

# What do you mean?



The following quotes are about language and communication. What do they mean?

Which one do you like best and why?

□ **'The great enemy of clear language is insincerity.'**  
(George Orwell)

□ **'The kindest word in all the world is the unkind word, unsaid.'** (UNKNOWN)

□ **'Language is the most imperfect and expensive means yet discovered for communicating thought.'** (William James)

□ **'Silence is often misinterpreted but never misquoted'**  
(UNKNOWN)

□ **'Once a word has been allowed to escape, it cannot be recalled.'** (Horace)

□ **'Foolishness always results when the tongue outraces the brain.'** (UNKNOWN)

Look at the underlined prefixes and say what effect they have on the meaning of the word.

□ 'The great enemy of clear language is insincerity.'

□ 'The kindest word in all the world is the unkind word, unsaid.'

□ 'Language is the most imperfect and expensive means yet discovered for communicating though.'

Use them to make the opposites of these words:

\_\_ mature    \_\_ dependant    \_\_ healthy

What prefixes are used to make the opposites of these words?

\_\_ legal    \_\_ responsible    \_\_ honest

# Look at the underlined prefixes and match them to their meanings

1. 'Silence is often misinterpreted but never misquoted'
2. 'Foolishness always results when the tongue outraces the brain.'
3. 'Once a word has been allowed to escape, it cannot be recalled.'

A. again     **re**     B. in the wrong way     C. **mis**     **ou**ter/more

**What do the prefixes at the beginning of these words mean?**

anti-government, unpaid, overcooked, nonverbal, ex-wife

**Complete the words with the prefixes written above.**

\_\_sleep, \_\_-President, \_\_social, \_\_value, \_\_-alcoholic



Complete Train Your Brain with the previous examples.  
You can use your SB p.93.

## TRAIN YOUR BRAIN | Prefixes

Prefixes can form the opposite of the word. Give one more example for each.

1 *unfriendly*, \_\_\_

4 *inefficient*, \_\_\_

2 *impossible*, \_\_\_

5 *irrational*, \_\_\_

3 *illogical*, \_\_\_

6 *dissatisfied*, \_\_\_

Prefixes can change the meaning of the word in other ways. Complete with examples or the meaning.

### examples

### meaning

1 *misunderstand*, *misspell*,  
*mishear*

\_\_\_

2 *rewrite*, *retake*, *remarry*

\_\_\_

3 \_\_\_ , \_\_\_

too much

4 \_\_\_ , \_\_\_

too little

5 \_\_\_ , \_\_\_

without, not

6 *outnumber*, *outplay*, *outsell*

\_\_\_

7 \_\_\_ , \_\_\_

former

8 \_\_\_ , \_\_\_

against

**Rewrite these sentences using a word with a prefix so that the meaning stays the same.**

- 1** Sorry, I think you didn't hear me correctly: I said *Vine Street*.
- 2** It's against the law to drive without a seatbelt.
- 3** I hate vegetables which have been cooked for too long.
- 4** I'll have to wait until autumn to take my exams again.
- 5** Who's that with the boy who used to be my boyfriend?
- 6** Could I have a drink that hasn't got any alcohol in it, please?
- 7** Manchester United deserved to win: they played much better than Liverpool.
- 8** This bar is open to people who are not residents.



Complete the gaps in these questions with a suitable prefix. Then, in pairs, ask and answer the questions. Which of your partner's answers surprised you? Tell the class.

- 1 Which do you find more difficult: \_\_\_mature people or \_\_\_friendly people?
- 2 Do you prefer to read fiction or \_\_\_-fiction?
- 3 What \_\_\_healthy food or drink do you find \_\_\_ possible to give up?
- 4 When was the last time you \_\_\_slept?
- 5 Do you think it is \_\_\_-social to smoke in public?
- 6 Do you think it's worse to be \_\_\_worked or \_\_\_paid?
- 7 What English words do you often \_\_\_spell?
- 8 In your family, do the males \_\_\_number the females, or vice versa?

# Open your WB on page 81 to complete the following tasks.

## VOCABULARY ACTIVATOR

1 Make the adjectives negative by adding the correct prefix.

- |                 |                    |
|-----------------|--------------------|
| 1 ___ satisfied | 7 ___ friendly     |
| 2 ___ complete  | 8 ___ honest       |
| 3 ___ logical   | 9 ___ perfect      |
| 4 ___ rational  | 10 ___ dependent   |
| 5 ___ kind      | 11 ___ responsible |
| 6 ___ mature    | 12 ___ legal       |

2 Complete the sentences with the correct prefixes.

- 1 Don't misunderstand me. I don't think you'll fail but you will have to work hard.
- 2 We were stronger than them, fitter than them and better than them but, on the day, they \_\_\_ played us and we lost the match.

3 I'm sorry, the chicken is a bit \_\_\_ cooked – I was talking on the phone and forgot it.

4 Do you want to join us on an \_\_\_ government protest on Saturday?

5 What a mess! I can't read this! \_\_\_ write it and give it to me on Monday morning.

6 I get upset every time I see my \_\_\_ girlfriend with another boy.

7 I'm thinking of looking for another job. This one is badly \_\_\_ paid.

8 Could I have something \_\_\_ alcoholic to drink? I'm driving this evening.



**THANK YOU FOR  
YOUR ATTENTION!**