



Week 2

Lesson 4

Asynchronous task

Inferring meaning

Lesson objectives

- Inferring the meaning of words in sentences
- Using prefixes to infer meaning

- Context and environment are often helpful when you want to understand a new word and infer the meaning of the whole sentence that word is used in.
- Many academic words in English contain prefixes, so understanding such prefixes helps with understanding academic texts.

Inferring meaning

TASK 1 Inferring the meaning of unknown words in sentences

1 Each of sentences 1–6 has one missing word. Try to infer the meaning of the word by using the sentence as context.

- 1 Handheld devices such as smart phones have revolutionized _____ between individuals worldwide. communication
- 2 The main impact of online newspapers was to reduce the _____ of paper-based national newspapers, with some less popular titles going out of _____. circulation
- 3 Media investors and newspaper publishers were interested only in titles that would still sell in large numbers to _____ the costs of production and make a profit. cover
- 4 Older communication technologies such as telegrams became _____ while even newer ones such as faxes are in decline. obsolete
- 5 The market for downloads was initially limited, but in its _____ of larger markets the music industry soon found ways of selling more downloads, to more people, more often. pursuit
- 6 Newer technologies are much more _____ and to a great extent beyond the control of national governments. decentralized

TASK 2 Using prefixes to infer meaning

1 Match the prefixes in words 1-9 to their meanings a-i.

1 biography

2 deregulate

3 extra-terrestrial

4 interdepartmental

5 intranet

6 misguided

7 technician

8 telepathic

9 transcontinental

f

d

a

l

b

h

c

e

g

a outside

b within

c skill or system

d take away or remove

e far or distant

f life

g across

h bad(ly) or wrong(ly)

i between

Think of more examples of

a) Words using these prefixes

Telephone, teleology

Decrease, defile

Biological, biographical

Extraordinary, extrajudicial
Intermediate, intermingle

Intragastric, intracellular
Mismatch, mistrust
transportation

b) Other grammatical prefixes



LIST OF PREFIXES

PREFIXES

1. Ex-
2. Dis-
3. Anti-
4. Pre-
5. Mis-
6. Post-

DEFINITION

1. Former, older
2. Not, opposite of
3. Against
4. Before
5. Wrong, wrongly
6. After

WORDS

1. ex-president, ex-boyfriend
2. discord, discomfort, disengage
3. antidote, antisocial
4. preview, pretest, prevent, preplan
5. misjudge, misinterpret, misguided
6. postgraduate, postdate, postnatal

Task 3

2 Complete the words in the sentences using prefixes from 1.

- 1 Applications from students wanting to study tech nology and biology are increasing.
- 2 The graduation ceremony was televised and broadcast on the internet.
- 3 Intercultural understanding tends to develop quickly when people from different cultures interact in the same context, such as at a university.
- 4 Experts' views are frequently misunderstood if people don't have all the facts.
- 5 Computers are often blamed for deskilling young people.
- 6 His performance in the end-of-term exams was extraordinary.

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- What new things have you learnt today?
 - Recall some new words you've learnt in the lesson
 - Is there anything you didn't understand in the activities or the text?
 - Could you participate in each activity?
 - Do you have any questions?

LESSON REFLECTION

CHECK YOUR KNOWLEDGE!

- Now, go to your assignments in MS Teams. Check your knowledge by taking the quiz that your instructor assigned.

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=8xWPFeCDBkmCTGm9xQ2dYcAmYROuce5NkXnSZdrpithUMFhNU1NNMFI3SldHNIZHUDZRSUZNMFIQUiQIQCNjPTEu>



THANK YOU!