

Helpful Hints

A **prefix** is a word part added to the **beginning** of a **base word**. Adding a prefix to a word can change the meaning of the word. It can also make a new word.

The prefix **un** means “not,” as in **unafraid**.

The prefix **dis** means “not” or “opposite of,” as in **dislike**.

The prefix **re** means “again,” as in **rewrite**, or “back,” as in **return**.

Watch out for words that seem to have prefixes but really do not.

When you remove the **un** from **uncle**, no base word remains.

Add un, re, or dis to each of these base words. Write the new word on the line.

1. not kind

2. pay back

3. the opposite of agree

4. fill again

5. not known

6. not important

Read the base word at the left of each sentence. Add the prefix un, re, or dis to the base word. Write the new word on the line.

welcome 7. The members of the cleanup crew were greeted by a(n) _____ sight.

safe 8. The amount of trash left over from the parade made the street _____.

appear 9. The volunteers quickly went to work to make the garbage _____.

store 10. They worked long and hard to _____ the street to its original condition.

pleasant 11. We are sorry their task was so _____.

CHALLENGE

Some words have *two* prefixes. Underline the two prefixes in each of these words. Then tell what each word means.

unresolved
rediscovered



Add the prefixes in red to the base words in the box.
Write the new words on the lines.

1	un	2	re	3	dis
familiar	_____	place	_____	connect	_____
opened	_____	turn	_____	honest	_____
able	_____	view	_____	color	_____
happy	_____	solve	_____	loyal	_____
checked	_____	think	_____	like	_____
tie	_____	live	_____	approve	_____



Use the best word from above to complete each sentence correctly.

- Some people feel they are _____ to solve community problems.
- If people are _____ with the problems in their community, they can do nothing to help solve them.
- A community must _____ its problems by finding solutions.
- If pollution goes _____, it can make people and animals sick.
- Waste in rivers and streams can _____ the water, turning it from blue to muddy gray.
- Yet rivers and streams can _____ to their original state with just a little help.
- Scientists must _____ all the facts before choosing a plan of action.
- Sometimes, scientists must _____ their solutions to problems.
- Their solutions must not make people sad or _____.



Helpful Hints

The **prefix pre** means “before.” To **prepay** means “to pay before.”

The **prefixes in** and **im** mean “not” or “into.”

Inactive means “not active.” **Impress** means “press into.”

The **prefixes over** and **super** mean “beyond,” “extra,” or “too much.”

To **overeat** means “to eat too much.”

A **superstar** is more talented than other stars.

Underline the prefix in each word. Then use what you know about the prefix to write the meaning of the word.

1. overjoyed _____
2. superhero _____
3. impatient _____
4. prehistoric _____
5. impressed _____
6. incredible _____

CHALLENGE

Pre- can be used to describe a period in time. Use a dictionary to write the meaning of these words:

Precambrian
pre-Columbian

Complete each sentence about Elizabeth Cady Stanton. Choose the best word from the activity above.

7. It seems _____ now, but before 1920, women in the United States were not allowed to vote.
8. Elizabeth Cady Stanton disagreed with that idea and _____ people with her speeches about women’s rights.
9. Sometimes, she was _____ with the slow progress women were making.
10. She would be _____ to see the rights that women have gained today.





Choose a word from the box to answer each question correctly.
Write the word on the line.

supermarket impure incorrect overcast imprison inexact superhero
overseas indirect overweight immature preview overflow

1. Which word means "not direct"? _____
2. Which word means "to view ahead of time"? _____
3. Which word means "not mature"? _____
4. Which word means "weighing too much"? _____
5. Which word means "a market greater than other food stores"? _____
6. Which word means "beyond the sea"? _____
7. Which word means "clouded over"? _____
8. Which word means "not correct"? _____
9. Which word means "to flow over"? _____
10. Which word means "a hero greater than other heroes"? _____
11. Which word means "not pure"? _____
12. Which word means "to put in prison"? _____
13. Which word means "not exact"? _____



Choose five words from the box above.
Write a sentence for each word.

14. _____
15. _____
16. _____
17. _____
18. _____

