Beginning Prefixes to Teach



BEGINNING PREFIXES	MEANING	EXAMPLE
anti-	against	antifreeze
bi-, bin-	two	bicycle, binocular
de-	opposite of, down	deform, decrease
dis- (7%)	not, opposite	disappear
ex-	former	ex-wife
im-, in-, ir-, il- (11%)	not	impossible, invisible
inter-	among, between	intermission
mid-	middle	midsemester
mis-	wrong, not	misbehave
multi-	many, much	mutlicolored
non-	not	nonsense
over-	too much	overdue
pre-	before	precaution
pro-	forward, favor	proceed, Pro-American
re- (14%)	again, back	rewrite, repay
semi-	half	semicircle
sub-	under, below	submarine
super-	above, beyond	supermarket
tele-	distant	telescope
trans-	across	transfer
tri-	three	triangle
un- (26%)	not	unhappy
under-	below, less than	underground, underpaid
uni-	one	unison

Beginning Suffixes to Teach

BEGINNING SUFFIXES	MEANING	EXAMPLE
-able, -ible	can be done	likeable
-al, -ial	having characteristics of	final
-arium, -orium	place for	aquarium, auditorium
-ed (20%)	past-tense verbs	wanted
-en	to make	frighten
-er	comparative, more	bigger
-est	comparative, most	biggest
-ful	full of	sorrowful
-ic	having characteristics of	comic
-ify	to make	terrify
-ing (14%)	verb form/present participle	playing
-ion, -tion, -ation, -ition	act, process	action
-ish	relating to	childish
-ity, -ty	state of	activity
-ive, -ative, -itive	adjective form of a noun	attentive
-less	without	hopeless
-ly (7%)	characteristic of	friendly
-ment	action or process	enjoyment
-ness	state of, condition of	happiness
-or, -er, -ar	one who	doctor, teacher, liar
-ous, -eous, -ious	possessing the qualities of	joyous, serious
-s, -es (31%)	plural	boys, boxes
-ship	state or quality of	hardship
-у	characterized by	funny

Beginning Bases to Teach

BEGINNING BASES	MEANING	EXAMPLE
act-	do	react
aero-	air	aerobics
agr-	field	agrarian
alter-	other	alternate
anim-	life, spirit	animate
ann, enn	year	annual, biennial
aqua-	water	aquatic
ast-	star	astronomy
audi-, audit-	hear, listen	audience, audition
biblio-	book	bibliography
card-, cord-	heart	cardiac, cordial
chron-	time	chronoicle
claim-, clam	shout	proclaim, exclamation
cog-	know	recognize
corp-	body	corporation
cosm-	universe	cosmonaut
cred-, credit-	believe	incredible, discredit
cur-	run, go	occur
cycl-	circle, ring	cyclone
dict-	say, tell, speak	dictate
doc-	teach	doctrine
duc-, duct-	lead	conduct
fac-, fic-, fact-	do, make	factory, efficient
gen	birth, race	generation, genocide

Beginning Bases to Teach

BEGINNING BASES	MEANING	EXAMPLE
graph-, gram-	write, letter	biography, telegram
hydro-	water	hydroponic, dehydrate
lab-	work	laboratory, collaborate
liber-	free	liberty
man-	hand	manufacture, manuscript
mar-	sea	marine, maritime
mater,- matr-	mother	maternal, maternity
mis-, mit-	to send	dismiss, transmit
mov-, mot-, mobil-	move	remove, motion
ped-, pod-	feet	pedal, tripod
phil-	love	philosophy, Philadelphia
phon-	sound	symphony, phonics
pon-, pos-, posit-	put, place	position
port-	carry	portable
ques-, quer-, quis-	ask, seek	question, query, inquisitive
rad-	ray, spoke	radius
rect-	straight	rectify, correct
scrib-	script, write	inscribe
struct-	build	instruct, destruction
terr-, geo-	land	territory, geography
tract-	pull, drag	attract, extract
vac-	empty	vacant, evacuate
vid-, vis-	see	video, visible
vovl-	turn	evolve

Advanced Prefixes to Teach

a- on aboard ab- from abormal ad- to, toward, add to admit after- after afternoon ambi-, amphi- both, around ambidextrous, amphibian auto- self autograph be- make befriend bene- good benefit cent-, centi- hundred(th) century, centimeter circu-, circum- around circumference co-, com-, col- with, together cooperate, combine contra-, contro-, counter- against, opposite contradict, counteract dec-, deci- ten(th) decade, decible di- two, double dioxide dia- through, across diameter du-, duo- two duplicate, duo dys- bad dysfunctional e- out, away eject en-, em- equi- equal equator eu- good euphoria fore- before foresee giga- billion gigabyte hemi-	ADVANCED PREFIXES	MEANING	EXAMPLE
ad- after- after after afternoon ambir, amphi- auto- be- make befriend bene- good benefit centr, centi- circur, circum- cor, con-, col- contrar, contro-, counter- dec-, deci- di- di- two, double dia- through, across dur, duo- dys- bad dysfunctional e- e- out, away eject enr, em- cause to enual after adter autor atter advata atter atter advata atter ad	a-	on	aboard
after afternoon ambi-, amphi- auto- be- make befriend bene- good benefit cent-, centi- circu-, circum- cor-, con-, col- contra-, contro-, counter- dec-, deci- di- di- two, double dia- through, across diameter du-, duo- dys- bad dysfunctional e- e- en-, em- cause to endad, acrose giga- billion autorade antograph bether autograph befriend befriend benefit century, centimeter circum, century, centimeter circumference cor, com-, con-, col- with, together cooperate, combine contradict, counteract dec-, deci- ten(th) decade, decible dioxide dia- dia- du-, duo- dys- bad dysfunctional e- e- out, away eject en-, em- cause to enjoy equal equator eu- good euphoria fore- giga- billion gigabyte	ab-	from	abormal
ambir, amphi- auto- self autograph be- make befriend bene- good benefit cent-, centi- circu-, circum- around cor, com-, con-, col- with, together contra-, contro-, counter- dec-, deci- ten(th) decade, decible di- two, double dia- through, across diameter du-, duo- dys- bad dysfunctional e- e- out, away eject en-, em- equi- equal equator equi- equi- equal equator fore- giga- billion sigabyte	ad-	to, toward, add to	admit
auto- be- make befriend bene- good benefit cent-, centi- circu-, circum- around circumference co-, com-, con-, col- contra-, contro-, counter- dec-, deci- di- two, double dia- through, across diameter du-, duo- dys- bad dysfunctional e- e- out, away eject en-, em- cause to enjoy equi- equal equal equator fore- giga- billion senftra befriend b	after-	after	afternoon
be- make befriend bene- good benefit cent-, centi- cent-, centi- hundred(th) century, centimeter circu-, circum- around circumference co-, com-, con-, col- with, together contra-, contro-, counter- against, opposite contradict, counteract dec-, deci- ten(th) decade, decible di- two, double dia- through, across diameter du-, duo- two duplicate, duo dys- bad dysfunctional e- out, away eject en-, em- equal equal equator equi- equal equator fore- giga- billion gigabyte	ambi-, amphi-	both, around	ambidextrous, amphibian
bene- good benefit cent-, centi- hundred(th) century, centimeter circu-, circum- around circumference co-, com-, con-, col- with, together cooperate, combine contra-, contro-, counter- against, opposite contradict, counteract dec-, deci- ten(th) decade, decible di- two, double dioxide dia- through, across diameter du-, duo- two duplicate, duo dys- bad dysfunctional e- out, away eject en-, em- cause to enjoy equi- equal equator eu- good euphoria fore- before foresee giga-	auto-	self	autograph
cent-, centi- circu-, circum- circu-, con-, con-, col- contra-, contro-, counter- dec-, deci- di- di- two, double dia- du-, duo- dys- bad dysfunctional e- e- out, away eject en-, em- cause to equal equal equator eu- giga- billion century, centimeter circum, century, centimeter circumference cooperate, combine contradict, counteract decade, decible dioxide dioxide dioxide dioxide dioxide diameter dual duplicate, duo dysfunctional e- enjoy equi- equal equator eu- good euphoria fore- giga- billion gigabyte	be-	make	befriend
circu-, circum- co-, com-, con-, col- co-, com-, con-, col- contra-, contro-, counter- dec-, deci- di- ten(th) decade, decible dia- through, across diameter du-, duo- two duplicate, duo dys- bad dysfunctional e- out, away eject en-, em- cause to enjoy equi- eu- good euphoria fore- giga- billion contra-, contro-, counter- cooperate, combine contract, contract, counteract dec-, deci-	bene-	good	benefit
co-, com-, col- contra-, contro-, col- contra-, contro-, counter- dec-, deci- di- two, double dia- through, across diameter du-, duo- two duplicate, duo dys- bad dysfunctional e- en-, em- cause to enjoy equi- equal equal equator eu- good before giga- billion contradict, counteract contradict, counteract decade, decible dioxide du- dioxide du- dioxide dioxide du-	cent-, centi-	hundred(th)	century, centimeter
contra-, contro-, counter- dec-, deci- ten(th) decade, decible di- two, double dia- through, across diameter du-, duo- two dys- bad dysfunctional e- out, away eject en-, em- cause to enjoy equi- eu- good fore- giga- billion contradict, counteract contradict, counteract contradict, counteract contradict, counteract check contradict, counteract decade, decible dioxide dioxi	circu-, circum-	around	circumference
dec-, deci- di- two, double dioxide dia- through, across diameter du-, duo- dys- bad dysfunctional e- out, away eject en-, em- cause to equil- eu- good good euphoria fore- giga- billion dioxide dioxide dioxide dioxide dioxide dioxide dioxide diameter dual dysfunctional e- euphoria foresee	co-, com-, con-, col-	with, together	cooperate, combine
di- dia- through, across diameter du-, duo- two duplicate, duo dys- bad dysfunctional e- out, away eject en-, em- cause to equal equator eu- good euphoria fore- before billion dioxide	contra-, contro-, counter-	against, opposite	contradict, counteract
dia- through, across diameter du-, duo- two duplicate, duo dys- bad dysfunctional e- out, away eject en-, em- cause to enjoy equi- equal equator eu- good euphoria fore- before foresee giga- billion gigabyte	dec-, deci-	ten(th)	decade, decible
du-, duo- dys- bad dysfunctional e- out, away eject en-, em- cause to enjoy equi- eu- good euphoria fore- before foresee giga- duplicate, duo dysfunctional eysfunctional ee, epiect enjoy equal equator equator equator euphoria foresee	di-	two, double	dioxide
dys- e- out, away eject en-, em- cause to equal equator eu- good fore- giga- billion dysfunctional dysfunctional dysfunctional dysfunctional eject en-, em- equator en-joy equator equator equator euphoria foresee	dia-	through, across	diameter
e- out, away eject en-, em- cause to enjoy equi- equal equator eu- good euphoria fore- before foresee giga- billion gigabyte	du-, duo-	two	duplicate, duo
en-, em- equi- equi- eu- good euphoria fore- before billion enjoy equator equator euphoria good good euphoria foresee	dys-	bad	dysfunctional
equi- eu- good euphoria fore- giga- billion gigabyte	e-	out, away	eject
eu- good euphoria fore- before foresee giga- billion gigabyte	en-, em-	cause to	enjoy
fore- before foresee giga- billion gigabyte	equi-	equal	equator
giga- billion gigabyte	eu-	good	euphoria
	fore-	before	foresee
hemi- half hemisphere	giga-	billion	gigabyte
	hemi-	half	hemisphere

Advanced Prefixes to Teach

ADVANCED PREFIXES	MEANING	EXAMPLE
hetero-	different	heterogenous
homo-	same	homophone
hyper-	over, excessive	hyperactive
hypo-	under, too little	hypothermia
intra-	within	intramural
kilo-	thousand	kilometer
macro-	large, long	macroeconomics
magni-	great, large	magnify
mal-	bad	malfunction
mega-	large, million	megaphone
meta-	change	metaphor
micro-	small, short	microscope
milli-	thousand	millimeter
mon-, mono-	one	monorail
neo-	new	neonatal
omni-, pan-	all	omnificent, panorama
per-	through	permit
peri-	around	periscope
poly-	many	polysyllabic
post-	after	postpone
prot-	first, chief	protagonist
pseudo-	false	pseudonym
syn-	together	synchronize
ultra-	beyond	unltraconservative
	<u> </u>	

Advanced Suffixes to Teach

ADVANCED SUFFIXES	MEANING	EXAMPLE
-a, -ae	plural	data, algae
-acious	inclined to	audacious
-ade, age	action or process	blockade, marriage
-an	relating to	Hawaiian
-ance, -ancy	state or quality of	annoyance, vacancy
-ant, -ent	one who	servant, resident
-ant	inclined to	defiant
-arian	one who	librarian
-ary, -ory	place for	library, laboratory
-ation, -ion, -sion, -tion	state or quality of	starvation, tension, caution
-ative	inclined to	talkative
-ble	repeated action	stumble
-dom	state or quality of	freedom
-ectomy	surgical removal of	tonsillectomy
-ee	object of action	employee
-ence, -ency	state or quality of	absence, consistency
-enne	female	comedienne
-er	action or process	murder
-ern	direction	eastern
-ery	state or quality of	bravery
-ess	one who (female)	waitress
-ette	small	diskette
-esque	relating to	picturesque
-hood	state or quality of	falsehood

Advanced Suffixes to Teach

-ial, -ian, -ic, -ical relating to -ics scientific or social chemical comp	
-ide, -ine chemical comp	oound fluoride, chlorine
,	
-ina, -ine female	ballerina, heroine
-ious state or quality	of gracious
-ism doctrine of	capitalism
-ist one who pract	ices biologist
-itis inflammation o	of bronchitis
-ization state or quality	of civilization
-ize to make	standardize
-like resembling	lifelike
-ling small	duckling
-most most	innermost
-oid resembling	asteroid
-ose sugars	fructose
-phobia fear of	claustrophobia
-some inclined to	tiresome
-th, -eth numbers	fifth, fifteith
-ulent full of	turbulent
-uous state or quality	of contemptuous
-ure action or proce	ess of endure
-ward direction	upward
-ways manner	sideways
-wise manner, direct	ion clockwise

Word List for English Learners

WORD PARTS IN ORDER	MEANING	EXAMPLE
-ing (14%)	verb form/present participle	playing
-ed (20%)	past-tense verbs	wanted
s, -es (31%)	plural	boys, boxes
re- (14%)	again, back	rewrite, repay
un- (26%)	not	unhappy
dis- (7%)	not, opposite	disappear
mis-	wrong, not	misbehave
-or, -er, -ar	one who	doctor, teacher, liar
-er	comparative, more	bigger
-est	comparative, most	biggest
-ly (7%)	characteristic of	friendly
-y	characterized by	funny
-ion, -tion, -ation, -ition	act, process	action
graph-, gram-	write, letter	biography, telegram
tele-	distance	television
photo-	light	photosynthesis
auto-	self	automobile
spect-	to look at	inspect
port-	across	transport