

# 45 COMMON PREFIXES IN ENGLISH

**IMPRESS YOUR COLLEAGUES & FRIENDS WITH  
YOUR ADVANCED ENGLISH VOCABULARY!**



Prefix	Meaning	Example
a-, an-	without, lack of, not	amoral, acellular, abyss
ante-	before earlier, in front of	antemeridian, anterior
anti-	against, opposite of	anticlimax, antiseptic
auto-	self, same	autopilot, autobiography
bi-	two, twice	bilingual, biannual
circum-	around, about	circumvent, circumnavigate
co-	with, together	co-found, co-worker
com-	with, together	companion, commingle
con-	with, together	contact, concentrate
contra, contro-	against, opposite	contradict, contrast, controversy
de-	down, off, away from not	devalue, deactivate, debug
dis-	apart, away	disappear, disagree
en-	put into, cover with	enclose, encase, enslave
ex-	out of, from, former	extract, exhale, ex-president
extra-	beyond, outside, more than	extracurricular, extravagant
hetero-	different, other	heterosexual, heterodox
homo-	same, alike	homophone, homosexual
hyper-	over, more, beyond	hypersensitive, hypercritical
il-, im-, in-, ir-	not, without	illegal, immoral, inconsiderate
in-	in, into	insert, inspection, infiltrate
inter-	between, among	intersect, interstellar, intervene
intra,intro-	within, inside	intravenous, introvert
macro-	large, prominent	macroeconomics, macrostructure,
micro-	very small	microscope, microcosm, microbe
mono-	one, single, alone	monologue, monogamy, monotony
non-	not, without	nonaggressive, nonfiction
omni-	all, every	omniscient, omnichannel
post-	after, behind	postmortem, posterior, postscript
pre- pro-	before, forward precede,	predict, project, prologue
sub-	under, lower	subsidiary, substandard
sym, syn-	same time, together	symmetry, synchronise
tele-	from or over a distance	telecommunication, telephone
trans-	across, beyond, through	transaction, translation, transfer
tri-	three, third	tricycle, trimester, triangle
un-	not, lacking, opposite of to	unfinished, unskilled, unfriendly
uni-	one, single	unicorn, unicellular, unilateral
up-	the top or north, higher/better	upbeat, upgrade, upload, uphill, upstage, upscale, up-tempo



UNDER +

undertaker

underfed / undernourished

undercharge

undergrowth

underlying

undergo

understaffed

underhanded