

Prefixes

a-, an-

Meaning: without, lacking

Examples: apathy, amoral, anhydrous

ante-

Meaning: before, earlier

Definition: antecedent, anterior

anti-

Meaning: against

Examples: antithesis, antisocial

auto-

Meaning: self, same

Examples: autobiography, autophagy, automotive

circum-

Meaning: around

Examples: circumvent, circumscribe

co-, com-, con-

Meaning: together, with

Examples: coworker, company, concentrate

contra-, contro-

Meaning: against

Examples: contradict, contraindicated, controversy

de-

Meaning: down, away from

Examples: deactivate, degrade

dis-

Meaning: not, separated

Examples: disavow, disappear, dissection

en-

Meaning: cover, put in

Examples: enclose, enchant

ex-

Meaning: out of, from, former

Examples: exhale, exclaim, ex-girlfriend

extra-

Meaning: beyond, additional

Examples: extravasate, extravagant, extraterrestrial

hetero-

Meaning: different

Definition: heterogenous, heterosexual

homo-, homeo-

Meaning: same

Examples: homophone, homeostatic, homosexual

hyper-

Meaning: beyond

Examples: hyperinflate, hyperactive, hypervigilant

in-

Meaning: into

Examples: inspect, infatuate

inter-

Meaning: among, between

Examples: intercalate, intersection

intra-, intro-

Meaning: within

Examples: intramolecular, intraosseous, introspection

macro-

Meaning: large

Examples: macrocosm, macroeconomics

micro-

Meaning: small

Examples: microbiome, microchip

mono-

Meaning: one, single

Examples: monotony, monogamy, monolith

non-

Meaning: not

Examples: nonexistent, nonessential

omni-

Meaning: all

Examples: omniscient, omnipresent, omnivore

post-

Meaning: after

Definition: postictal, postoperative, postpartum

pre-, pro-

Meaning: before

Examples: precede, prevent, prologue

sub-

Meaning: below, lower

Examples: subside, submarine

sym-, syn-

Meaning: together

Examples: symmetric, synchronize, symbiotic

tele-

Meaning: over distance

Examples: telepathic, telephone, teleport

trans-

Meaning: across, beyond

Examples: transfer, transgression, transaction

tri-

Meaning: three

Examples: trilingual, triangle

un-

Meaning: not

Examples: unfair, unpredictable

uni-

Meaning: one

Examples: universe, unicycle

up-

Meaning: higher, above

Examples: uphold, upload, upstage