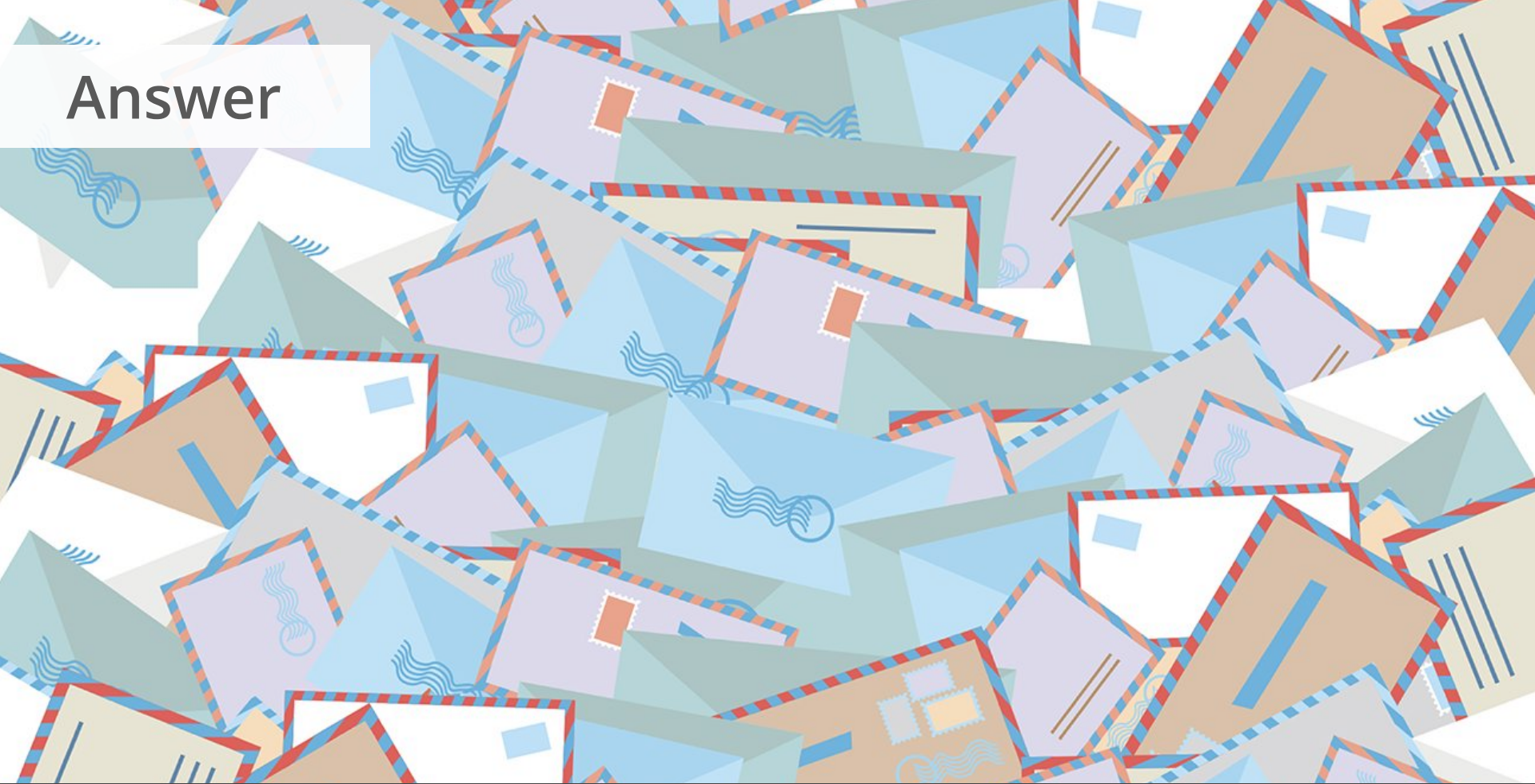
Add the suffix **-ible** to the root word *access*.

How does the meaning and part of speech change?

Adding the suffixes, write down the two new words.

Write down the meaning and part of speech of both new words.

Answer



Comfortable: able to feel relaxed or without pain
(adjective)

Accessible: able to enter or get near;
able to use or get something
(adjective)