PREFIXES

What is a Prefix?

- A **prefix** is a letter or a group of letters added to the beginning of a word to change its meaning, such as 'un'- in the word unhappy and 'pre'- in the word preheat.

- The prefixes given below have been selected with an eye on the needs of students taking up various competitive and academic exams.

Prefixes(English)

- **A**- (on, in)- abed, aboard, ashore, ajar, asleep

- **A**- (out, from)- arise, awake, alight

- **Be**- (by)- beside, betimes, besmear, bedaub

- **For**- (thoroughly)- forbear, forgive

- **Fore**- (before)- forecast, foretell

- **Gain**- (against) - gainsay

- **In**- (in)- income, inland, inlay

- **Mis**- (wrong, wrongly)- misdeed, mislead, misjudge

- **Over**- (above, beyond)- overflow, overcharge

- **To**- (this)- to-day, to-night, to-morrow

- **Un**- (not)- untrue, unkind, unholy

- **Un**- (to reverse an action)- untie, undo, unfold

- **Under**- (beneath, below)- undersell, undercharge, undergo, underground

- **With**- (against, back)- withdraw, withhold, withstand

Prefixes(Latin)

- **Ab(a, abs),** (from, away)- abuse, avert, abstract

- **Ad(ac, af, ag, al, an, ap, ar, as, at, a)**, (to) - adjoin, accord, affect, aggrieve, allege, announce, appoint, arrest, assign, attach, avail

- **Ambi(amb, am)**, (on both sides, around)- ambiguous, ambition, amputate

- **Ante(anti, an)**, (before)- antedate, anticipate, ancestor

- **Bene**- (well)- benediction, benefit

- **Bis,(bi, bin)**, (twice, two)- biscuit, bisect, binocular

- **Circum(circu)**, (around)- circumnavigate, circumference, circuit

- **Con(col, com, cor)**, (with, together)- contend, collect, combine, correct

- **Contra(counter)**, (against)- contradict, counteract, counterfeit

- **De-** (down)- descend, dethrone, depose

- **Dis, (diff, di)**, (apart)- disjoin, differ, divide

- **Demi**- (half)- demigod

- **Ex(ef, e)**, (out of)- extract, effect, reduce

- **Extra**, (beyond, outside, of)- extraordinary, extravagant

- **In(il, im, ir, en, em)**, (in, into)- invade, illustrate, immerse, irrigate, enact, embrace

- **In(il, im, ir)**, (not)- insecure, illegal, imprudent, irregular

- **Inter(Inro, enter)**, (among, within)- intervene, introduce, entertain

- **Male(mal)**, (ill, badly)- malevolent, malcontent

- **Non**- (not)- nonsense

- **Ob(oc, of)**, (in the way of, against)- object, occupy, offend

- **Pen**- (almost)- penultimate, peninsula

- **Per(pel)**- (through)- pervade, pellucid

- **Post**- (after)- postscript, postdate, postpone, postgraduate

- **Pre**- (before)- prefix, prevent, predict

- **Pro(por, pur)**, (for)- pronoun, portray, pursue

- **Re**- (back, again)- reclaim, refund, renew, return

- **Retro-** (backwards)- retrospect, retrograde

- **Se(sed)**- (apart)- secede, separate, seduce, sedition

- **Semi**- (half)- semicircle, semicolon

- **Sine**- (without)- sinecure

- **Sub(suc, suf, sug, sum, sup, sur, sus)**, (under)- subdue, succeed, suffer, suggest, summon, support, surmount, sustain

- **Super**- (above)- superfine, superfluous

- **Trans(tra, tres)**, (across)- transmit, traverse, trespass

- **Vice**- (in the place of)- viceroy, vice-president, vice-chancellor

Prefixes(Greek)

- **A(an)**, (without, not)- atheist, apathy, anarchy

- **Amphi**, (around, on both sides)- amphitheatre, amphibious

- **Ana**, (up, back)- anachronism, analysis

- **Anti(ant)**, (against)- antipathy, antagonist

- **Apo(ap)**, (from)- apostate, apology

- **Arch(archi)**, (chief)- archbishop, archangel, architect

- **Auto –** (self)- autocrat, autobiography, autograph

- **Cata**- (down) - cataract, catastrophe, catalogue

- **Di**- (twice)- dilemma

- **Dia**- (through)- diagonal, diameter

- **Dys**- (badly)- dyspepsia, dysentery

- **En(em)**, (in)- encyclopaedia, emblem

- **Epi**- (upon)- epilogue, epitaph

- **Eu**- (well)- eulogy, euphony, eugenics

- **Ex(ec)**, (out of)- exodus, eccentric

- **Hemi**- (half)- hemisphere

- **Homo(hom)**, (like)- homogeneous, homonym

- **Hyper**, (over, beyond)- hyperbole, hypercritical

- **Hypo**, (under)- hypothesis, hypocrite

- **Meta(met)**, (implying change)- metaphor, metonymy

- **Mono**, (alone, single)- monoplane, monopoly

- **Pan**- (all)- panacea, panorama, pantheism

- **Para**, (beside, by the side of)- parallel, paradox, parasite

- **Peri**- (round)- period, perimeter, periscope

- **Philo(Phil)**, (love)- philosophy, philanthropy

- **Pro**- (before)- prophesy, programme

- **Syn,(sym, syl, sy)**, (with, together)- synonym, sympathy, syllable, system

References

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THANKS

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