

Lesson 19

The suffixes *able* and *ible*

Teaching

- adapt + able = adaptable
- avail + able = available
- attain + able = attainable
- agree + able = agreeable
- regret + able = regrettable
- forget + able = forgettable
- control + able = controllable

- vis + ible = visible
- aud + ible = audible
- leg + ible = legible
- ed + ible = edible
- poss + ible = possible
- cred + ible = credible
- tang + ible = tangible

- adore + able = adorable
- advise + able = advisable
- excite + able = excitable
- notice + able = noticeable
- change + able = changeable
- manage + able = manageable

Lesson Generalization: The suffix **able** means "able to be." It is commonly added to complete words to form adjectives. When **able** is added to words that end in **ce** or **ge**, the **e** must be kept to protect the soft sound of **c** or **g**.

The suffix **ible** is more commonly added to roots than to complete words. The **i** in **ible** gives the letter **g** a soft sound: **legible**, **tangible**.

Hint: Many words that begin with **a** use the suffix that begins with **a**.

A.

1. When **able** is added to words ending in **ce** or **ge**, the **e** must be kept to protect the soft sound of _____ or _____. Write the words to which this rule applies.

2. The suffix **able** is most often added to complete words. Write the spelling words, excluding those you wrote above, that end in **able**.

3. The suffix **ible** is most often added to roots. Write the spelling words that end in **ible**.

B. On a separate sheet of paper, create a word search puzzle using all of the spelling words. Trade puzzles with a partner. Circle the spelling words in your partner's puzzle.

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More Practice

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|----------------|-----------------|----------------|--------------|
| 1. adaptable | 6. forgettable | 11. noticeable | 16. legible |
| 2. available | 7. controllable | 12. changeable | 17. edible |
| 3. attainable | 8. adorable | 13. manageable | 18. possible |
| 4. agreeable | 9. advisable | 14. visible | 19. credible |
| 5. regrettable | 10. excitable | 15. audible | 20. tangible |

A. Unscramble the letters and write the spelling words. First find and circle the **able** or **ible** endings. They are not scrambled.

- | | |
|----------------------|------------------------|
| 1. sibleiv _____ | 11. ganaableme _____ |
| 2. cixeablet _____ | 12. eableearg _____ |
| 3. ableroda _____ | 13. icenotable _____ |
| 4. ptaaabled _____ | 14. deible _____ |
| 5. ssibleop _____ | 15. lableltornoc _____ |
| 6. vableaia _____ | 16. hagablecen _____ |
| 7. gnatible _____ | 17. dreiblec _____ |
| 8. tablegreert _____ | 18. tatableain _____ |
| 9. sadvablei _____ | 19. torfeablègt _____ |
| 10. ibledua _____ | 20. iblegle _____ |

B. On a separate sheet of paper, answer each question with a complete sentence that uses an **ible** spelling word.

1. Was the handwriting in the old letter still able to be read?
2. Does Paul's story about his adventure seem believable to you?
3. Could the plant cells be seen without a microscope?
4. Is the leftover food still fit to be eaten?
5. Can the actor's voice be heard throughout the theater?
6. Did the explorers discover physical evidence of the lost city?
7. Is an earthquake capable of happening in your state?