**-*Ate* Problem Set**

1. Sort the following words ending in -ate into categories by the part of speech. Write the words under the label Verb or Adjective.

activate

considerate

desolate

desperate

dominate

educate

emaciate

fortunate

frustrate

integrate

validate

legislate

motivate

originate

saturate

separate

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| **Verb** | **Adjective** |
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2. What do you notice about the pronunciation of the words in the Adjective column? Why do you think these two groups of words are pronounced differently?

3. From the original list above, sort the words into the following categories:

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Verb + ate = Adjective** | **Noun + ate = Verb** | **Noun + ate - Adjective** | **Adjective + ate = Verb** | **Other** |
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4. So you may have discovered that when you remove the –ate for some words, you are left with a part of a word that is not a stand-alone word. These may seem to still carry meaning, though. Look up the affix –*ate* in the *Online Etymology Dictionary* to discover more about why –*ate* is so variable both in the kind of root it attaches to and in the resulting part of speech. Summarize your findings.