

# Unlocking the Secrets of English Vocabulary

## Part 2 – Prefixes



The Language Company

### Contact Information

- **Patrick Wolak**, Director
  - [berkeleydirector@thelanguagecompany.com](mailto:berkeleydirector@thelanguagecompany.com)
- **Marixa Barnett**, Director of Admissions
  - [berkeleydoa@thelanguagecompany.com](mailto:berkeleydoa@thelanguagecompany.com)

**The Language Company**  
 2470 Telegraph Ave, Suite 200  
 Berkeley, CA 94704

Tel: (510) 848-8110



### Small Group Quiz!

- |                  |                      |
|------------------|----------------------|
| ○ Anti - biotic  | ○ Anti = against     |
| ○ Super - vise   | ○ Super = over/above |
| ○ Circum - spect | ○ Circum = around    |
| ○ Tele - vision  | ○ Tele = distant     |



- tele – phone
- > phone = sound
- sym - phony
- sym = together
- caco – phony
- caco = bad



- |                |                      |
|----------------|----------------------|
| ○ Collaborate  | ○ Co = together      |
| ○ Contradict   | ○ Contra = against   |
| ○ Benediction  | ○ Ben(e) = good      |
| ○ Malnutrition | ○ Mal = bad          |
| ○ Preamble     | ○ Pre = before       |
| ○ Postscript   | ○ Post = after       |
| ○ Homogenous   | ○ Homo = same        |
| ○ Heterodox    | ○ Hetero = different |



DIRECTIONAL PREFIXES

ab-/de-/dis  
 ad-  
 peri-/circum-  
 trans-/dia-

**ab/ad**  
**circum/peri**  
**inter/intra**  
**dia/trans**

- **absent**: away, not present
- **adhere**: to stick to
- **circumference**: distance around
- **interpersonal**: between persons
- **perimeter**: measure around
- **intravenous**: inside a vein
- **dialogue**: speech from one to another
- **transport**: to carry across

DIRECTIONAL PREFIXES

super-/sur-  
 epi-  
 over-  
**mid-/med-**  
 sub-  
 infra-  
 hypo-  
 under-

**super/supra**  
**med/mid**  
**hypo/infra**

- **superficial**: on the surface
- **median**: something located in the middle
- **hypodermic**: below the skin

DIRECTIONAL PREFIXES

in-/im-/em-/en-  
 out-/e-/ex-  
 meta-  
 tele-

**ex/e**  
**meta**  
**in/em**

- **express**: to push out
- **employ**: to fold in, to hire
- **metaphysical**: spiritual, beyond the physical
- **eject**: to throw out
- **input**: something added
- **metacognition**: understanding and control of one's thinking

DIRECTIONAL PREFIXES

**ante-/pre-** → action or place →  **post-**

**juxta-/para-/by-**

**ante/for  
juxta/para  
pre/pro**

- antecedent**: what came before
- paralegal**: working beside a lawyer
- juxtapose**: to position beside
- precede**: to go before something else
- foreground**: ahead of where an item is placed
- propose**: to put forward

\_\_\_\_onym  
Examples: **synonym**, **antonym**, **homonym**

\_\_\_\_mit  
Examples: **transmit**, **submit**, **emit**, **omit**, **intermittent**, **remit**, **permit**, **manumit**, **commit**

\_\_\_\_ject  
Examples: **object**, **subject**, **project**, **abject**, **dejected**, **eject**, **interject**, **reject**, **inject**

**in/im/il  
a/an  
un/non**

- unhealthy**
- amoral**
- impossible**
- irresponsible**
- intolerant**
- anarchy**
- illegible**
- nonsense**
- impermissible**
- agnostic**
- unlikely**
- nontrivial**


**anti  
counter/contra  
ob/op/of**

- antithesis**
- obstacle**
- oppose**
- counteract**
- contrary**
- antidote**
- counterfactual**
- obfuscate**
- contradistinction**
- antiparallel**
- offend**


**syn/sym  
co**

- synthesis**
- commit**
- synchronous**
- collate**
- symphony**
- confide**
- synergy**
- correlate**
- sympathy**
- connect**
- symbol**
- cooperate**

	<b>de</b>	
	<b>dis</b>	
	<b>un</b>	
<input type="radio"/> <b>destroy</b>		<input type="radio"/> <b>destabilize</b>
<input type="radio"/> <b>discover</b>		<input type="radio"/> <b>dislocate</b>
<input type="radio"/> <b>untie</b>		<input type="radio"/> <b>undo</b>
<input type="radio"/> <b>decompress</b>		<input type="radio"/> <b>detoxify</b>
<input type="radio"/> <b>disintegrate</b>		<input type="radio"/> <b>disown</b>
<input type="radio"/> <b>unroll</b>		<input type="radio"/> <b>uncover</b>



	<b>dis/dys</b>	
	<b>mal/ill/mis</b>	
	<b>caco</b>	
<input type="radio"/> <b>dysfunction</b>		<input type="radio"/> <b>dystopia</b>
<input type="radio"/> <b>cacophony</b>		<input type="radio"/> <b>maladroit</b>
<input type="radio"/> <b>malady</b>		<input type="radio"/> <b>ill-gotten</b>
<input type="radio"/> <b>illness</b>		<input type="radio"/> <b>misogyny</b>
<input type="radio"/> <b>misanthrope</b>		<input type="radio"/> <b>mistake</b>
<input type="radio"/> <b>distaste</b>		<input type="radio"/> <b>dyslexia</b>



## Inconsistent Prefixes

Example:

in-noc-uous	v.	in-nate
<b>NOT</b> – harm – ful	v.	<b>IN</b> – born

re: **re**tract (back) v. **re**try (again)

ob: **ob**noxious (toward) v. **ob**stacle (against)

nov: **Nov**ember (nine) v. **nov**el (new)

non: **pro**logue (forward) v. **pro**-democracy (in favor)

