

POWERFUL

Prefixes

Prefixes are little bundles of letters (like the **un-** in **unhappy**, and the **re-** in **rewrite**) that we can add to the **beginning** of words to change the meanings of those words.



Most **prefixes** usually mean the same thing every time they are used. That is very useful for us, because those **prefixes** can help us to work out what a word means if we are not sure.

Have a look at the words listed below and try to work out what each **prefix** usually means.

unlocked

subway

unfair

tricycle

retell

tripod

subtitle

submarine

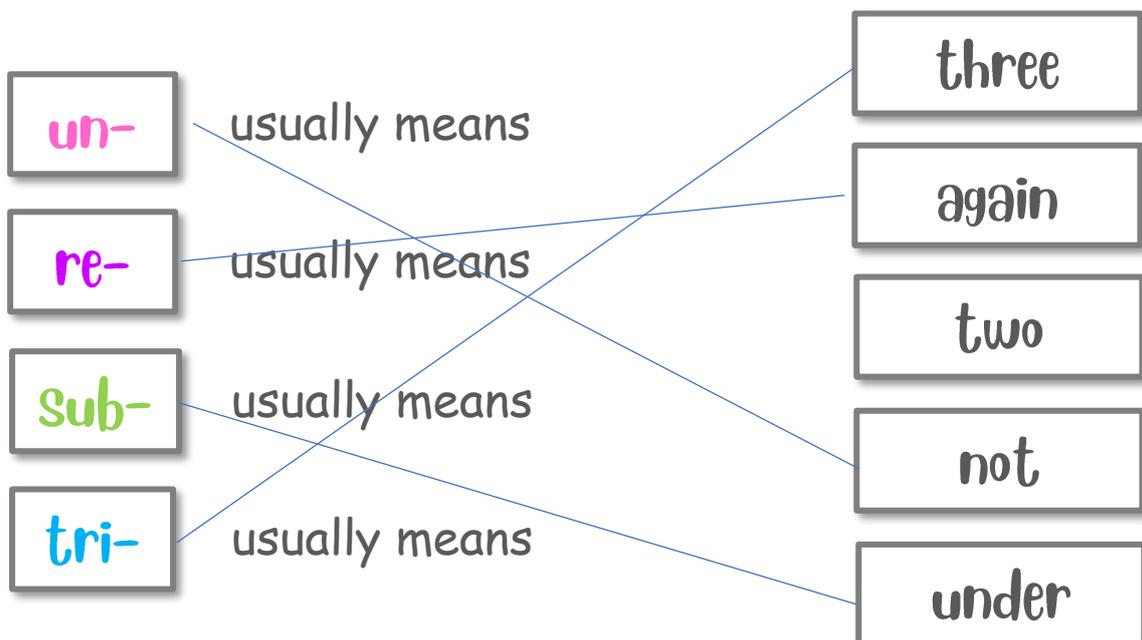
reuse

unwell

triangle

replay

1. Now can you draw a line to match each **prefix** to its usual meaning?
But watch out! There is one extra meaning that you will not need this time!



2. Look at these words. They all have **prefixes**.
Can you highlight or circle the **prefix** in each word?



I'm a biped -
and so are you!

disappointed

untie

disband

Prefix

unreal

misunderstand

unwrap

biped

redecorate

Preview

bicycle

Predict

3. Sometimes we can use a **prefix** to turn a word into something a bit like the opposite of itself! Some of the **prefixes** that are good for this are **un-**, **mis-**, **dis-**, **de-**, **in-**, **ir-** and **im-**. Which **prefix** do you think you should use to change each of these words into something like its opposite? You may find that a dictionary helps with this task.

Starter Word	Prefix I Will Use...	New Word	Meaning
respectful	<i>dis-</i>	<i>disrespectful</i>	<i>not respectful</i>
active	<i>in-</i>	<i>inactive</i>	<i>not active</i>
behaving	<i>mis-</i>	<i>misbehaving</i>	<i>not behaving</i>
possible	<i>im-</i>	<i>impossible</i>	<i>not possible</i>
construct	<i>de-</i>	<i>deconstruct</i>	<i>take apart</i>
regular	<i>ir-</i>	<i>irregular</i>	<i>not regular</i>
obey	<i>dis-</i>	<i>disobey</i>	<i>not obey</i>
grateful	<i>un-</i>	<i>ungrateful</i>	<i>not grateful</i>

CHALLENGE

These jumbled words all have **prefixes** that we have already seen today. Can you unjumble each word, then write a sentence to show that you understand what the word means? (You might be needing that dictionary again!)

retake

mislaid

imperfect

triathlon

irresponsible

subterranean