

# Suffixes and Prefixes

## A



SUFFIX	USE	EXAMPLES
<b>ache</b>	Pain	Headache, stomachache, earache, backache
<b>able</b>	Capable of	Comfortable, disputable, deniable, enjoyable
<b>er</b>	Agent, profession	Driver, teacher, player, lawyer, cleaner
<b>er</b>	Comparative	Bigger, taller (more intelligent)
<b>est</b>	Superlative	Biggest, tallest (most intelligent)
<b>ed</b>	Past	Played, watched
<b>ess</b>	Female	Actress, waitress, stewardess
<b>less</b>	Lack of	Useless, careless, hopeless, homeless
<b>ful</b>	Full of, having some or much	Useful, careful, hopeful
<b>ish</b>	Characteristic, vagueness	Childish, reddish, oldish
<b>hood</b>	State, condition, or quality	Neighborhood, childhood, adulthood,
<b>ment</b>	Nouns from verbs	Improvement, agreement, government, treatment, investment
<b>ness</b>	Nouns from adjectives	Greatness, happiness, sadness, darkness
<b>ship</b>	Nouns - different kind of relationship	Friendship, leadership, partnership
<b>ly</b>	"mente" Port. In what manner	Quickly, seriously, badly
<b>wards</b>	Direction of	Towards, backward, forward, inwards
<b>tion</b>	substitua por "ÇÃO"	Information, pollution, violation, distortion
<b>would</b>	substitua por "RIA"	I would play → Eu jogaria   I would eat → Eu comeria
<b>ty</b>	substitua por "DADE"	cidade = city / velocidade = velocity / simplicidade = simplicity
<b>ence</b>	substitua por "ÊNCIA"	essência = essence / frequência = frequency

## B

### Prefix

PREFIX	USE	EXAMPLES
<b>no</b>	Not	Nowhere, no one, nobody, nothing
<b>every</b>	All	Everywhere, everyone, everybody, everything
<b>any</b>	Qualquer, mais abrangente	Anything, anywhere, anyone, anybody
<b>some</b>	Algum, menos abrangente	Sometihng, somewhere, someone, somebody
<b>dis</b>	Apart, not	Discomfort, disagree, disconnect, discard
<b>im</b>	Not	Impolite, imperfect, impossible
<b>in</b>	Not	Indiscreet, invisible
<b>ir</b>	Not	Irregular, irrational
<b>mis</b>	Wrong, apart, not	Misunderstand, misuse, misplace, mispronounce
<b>re</b>	Do again	Replace, return, repeat, regress
<b>un</b>	Not	Unable, undeniable, unquestionable

# Exercises

1) The following prefixes all give the meaning of NOT when they come before a word.

**il - ir - dis - im - in - mis - un**

## **IMPORTANT RULES**

The prefix **im-** comes before words that start with the letters **M, B or P**.

The prefix **il-** comes before words that start with the letter **L**.

The prefix **ir-** comes before words that start with the letter **R**.

**Which prefix do we use to make these words negative?**

- |                |                |
|----------------|----------------|
| a) satisfied   | h) happy       |
| b) patient     | i) responsible |
| c) expensive   | j) understand  |
| d) legal       | k) appear      |
| e) possible    | l) regular     |
| f) comfortable | m) moral       |
| g) honest      |                |

2) Put the word in brackets into the correct form. You will have to use prefixes and suffixes.

- a) I must go to the dentist, but I am scared because my tooth is so \_\_\_\_\_. (pain)
- b) The party was totally \_\_\_\_\_. It was terrible. (organize)
- c) I think that there has been a \_\_\_\_\_, I didn't order this. (understand)
- d) He had a \_\_\_\_\_ car. (green)
- e) Any hesitation on the part of the \_\_\_\_\_ will be seen as \_\_\_\_\_. (govern | weak)
- f) I'm not \_\_\_\_\_ with the idea of leaving her in a strange Village. (comfort)
- g) There was a look of \_\_\_\_\_ in his eyes. (sad)
- h) It is \_\_\_\_\_ to point at people. (polite)
- i) She \_\_\_\_\_ her keys so often, that her secretary used to carry extra ones for her. (place)



**3) Complete with the correct suffix and prefix.**

- a) It's \_\_\_\_\_ trying to convince her that she doesn't need to lose any weight. (use)
- b) It would be \_\_\_\_\_ to have a secretary to deal with all the paperwork. (use)
- c) It's very \_\_\_\_\_ that they will be late. They are stuck in traffic. (like)
- d) It's \_\_\_\_\_ to rain today, it's very sunny. (like)
- e) They say that exposure to low level radioactivity is \_\_\_\_\_. (harm)
- f) It's important to protect your skin from the \_\_\_\_\_ effects of the sun. (harm)
- g) It's a tragedy that so many young people are \_\_\_\_\_ to find jobs. (able)
- h) This word is very difficult to spell and it's \_\_\_\_\_. (pronounce)
- i) These sales figures are a good indication of another \_\_\_\_\_ year. (profit)
- j) Many of us in the editorial department \_\_\_\_\_ with the changes that are happening. (agree)
- k) Providing \_\_\_\_\_ people with \_\_\_\_\_ to stay when the weather is cold, doesn't solve the problem. (home | where)

