

OBJECTIVES

After completing CH 1, you will be able to:

1. Recognize prefixes, suffixes, word roots, and combining forms.
2. Demonstrate understanding of the rules for combining word parts to write medical terms correctly.
3. Identify and distinguish abbreviations from eponyms.
4. Use the rules learned in this chapter to write the singular or plural forms of medical terms.
5. Demonstrate understanding of primary accent used in pronunciation.

MAJOR SECTIONS:

- 1 Simplifying Medical Terms p. 1-2
- 2 Writing is Key p. 2
- 3 Word Parts p. 2 - 5
- 4 Combining Word Parts to Write Terms p. 5 - 7
- 5 Proper Names are Special p. 8
- 6 Abbreviations and Pharmacology p. 8 - 9
- 7 Plurals p. 9-10
- 8 Pronunciation of Medical Terms p. 11
- 9 Career Highlight
- 10 **Self-Test** p. 12-14

CH 1

Section 1 Simplifying Medical Terms

p. 1 -2

Latin and Greek are major sources of medical terms. “Medical words look like Greek to me!”

Chapters 1-5 explain **word building** teaching how to divide words into their component parts.

Chapters 1-5 are the foundation from which speaking, reading, and writing medical terms will be taught.

Correct spelling is essential. One letter difference in a term may have an entirely different meaning!

Correct spelling can also help with pronunciation.

Writing also helps you to learn faster than simply reading. A variety of written exercises are provided.

Example: ilium = pelvic bone

ileum = part of the small intestine

Word roots, combining forms, prefixes, and suffixes are **word parts**.

The **word root** is the main body of the word.

Word roots are the building blocks for many terms.

Compound words are composed of two word roots.

Example: eye and lid = eyelid collar and bone = collarbone

A **combining form** is recognized as a word part that ends in an enclosed vowel, called the **combining vowel**.

Example: speed / o = speed cephal / o = head chir / o = hand

Sometimes, two word roots have the same meaning.

Example: neph- ren- = kidney

General rule:

Latin roots are used to write words naming and describing structures of the body. [Table 1-1 p. 3]

Greek roots are used to write words naming and describing diseases, conditions, diagnosis, and treatment. [Table 1-2 p.4]

A **prefix** is a word part that is placed before a word root to modify its meaning. When written alone, a prefix is followed by a hyphen. Example: peri- an- sub-

A **suffix** is attached to the end of a word or word part to modify its meaning. A suffix written alone is usually preceded by a hyphen indicating that another word part precedes it. Example: -itis -pnea -logy

WORD DIVISION is used frequently throughout to help with recognition of parts used to build a term. For example, appendicitis may be written as appendic + it is to emphasize its two component parts.

Exercise 1 **WRITE IT!**

Exercise 2 **MATCH IT!**

Exercise 3 **WRITE IT!**

Exercise 4 **WRITE IT!**

(answers on page 405)

Word-Building Rules

Joining **Combining Forms**

The combining vowel is usually retained between two combining forms.

Example: gastr(o) + enter(o) + -logy = gastroenterology

Joining **Combining Forms and Suffixes**

The combining vowel is usually retained when a combining form is joined with a suffix that begins with a consonant.

Example: enter(o) + -logy = enterology

The combining vowel is usually omitted when a combining form is joined with a suffix that begins with a vowel.

Example: enter(o) + -ic = enteric

Joining **Other Word Parts to Prefixes**

Most prefixes require no change when they are joined with other word parts.

Example: peri- + appendicitis = periappendicitis

dys- + -penia = dyspenia

WORD DIVISION: emphasizes components (See Figure 1-4 p7)

Exercise 6 **BUILD IT!** (answers on page 405)

Eponyms are names for diseases, organs, procedures, or body functions that are derived from the name of a person.

Example: cesarean section; Alzheimer's; Parkinson's

Exercise 7 **CHOOSE IT!** (answers on page 405)

Abbreviations are shortened forms of words or phrases.

They may be letters: Complete blood cell count = CBCC

shortened words: statim, Latin for immediately = stat.

acronyms: CABG coronary artery bypass graft

CAUTION: *Abbreviations and symbols can be dangerous when medications are involved. For example, qn "nightly or at bedtime" can be misinterpreted as qh which means every hour.*

Exercise 8 **MATCH IT!** (answers on page 405)

Section 7

Plurals

p. 9 - 10

Simply add s Example: laceration = lacerations
abrasion = abrasions

If ending in s , ch , or sh , add es. Example: branch = branches
brush = brushes
sinus = sinuses

If ending in y , change the y to an i and add es.
Example: capillary = capillaries
extremity = extremities

Table 1-3 **Other** plurals.

Exercise 9 **CHOOSE IT!** (answers on page 405)

Section 8

Pronunciation of Medical Terms

p. 11

An alphabetical listing of the medical terms covered in the chapter is found near the end of each chapter.

WEB Site Audio Files available!

The rules for **pronunciation** are inside the back cover.

Be aware that there are different ways to pronounce some medical terms.

Exercise 10 **WRITE IT!** (answers on page 405)

Section 9

Career Highlight

p. 11

Each chapter unique!