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HOW TO USE

Use this morpheme matrix to help your students practice forming and spelling words with the base elements, TEND, TENT, and TENSE.

Begin by teaching the root. Here is a possible script for teaching the base elements TEND, TENT, and TENSE.

1. (Write “tend”, “tent”, and “tense” on the board.)
2. Our new base elements are “tend, tent, and tense.” Let’s read them together. (tend, tent, tense)
3. TEND, TENT, and TENSE all come from a Latin word meaning *stretch or strain*.
4. (Write “distend” 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 DISTEND. It means *to stretch out*.
8. (Post the following words on the board for all to read in unison as you scoop your hand under each morpheme.)
 - intention
 - detention
 - tension
 - pretense
 - contended
 - tense
 - intensive
 - inattention
 - distend

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 elements, TEND, TENT, and TENSE.

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

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Name _____

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

Example: at + tent + ion → attention

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

ANSWERS WILL VARY

attend	extension
attended	intend
attending	intending
attends	intends
attention	intense
contend	intensify
contended	intensity
contender	intention
contenders	pretend
contending	pretended
contends	pretending
distend	pretends
distended	pretension
distending	tend
distends	tends
distension	tended
extend	tending
extended	tent
extender	tents
extenders	tension
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