What stratum do -ity and -less belong to? How do you know?

sane  sanity
visible  visibility
rational  rationality
superior  superiority
fertile  fertility

effort  effortless
defense  defenseless
penny  penniless
power  powerless

What part of speech do -ity and -less attach to?

Why can't you attach -ity to home, power or mercy?

Why can't you attach -ity to homeless, powerless, merciless? (*homelessness, *powerlessness, *mercilessness) after all they are adjectives.
Stratum 1
Add -ity (to adj.)

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sanity

Stratum 2
Add -less (to noun)

homeless
powerless
? sanityless

What stratum do -ness and -ful belong to? How do you know?

conscious consciousness
effective effectiveness
willing willingness
happy happiness

wonder wonderful
beauty beautiful
delight delightful
distaste distasteful

Explain why some of these words are OK and others aren't (they are all from the same stratum).

homelessness *homenessless
powerlessness *powernessless
Stratum 1

Stratum 2

Add -ness (to Adj.)

Add -less (to N)

Add -ness (to Adj.)

Add -less (to N)

Add -ness (to Adj.)

Why are these words OK?

carelessness
cheerlessness

Why are these words bad?

capital-ed-ize
care-er-ful
The underlined consonants are not pronounced in the following words. Consider this to be due to a rule that deletes word-final consonants that follow a nasal. Using strata, show how this rule is related to the suffixes. Remember that the output of every stratum must be a real word.

 bomb
 bombard
 bomber
 bombing

 crumb
 crumby

 condemn
 condemnation
 condemning

 autumn
 autumnal

 hymn
 hymnal
 hymning
Stratum 1
Add -ard  
bambard

Add -ation  
kandɛmnɛʃən

Delete final C following a nasal  
___  bam  bam  bam  ___

Stratum 2

Add -ing  
bamiɲ

Add -er  
bamr

How would you derive condemn? (The final C is not pronounced.)