

The suffix

-ee

Do you remember what the word suffix means?

- ▶ The *suffix* is part of the word that's added onto the end, like the *-ish* in *foolish*.

# Read the following sentences. What do you notice about the underlined verbs?

1. The teacher examined his student in two main areas; speaking and listening.
2. We interviewed dozens of applicants, and have narrowed the job search down to two.
3. I'm trying to train teachers to use the touch screens.
4. We've employed a market researcher to find out what people really want from a cable TV system

# Transitive Verbs

- ▶ All the underlined verbs in the pervious slide are transitive verbs which means that they are followed by an object.
- ▶ Can you identify the object of each underlined verb?

# The suffix -ee can be added to some transitive verbs

*1. It forms words meaning a person or thing that is the object of that verb (i.e., to whom or to which an action is done). synonym, antonym ▲*

**Synonym: -ed**

**Antonym: -er**

1. examine + *-ee* → examinee (*the student is the examinee*)

2. interview + *-ee* → interviewee (*dozens of applicants are the interviewees*)

3. train + *-ee* → trainee (*teachers are the trainees*)

4. employ + *-ee* → employee (*The market's researchers are the employees*)

# More examples!

- **advisee – someone who receives advice**
- **slayee – someone who is killed (like the vampires)**
- **Payee ---a person whose money is paid to or should be paid**

**to**

However, less commonly, when the suffix is added to some verbs, they become nouns that have the meaning of a performer.

Escape (intransitive)----escapee

Attend (transitive)—attendee

Return (intransitive)---returnee

Lease (transitive)----lessee

Retire (intransitive)----retiree

Stand (intransitive)\_\_\_standee

Confer (intransitive)-----conferee

*Irregularly added to nouns to mean a person  
somehow associated with the object*

*barge* + *-ee* → *bargee*

*Refugee* + *-ee* → Refugee

Trust + *-ee* → trustee