Base Word

A base word is a word with nothing added to it—for example:

- *jump*
- *camp*
- *number*
- *help*
Prefix

A **prefix** is a letter or group of letters added to the beginning of a base word to change its usage, tense, number, or meaning—for example:

- *re-*
- *pre-*
- *bi-*
- *dis-*
Suffix

A **suffix** is a letter or group of letters added to the end of a base word to change its usage, tense, number, or meaning—for example:

- `-s`
- `-ed`
- `-ing`
- `-ful`
Boxing Strategy

• When students encounter a long word, they look for affixes and put a box around them.
• Boxing affixes visually divides long words and makes them easier to read.

dis content ment
motion less ness
We have our handprints hanging on the wall at our house. When my brother and I were little we made them for Mother’s Day. We each pushed our hands into the wet clay. After the clay dried, our teacher wrote our names on them. She made holes to hang the handprints up. After they were finished, we gave them to our mom. Mom said they were beautiful works of art.

(Good & Kaminski, 2002, p. 5)