

YA GOVT. DEGREE COLLEGE (W), CHIRALA, PRAKASAM (Dist)
DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH
STUDENT STUDY PROJECT (2016-17)

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PREFIXES

A prefix (affix) is a word, or letter(s) placed at the beginning of another word (a base word) to adjust or qualify its usage or meaning. The opposite of prefix is suffix. Hereunder are given a list of prefixes in English.

Objectives of study:

We are the non native speakers of English. Just as we have prefixes in our mother tongue there are prefixes in English also.

The objectives of the study of English prefixes are as follows:

1. *To enumerate* some of the most common prefixes used in English,
2. *To note down* the prefixes with relevant examples,
3. *To suggest* learners of English to be make use of new vocabulary using the prefixes,
4. *To learn English* making use of derivatives with prefixes

Methodology:

The study of English prefixes is quite useful for any learner of English. To make this study we have

- i. Made a list of word derivations in English,
- ii. Referred to certain standard books of English grammar and composition
- iii. Browsed the internet and made use of on line web resources

List of English Prefixes

PREFIX	MEANING	EXAMPLE
a(n)-	not , without	amoral, anarchy
ab-	away	abduction, absolutism, ablutition

aer(o)-	air	aeronautics, aerodrome, aero plane
agr(o)-	relating to farming	agriculture
an(a)-	out of	anachronism
andr-	man	androgyny, android , androgen
Anglo-	English or British	Anglo-Irish relations, anglophile
ante-	before	antebellum
anthrop(o)-	relating to human beings	anthropology, anthropomorphic
ant(i)-	against	antidote, antibody, anticlockwise
aut(o)-	self	autonomy, autobiography, automobile
bi-	two	bicycle, bilingual, bisexual
bi(o)-	life	biology, biography, biotechnology
bibli(o)-	relating to books	bibliophile, bibliography
bronch(o)-	relating to breathing	bronchitis
cardi(o)-	heart	cardiovascular
cent-, centi -	hundred or hundredth	centenary, centimeter, centipede
chron(o)-	time	chronology, chronograph
circum-	around	circumlocution, circumference
co-	together	cooperative, cohabit
con-	with, together	conference, connotation, context Congress, congregation
contr(a)-, contr(o)	against, opposite	contradiction, contraception, controversy
counter-	against, opposite	counterpoint, counter clockwise
de-	taking something away, the opposite	decentralization, deforestation,
dem(o)-	people, nation	demographics , democracy
derm(o)-,	skin	dermatology, dermatitis
dynam(o)-	power, force	dynamic, dynamite, dynamo
dis-	reverse, opposite	dissent, discovery, disambiguation

eco-	house	economy, ecology, ecosystem, ecotourism
erg(o)-		ergonomics
eu-	good	eulogy, euthanasia, eugenics, euphemism
ex-	former	ex-wife, ex-president
ex(o)-	outside	exoskeleton
extra-	very, more than usual, outside, beyond	extra-thin, extra-special extraordinary, extraterrestrial
flor(i)-	relating to flowers	florist
fore-	before, in advance	foreskin, foreshadowing
gyn-	female	gynecology
hyper-	excessive, (least to greatest in order hypo, sub, super, hyper)	hyperactive, hyperthyroidism
hyp(o)-	below, (least to greatest in order)	hypodermic
in-	extremely	inflammable, invaluable
in-, il-, im-, ir-	not	infallible, illiterate, immoral , irrelevant
inter-	between, from one to another	intervention, international
intra-	within, interior	intramural, intravenous
kilo -	thousand	kilogram, kilowatt
mal-	bad, badly	malpractice, malnutrition
maxi-	most, very, large	maxi-dress
mega -	million , very large	megabyte, megaphone
meta-	after, beyond	metacarpal, metaphysics
micro -	one millionth, very small	microgram, microorganism
mid-	in the middle of	Mid-term elections, Mid-Atlantic Ridge
milli -	thousandth	milligram, milliliter
mini-	small	miniskirt, miniscule
mis-	bad , wrong	miscarriage , misanthropy , misogyny
mon(o)-	one , single	monolith, monorail, monotony
multi-	many	multiculturalism , multilingual
non-	not	nonsense, non-denial denial
non-	nine	none, nonagon
oct(o)-, oct(a)-	eight	octane, octopod, octagon
out-	more, to a greater degree	to outdo, to outrun
over-	more than normal, too much	overpopulation , over-consumption
pent(a)-	five	pentagon
post-	after	Postmodernism, postmortem

pre-	before	prediction , preview , precedent , prenatal care
pro-	for, in favor of	pro-choice, pro-life, promotion
re-	again, repeatedly	reduction , reflection , revolution
rect(i)-	proper, straight	rectify, rectangle
semi-	half	semi-automatic , semi-circular

tri-	three	triangle , tricolor
ultra-	extremely, beyond a certain limit	ultraviolet
un-	not, opposite, take something away	unconstitutional, unparliamentarily
uni-	one , single	uniform, unification
zoo- (" zoo -oh")	relating to animals	zoology, zoophile

Observations from the study:

The study has focused on the various pre fixes including their meaning and use. From this study it is observed that the prefixes will be of great interest for the students of English language. Without knowing the meaning of the prefix we can generate words and use them in our daily life.

Bibliography:

1. Internet sources
2. Dept. of English, YA Govt. Degree College (W), Chirala

Signature of supervising teacher