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# HOW TO USE

Use this morpheme matrix to help your students practice forming and spelling words with the base element, TAIN.

Begin by teaching the base element. Here is a possible script for teaching the base element, TAIN.

1. (Write “tain” on the board.)
2. Our new base element is “tain.” Let’s read it together. (tain)
3. TAIN comes from a Latin word meaning *hold*.
4. (Write “maintain” on the board.)
5. Watch me scoop the morphemes as I read this word.
6. (Scoop your hand under the parts as you read the word aloud.)
7. The word is MAINTAIN. It means *to hold in good condition*.
8. (Post the following words on the board for all to read in unison as you scoop your hand under each word part.)
  - maintain
  - abstain
  - sustain
  - retainer
  - pertains

Make sure all children can see the morpheme matrix or have their own copy. Show them how to use the matrix to build words with the base element, TAIN.

Students can work alone or in partners to build and record as many words as they can.

de per con sus re ob enter		tain HOLD  ©themeasuredmom.com	s ed ing	
			able ment	
un	at		er	s
			ee	

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			able ment	
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Use the matrix to write as many word sums as you can.

**Example:** con + tain + er + s → containers

_____	→	_____
_____	→	_____
_____	→	_____
_____	→	_____
_____	→	_____
_____	→	_____
_____	→	_____
_____	→	_____
_____	→	_____

## ANSWERS WILL VARY

attain  
attained  
attaining  
attains  
contain  
contained  
container  
containers  
containing  
contains  
detain  
detained  
detainee  
detainees  
detaining  
detainment  
detains  
entertain  
entertained  
entertaining  
entertainment  
entertains  
obtain  
obtained  
obtaining  
obtains  
pertain  
pertained

pertaining  
pertains  
retain  
retained  
retainer  
retaining  
retains  
sustain  
sustained  
sustaining  
sustainment  
sustains  
unattainable