



Prefixes

Directions: Review the prefixes and their meanings in the chart. Then, read each incomplete word and the definition that follows. Write the correct prefix to complete the word.

PREFIX	MEANING
bi-	two
ex-	out, away from
for-/fore-	before, in front of
intra-	within, inside
non-	not

- _____ state (occurring within the boundaries of a state)
- _____ ground (the part of a picture or scene that is in the front and closest to the viewer)
- _____ lingual (able to speak two languages)
- _____ existent (something that does not exist)
- _____ port (to send out goods to another place)



Birds Are Not Dinosaurs!

Some scientists believe that birds are actually dinosaurs. They think that fossil discoveries in China are the evidence that prove this theory. During an excavation in the 1860s, scientists discovered the fossils of a dinosaur that had impressions of what appeared to be feathers left in the rock around its bones. It was the first time that the similarities between birds and dinosaurs were apparent. The scientists decided that since this dinosaur had feathers, it must be an ancestor of modern birds.

Fortunately, Alan Feduccia (Fe-dooch-a), a biology professor who specializes in birds, disagrees. In 1996, Feduccia studied a bird that lived around the same time as dinosaurs. This bird did not have dinosaur features; it had a lighter breastbone like modern birds, and it had bigger flight muscles so it could fly.

Because of his studies, Feduccia decided that dinosaurs and birds were not as closely related as others had believed. He believes that the ancestors to modern birds evolved after the dinosaurs had died out. This is the “big bang theory” of birds, meaning that they showed up in the world suddenly and weren’t descendants of dinosaurs at all. Feduccia does not believe that any of the evidence showing similarities between birds and dinosaurs proves that the two were related.





Central Idea, Supporting Details, and Evaluating an Author's Argument

Directions: Refer to the passage "Birds Are Not Dinosaurs!" as you complete this page. Write your answers in complete sentences.

1. What is the central idea of this passage?

2. What are some supporting details in this passage?

3. What is the author's argument?

4. How would you evaluate the author's argument?



Content Vocabulary

Directions: Read the vocabulary words. Then, find each word in the Glossary and write its definition.

1. controversial

2. passionate

3. preserved

4. speculate

5. diligent

6. irrelevant



Directions: Think about today’s session. How do you feel about your Word Study skills? Write your ideas on the lines below. Make sure you begin each sentence with a capital letter and end each sentence with a punctuation mark.

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Prefixes

Directions: Underline the prefix in each word below. Then, use the words to complete the sentences.

exhale bivalve nonprofit forecast intramural

1. You should check the weather _____ before you make any outdoor plans.
2. Since the school is a _____ organization, the teachers do not pay a sales tax on purchases for their classrooms.
3. A clam is known as a _____ because it is enclosed by a shell that has two parts.
4. If you enjoy sports, you can join one of the _____ teams within our school.
5. It felt good to _____ and let my breath out after holding it for so long.



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Content Vocabulary

Directions: Read each statement below. Is the statement a denotation or a connotation of the underlined vocabulary word? Write denotation or connotation next to the statement.

1. When you speculate, you guess possible answers.

2. The word controversial makes me think about our school system's decision to ban mobile phones in classrooms. _____
3. When I hear the word irrelevant, I realize that some things are not worth worrying about. _____
4. A person who is passionate has strong feelings about something.

5. The word diligent reminds me of my mother, who is the hardest working person I know. _____
6. The word preserved refers to something that is maintained in its original state.

Directions: Think about today’s session. How have our lessons affected your Comprehension skills? Write your ideas on the lines below. Make sure you begin each sentence with a capital letter and end each sentence with a punctuation mark.

This image shows a single page from a notebook or ledger. It features approximately 20 evenly spaced horizontal black lines across its entire width, providing space for writing. The paper itself is plain white, and there are no margins, headers, footers, or other markings present.



Syllabication

Directions: Divide the following words into syllables, and write the number of syllables in the chart. Then, read each word.

WORD	NUMBER OF SYLLABLES
exported	
foresee	
biweekly	
intrastate	
nontoxic	
forefront	
noninvasive	
bilateral	



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Directions: Write a paragraph in which you state similarities and differences between the passages “Birds Are Not Dinosaurs!” and “Birds Are Dinosaurs.” Include at least two similarities and two differences in your paragraph, as well as an evaluation of the authors’ arguments. Make sure you begin each sentence with a capital letter and end each sentence with a punctuation mark. Check your spelling when you are finished writing.

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Content Vocabulary Review

Directions: Write a sentence for each vocabulary word. Each sentence should reflect details from the passage "Birds Are Dinosaurs."

1. controversial

2. preserved

3. speculate

4. irrelevant

Directions: Write a sentence that tells the connotation of each vocabulary word below.

1. passionate

2. diligent



Directions: Think about today’s session. How do you feel about your accomplishments? Write your ideas on the lines below. Make sure you begin each sentence with a capital letter and end each sentence with a punctuation mark.

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