

Word Building

► **Activity 1:** *-ate, -ify, or -ize?* The list below contains stems of verbs that frequently occur in engineering texts. Add one of these suffixes to the word stems to produce full verbs (e.g., *simul-ate*):

abbrevi_____	acceler_____	accumul_____	agit_____	allevi_____	ampl_____
annot_____	approxim_____	attenu_____	author_____	autom_____	calibr_____
categor_____	cert_____	clar_____	class_____	complic_____	consolid_____
coordin_____	corrobor_____	custom_____	decentral_____	domin_____	elev_____
elimin_____	exempl_____	formul_____	functional_____	hybrid_____	hypothes_____
initial_____	insul_____	loc_____	magnet_____	manipul_____	metal_____
miniatur_____	minim_____	neutral_____	not_____	polar_____	pressur_____
pur_____	qual_____	rect_____	replic_____	satur_____	schemat_____
simpl_____		stabil_____	stimul_____	util_____	

► **Activity 2:** Fill in the gaps with the correct suffix. You should use the verbs in their correct forms:

- The measures taken by the government have polar_____ the community.
- They are working on a project aiming to optim_____ the production of solar energy.
- Radiation escaping from medical diagnostic equipment should be minim_____ at all costs.
- These findings are corrobor_____ by previous studies, which reached the same conclusions.
- This hypothesis is supported by evidence accumul_____ after years of thorough, in-depth investigation.

► **Activity 3:** Supply the correct form of the word derived from the one in brackets:

- The most important attributes of the system are its flexibility and _____. (**CHANGE**)
- Verbs can be _____ classified into two types: lexical and auxiliary (or helping) verbs. (**BROAD**)
- This woman is a model employee possessing an array of outstanding qualities, _____ being one of them. (**TASK**)
- The first U.S. president, George Washington, is credited with _____ certain words, such as *administration, indoors* and *average*. (**POPULAR**)
- By the end of the decade, IBM personal computers had _____ their hold on business. (**SOLID**)
- The new office suite proved to be user-unfriendly and completely _____. (**PRACTICE**)
- You can show these transparencies on the wall with the use of an _____ projector. (**HEAD**)

► Match the sentence halves to produce meaningful pairs:



Check yourself!

1. It is the formulas	a) that Microsoft found success with a GUI.
2. This suite enables users	b) that make a spreadsheet application a useful tool.
3. Application software	c) and drove sales of the Apple II.
4. VisiCalc was an immediate hit	d) earlier PCs required the user to type commands.
5. To initiate an action	e) allows users to carry out tasks, such as creating documents, spreadsheets, and publications.
6. It was not until the 1990	f) to dominate the market.
7. This package continues	g) to edit and share documents online.
8. The Mac featured	h) for the creation of slideshow presentations.
9. This software provides	i) ushered in the graphical-computing era.
10. Windows 3.0	j) an operating system with a graphical user interface.