



PREFIXES

A

a, an [*not, without*] amoral (without a sense of moral responsibility), atheism, anaemia, atypical, atom (not cutable), apathy (without feeling)

ab, abs, a [*from, away*] abnormal, avert (turn away)

acro [*high*] acropolis (high city), acrobat, acrogen (of the highest class), acronym, acrophobia (fear of height)

ad (ac af, ag, al, an, ap, ar, as, at) [*to, towards*] admire (look at with wonder), attract, admit, advance, allege, announce, assert, aggressive, accept

ambi, amb [*both, around*] ambidextrous (skilled with both hands), ambiguous, amble

amphi [*both*] amphibious (living on both land and water), amphitheatre

ana [*on, up, backward*] analysis (loosing up or taking apart for study), anatomy, anachronism

ana [*before*] antedate, anteroom, antebellum, antecedent

anti, ant [*against*] anticommunist, antidote, anticlimax, antacid, Antarctic

apo [*from, off*] apostasy (standing from, abandoning a professed belief), apology, apothecary, apostle

B

be [*on, way*] bedeak, belabon, bequest, bestow, beloved

bene, bon [*well*] benefit, benefactor, benevolent, benediction, bonus, bonafide, bonanza

bi, bis, bin [*both, double, twice*] bicycle, biweekly, Binoculars, bilateral, biscuit

by [*side, close, near*] bypass, bystander, by-product, bylaw, byline

C

cata [*down, against*] catalogue, catapult, catastrophe, cataclysm

circum, circ [*around*] circumference, circumnavigate, circumspect

co (con, col, cor, com) [*together, with*] compose, copilot, conspire, collect, concord

coni [*dust*] coniosis (disease which comes from inhaling dust)

contra, counter [*against*] controversy, contradict, counterpart

D

de [*from, down*] demote, depress, degrade, deject, deprive

di [*two, twice*] dilemma, diatom, dissect, diploma

dia [*through, between*] diameter, diagonal, diagram, diagnosis, dialogue

dis, dif [*apart, away, reverse*] dismiss, distort, distinguish, diffuse

dys [*badly, ill*] dyspepsia (digesting badly, indigestion), dystrophy

E

em, en [*in, into*] embrace, enslave

epi [*upon*] epidermis (upon the skin, outer layer of the skin), epitaph, epithet, epigram, epitome

eu, ev [*well*] eulogize (speak well of, praise) eupepsia, euphony, eugenics

ex, e, ec, ef [*out*] expel (drive out), ex-mayor, exit, exorcism, eccentric (out of the centre position), eject, emit

extra, extro [*beyond, outside*] extraordinary (beyond the ordinary), extracurricular, extrovert, extraneous

F

for [*away or off*] forswear (to renounce an oath)

fore (before in time) foretell (to tell beforehand), forecast, foreshadow, foregone, forefather

H

hemi, demi, semi [*half*] hemisphere, hemicycle, semicircle, demitasse

homo [*man*] Homo sapiens, homicide, homunculus, hominid

hyper [*over, above*] hypercritical, hyperemia, hypersensitive, hypertensive, hyperactive

hypo [*under*] hypodermic, hypothesis, hypotension

I

idio [*private, personal*] idiom, idiosyncrasy, idiomatic

il (ir, in, im) [*not*] incorrect, illegal, immoral, irregular

in (il, im) [*into*] inject, inside, illuminate, impose, illustrate, implant, imprison

infra [*beneath*] infrared

inter [*between*] intercollegiate, interfere, intervene, interrupt (break between)

intra [*within*] intramural, intravenous (within the veins)

intro [*into, inward*] introduce, introvert (turn inward)

M

macro [*large, excessive*] macrodent (having large teeth), macrocosm

mal [*badly, poor*] maladjusted, malnutrition, malfunction, malady

meta [*beyond, after, with*] metabolism (thrown beyond, literally; hence, chemical and physical change), metaphor, metamorphosis, metaphysical

mis [*incorrect, bad*] misuse, misprint

miso [*hating, wrong*] misanthropist, misogynist, miser

mono [*one*] monoplane, monotone, monogamy, monochrome, monocle

multi [*many*] multiply, multiform, multilateral

N

neo [*new*] neopaganism, neoclassic, neologism, neophyte

non [*not*] nontaxable (not taxed), nontoxic, nonexistent, nonsense

O

ob (of, op, oc) [*towards, against*] obstruct, offend, oppose, occur

P

para [*beside, almost*] parasite (one who eats beside or at table of another), paraphrase, parody, parachute, paramedic, parallel

penta [*five*] pentagon (figure or building having five angles or sides), Pentateuch, pentameter, pentathlon

per [*throughout, completely*] pervert (completely turn wrong, corrupt), perfect, perceive permanent, persuade, pervade

peri [*around*] perimeter (measurement around an area), periphery, periscope, pericardium, period

poly [*many*] polygon (figure having many angles or sides), polygamy, polyglot, polychrome

post [*after*] postpone, postwar, postscript, postseason

pre [*before*] prewar, preview, precede, prevent, premonition

pro [*forward, in favor of*] project (throw forward), progress, pro-abortion, promote, prohibition

pseudo [*false*] pseudonym (false or assumed name), pseudo, pseudopodia

R

re [*back, again*] reclaim, revive, revoke, rejuvenate, retard, reject, return

retro [*backwards*] retrorspective (looking backwards), retroactive, retrorocket, retrofession

S

se [*aside*] seduce (lead aside), secede, secrete, segregate

self [*by oneself*] self-determination, self-employed, self-service, selfish

sesqui [*one and a half*] sesquicentennial (one and one-half centuries)

sub [*under*] submerge (put under), submarine, subhuman, subject, substitute, subsoil, suburb

suf (sug, sup, sus) [*from under*] suffer, suggest, support, suspect, sufficient, suspend

super, supr, sur [*above, over, more*] supervise, superman, survivor, supreme, supernatural, superior

syn (sym, sys, syl) [*with, together*] sympathy, system, synthesis, symphony, syllable, synchronize (time together), synonym

T

trans, tra [*across, beyond*] transoceanic, transmit, traverse (lying across as a bridge over a stream), transfusion

tri [*three*] tricycle, triangle, tripod, tristate

U

un [*not, release*] unfair, unnatural, unbutton, unfasten

under [*beneath*] underground, underling

uni [*one, below*] unicycle, uniform, unify, universe, unique

ultra [*beyond, exceedingly*] ultramodern, ultraviolet, ultraconservative

V

vice [*in place of*] vice-president, vice-admiral, viceroy