

Vocabulary Builder

Separable prefixes

Separable prefixes can be added to the base form of some words to give them a different meaning. Some common prefixes are:

dis	re	inter	un	over	under
mis	bi	co	sub	out	up

A Which of these prefixes can be added to give the following meanings?

- | | |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1 to an excessive degree | <i>over</i> ...load |
| 2 once more, again | <i>fill</i> |
| 3 two | <i>lingual</i> |
| 4 between, among | <i>active</i> |
| 5 less than, insufficiently | <i>age</i> |
| 6 improved, high | <i>grade</i> |
| 7 under, below | <i>contract</i> |
| 8 together with | <i>operate</i> |
| 9 not | <i>sold</i> |
| 10 badly, incorrectly | <i>manage</i> |
| 11 better or more than | <i>do</i> |
| 12 removal, reversal | <i>continue</i> |



B Which prefix can be added to each of the following groups of words?

- | | | | | | |
|------------------------|-----------|--------|----------|--------|-----------|
| 1 <i>up</i> | market | date | scale | swing | turn |
| 2 | stock | pay | charge | priced | size |
| 3 | direct | inform | judge | lead | represent |
| 4 | satisfied | like | regard | place | approve |
| 5 | act | fund | position | design | pay |
| 6 | standard | divide | group | total | section |

C Complete the following sentences by adding an appropriate prefix to the words in italics.

- 1 Retailers are required to provide wheelchair access for*dis*...abled customers.
- 2 I just checked the receipt and realized that I've been*charged* by more than five dollars.
- 3 The store manager wants to*negotiate* the terms of the lease.
- 4 This particular model has been*continued*.
- 5*management* of the inventory leads to lower levels of sales.
- 6 It is easy to*estimate* the impact that a successful advertising campaign can have.
- 7 We specialize in fashionable and affordable*size* clothing and footwear.

D Other common separable prefixes are: *down-*, *en-*, *ex-*, *extra-*, *hyper-*, *im-*, *in-*, *non-*, *super-*. Make a list of words that begin with these prefixes and then compare your list with a partner.