

Common Prefixes

| Prefix | Meaning | Examples |
|--------|-----------------------|--|
| anti- | against/opposed to | anti-government, antisocial, anti-war |
| auto- | self | autobiography, automobile |
| de- | reverse or change | deaccelerate, de-classify, decontaminate |
| down- | reduce or lower | downgrade, downhearted |
| hyper- | extreme | hyperactive, hypertension |
| inter- | between | interactive, intermediate, international |
| mega- | very big, important | megabyte, mega-deal, megaton |
| mid- | middle | midair, midday, mid-July |
| over- | too much | overbook, overcharge, overrate |
| out- | go beyond | outnumber, out-perform, outrun |
| post- | after | post-election, post-war |
| pre- | before | prehistoric, pretest |
| pro- | in favour of, forward | pro-communist, proclaim |
| re- | again | reconsider, replay, rewrite |
| semi- | half | semicircle, semi-detached, semi-retired |
| sub- | under, below | submarine, sub-Saharan, subtract |
| super- | above, beyond, big | super-hero, supermodel, superstore |
| trans- | across | transatlantic, translation, transfer |
| under- | less than, beneath | undercook, underestimate, underpaid |
| up- | make or move higher | upgrade, uphill, upscale |

A. Complete the sentences with common prefixes.

1. Harry had tomerge his bike tyre to find the puncture.
2. The captain set the aircraft topilot.
3. Patrick copied his homework, so his teacher told him todo it.
4. I thought the end of the film was anclimax.
5. Seat belts canvent serious injuries if you get into a car accident.
6. She asked the film star for hisgraph.
7. There are a lot of students in thegraduate program.
8. Islept by an hour and missed my first class.
9. Craig should eat more. He looksweight.
10. John looked for a job for two months and then becamemotivated.



A. Complete the sentences with common prefixes (continued).

11. Three police cars were sent tocept the robbers.
12. Richard's doctor found that he wassensitive to smoke.
13. Germany scored five goals in the World Cupfinal.
14. In general, it's better to have anbeat and positive outlook on life.
15. If I could have anypower, I would like to be able to fly.
16. Madonna is known throughout the world and is classified as astar.
17. David Beckham captained the side and played in a centralfield role.
18. In 2008, there was a severe economicturn in many countries.
19. Jessica is starting toshine all the other players in the volleyball team.
20. There is aview feature on the website so you can see what you are buying.

Negative Prefixes

| Prefix | Meaning | Examples |
|--------|----------------------|---|
| dis- | reverse, remove, not | disagree, displeasure, disqualify |
| il- | not | illegal, illogical (words starting L) |
| im- | not | impossible, impolite, immoral (words starting M or P) |
| in- | not | inconsiderate, incomplete, insecure |
| ir- | not | irrational, irregular, irresponsible (words starting R) |
| mis- | incorrectly, badly | misaligned, mislead, misspell |
| non- | not | non-payment, non-smoking |
| un- | remove, reverse, not | undo, unpack, unhappy |

B. Write the opposites of these words using negative prefixes.

- | | | | |
|---------------|-------|-----------------|-------|
| 1. acceptable | ..... | 8. patient | ..... |
| 2. behave | ..... | 9. advantage | ..... |
| 3. sensitive | ..... | 10. accurate | ..... |
| 4. approve | ..... | 11. understand | ..... |
| 5. legible | ..... | 12. comfortable | ..... |
| 6. resistible | ..... | 13. literate | ..... |
| 7. fiction | ..... | 14. sense | ..... |

C. Complete the sentences with negative prefixes.

1. Everybody at the party woreformal clothes except for Liam.
2. I am toopatient to go fishing.
3. In the UK, it'slegal to smoke in bars and restaurants.
4. Kim wasable to take the test because she was sick.
5. The worst enemy in a relationship istrust.
6. Are yousane? If you jump from here, you're going to die.
7. His attempt to break the world record wassuccessful.
8. It'sfair that we have to work while they are on holiday.
9. I can't believe youregarded everything I told you.
10. His age is completelyrelevant if he can do the job.
11. Mike still acts like a child, he's somature.
12. I'm absolutely sure it wasn't Emma. She'scapable of something like that.
13. I find it highlyprobable that Tim will go to the party. He doesn't like crowds.
14. She's sograteful even after all the help we gave her.
15. When you're done using the computer, make sure toconnect it.

**D. Complete the sentences with words that use common or negative prefixes.**

1. The taxi driver tried to us for the ride from the airport.
2. The teacher told the students to learn twenty verbs.
3. children often have poor concentration and require very little sleep.
4. In computer lingo, a million bytes is commonly referred to as one
5. Mr. Smith is really He never wants to talk to anyone.
6. In nursing, women still men by four to one.
7. If the wheels are, it can cause excessive wear on your tyres.
8. When Katie arrived home from her holiday, she went upstairs to
9. British Airways will launch three new flights next month.
10. Workers are continuing to the nuclear plant where the accident occurred.
11. Never what you can learn from a group of like-minded people.
12. Lily was woken by screams coming from the house next door.