

# LESSON 168

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## 979 Common prefixes (1)

respectively

A **prefix** is a group of letters we add at the beginning of a word, usually to change the meaning of the word. For example, the prefixes "over-" and "under-" add the meanings of "too much" and "too little" respectively. So, the verb "overeats" means "eat too much" and "undereats" means "eat too little".

Some other common prefixes are: "re-" (meaning "again"), "co-" (meaning "together"), "un-" (meaning "not" or "opposite of"), and "inter-" (meaning "between").

What meaning can the prefix "re-" add to a word?      The prefix ... "again" ...

Give me an example, please.      At his first attempt, he failed to get into the university, but then he reapplied and succeeded

What meaning can the prefix "co-" add to a word?

The prefix ... "together" ...

Give me an example, please.      Although the two nations used to be enemies, they coexist very happily today

What meaning can the prefix "un-" add to a word?

The prefix ... "not" or "opposite of" ...

Give me an example, please.      It was unprofessional of him not to unplug the TV before trying to fix it

What meaning can the prefix "inter-" add to a word?

The prefix ... "between" ...

980 Give me an example, please.

The hotel offers interconnecting rooms for family groups

**reserve**

**can**

**emergency**

**boot**

If you had called to reserve a table at a restaurant but then discovered on arriving that there was no record of the booking, what would you expect to happen?      If ... I'd expect ...

Why do some drivers carry a can full of petrol in the boot of their car?

Some drivers ... so that they always  
have petrol in reserve in case of an emergency

**terror**

**terrorist**

**citizen**

Why is a terrorist called a terrorist? A terrorist is ... because he tries to create  
terror among the innocent citizens of a country

**outrageous**

Give me an example of the adjective "outrageous", please. I'm never  
inviting him to a party at my  
place again; his behaviour was outrageous!

**exhaust**

**nervous exhaustion**

**get away**

**finish up**

**heart attack**

How soon do you think it'll be before the world exhausts its supply of oil?

I think it'll be ... before ...

981 What often happens to people who work in a high-pressure business  
environment and never even get away for an annual holiday?

People who ... often suffer from  
high blood pressure, nervous exhaustion,  
and could even finish up having a heart attack

**relevant**

Which academic subjects do you feel are most relevant to young people's  
needs in the real world? I feel ...

**stamp**

**cross**

Do small children sometimes stamp their feet when they're cross?

Yes, small ...

**respond**

**tense**

**stiffen**

**grip**

**gripping**

**excite**

How do people usually respond physically in very tense situations? In ...  
people usually respond physically by becoming tense themselves; their bodies stiffen, they grip any available object, like the arm of a chair, and might become nervously excited

Name a film you've seen that you found gripping from start to finish.

A film I've seen that... is ...

**kitten**

**puppy**

What do we call a baby cat?

We call ... a kitten

982 And a baby dog?

We call ... a puppy

**armed**

**go off**

**gunman**

**desperate**

Are most police officers in your country armed or unarmed? Most ...

If you heard a gun go off in the street and then saw the gunman running past you, would you go after him?

Yes, if I ... ~ No, if I ...

Why or why not?

Because I'd consider it my duty as a citizen ~ Because I'd stand no chance against an armed and perhaps desperate criminal

**at a time**

Do you find that troubles seldom come to you one at a time but in threes and fours?

Yes, ... ~ No, ...

**visible**

Is the moon often visible during the day?

Yes, ... ~ No, ...

**lawful****unlawful**

Can you think of anything which is quite lawful, but which you think should be made unlawful?

Yes, ... ~ No, ...

983 What?

**hand in****notice**

How do you feel when you hand in your papers at the end of an exam?

When ..., I feel worried, relieved it's all over etc.

What do we mean when we say that someone hands in their notice?

When ... we mean that they inform their employer that they are going to leave their job

**youngster****hang out****hang around**

Where do youngsters often choose to hang out when they're not at school?

Youngsters ...

Do students at this school sometimes hang around after class to speak to their teacher?

Yes, ...

**prick**

How does a doctor obtain a small sample of blood from a patient?

A doctor ... by pricking the end of the patient's finger with a needle

**in ink (pencil etc.)****candidate****examiner**

Why are candidates in an exam usually asked to write in ink rather than in pencil?

Candidates in an ... to make it easier for examiners to read, so that what they write is permanent and can't be changed later etc.

984 **keep off**

What does a notice saying "Keep off the grass" mean?

A notice ... don't walk on the grass

**tank**

**volume**

**overflow**

**author**

**earphones**

**headphones**

When did military tanks first appear in battle? Military tanks ...  
during the First World War

What would happen if the volume of water poured into a water tank was too great? If ... the tank would overflow

If an author you liked a lot wrote a story so long that it had to be published in two or even three volumes, would that put you off reading it? Yes, ... - No, ...

What's the danger of regularly listening to music at high volume on earphones or headphones? The danger ... is that  
one can damage one's hearing

**vegetarian**

**vegan**

**dairy**

What's the difference between a vegetarian and a vegan? The difference ...  
a vegetarian chooses not to eat meat or fish,  
whereas a vegan also chooses not to eat anything else  
that comes from an animal, such as eggs, dairy products etc.

985 **extent**

**dictate**

If you give someone your opinion on something and they say "I agree with you to an extent", what do they mean? If I ... they mean they agree  
with me partly but not completely

Is your mood dictated by the weather to some extent? Yes, my mood's ...  
to some extent - No, my mood isn't ... at all

**bubble**

Name a common drink that contains bubbles. ... is a common ...

**boost**

What do you eat when you need a quick energy boost between meals? When ... I eat ...

community

resident

folk

Is there a strong sense of community among the residents of the area where you live?

Yes, ... - No, ...

What do we mean by folk music?

By ... we mean the traditional music of a particular community

## 986 weep – wept – wept

The verb "to weep" means to cry as a result of emotion (rather than physical pain). We usually weep because of sadness, but can also weep as a result of joy, relief, frustration etc.

What are the three forms of "weep"?

The three forms of "weep" are "weep, wept, wept"

Do people often weep at the funeral of someone they were very close to?

Yes, ...

## as for

The expression "as for ..." means "as regards ..." and we use it when we want to move on to a different aspect of a particular topic. For example, "The government has made major improvements in education. As for the health system, however, it still has a great deal of work to do".

Give me an example of "as for", please. Sandra thought the film was a bit of a drag. As for me, I loved every second of it.

## Phrase exercise 2

From the four options given with each sentence, choose the one word that fits correctly in the gap.

- 1 I didn't understand everything she was saying about the computer; that kind of thing is all a bit ... me.  
( over / against / beside / beyond )
- 2 I took the ... of borrowing one of your pullovers yesterday; I hope you don't mind.  
( liberty / choice / licence / advantage )

- 3 I'm sure you can become a successful artist if you ... your mind to it. ( put / throw / settle / push )
- 4 Oh come on; it's not that bad. Try to look on the ... side! ( up / good / bright / optimistic )
- 987 5 The teacher pointed out a few errors in my essay but said that, by and ..., it was good. ( small / big / little / large )
- 6 All the students were given a test, but the teacher ... an exception in my case because I was ill. ( took / gave / made / did )
- 7 Working extra hours today actually works in my ...; I'll be able to finish early tomorrow, and it's my birthday! ( favour / advantage / benefit / profit )
- 8 They should all pass the exam with ... colours. ( brilliant / racing / flying / massive )
- 9 This painting's rubbish; I'm going to start a gain from ... and do a new one. ( rip / scratch / mark / tear )
- 10 The programme was made by students at the university, ... association with Northern TV. ( and / any / in / the )
- 11 The morning was cloudy but the sun came ... in the afternoon. ( out / by / in / across )
- 12 Do you have enough money to ... the cost of all the repairs your car needs? ( cap / bridge / cover / mask )
- 13 Players were chosen for the match ... the basis of their performances in the previous four weeks. ( with / on / by / for )
- 14 He's asked me for a big favour, which puts me in a difficult ..., to be honest. ( condition / position / mind / state )
- 15 The hotel computer network is ... at the moment, so guests can't access the internet. ( out / down / off / under )

James knew/ opening one of the packages,/ which looked exactly alike,/ would kill him./ We made no allowance/ for the possibility/ that the lonely track/ might lead nowhere./ Kate's now ashamed/ of how selfishly she behaved./ There are four designers altogether/ working on the wedding ceremony./ and the tragedy is that/ I know it's still going to be awful./ The spread of a disease/ through any environment/ depends on how contagious it is./ The main points/ of each stage in the legal process/ were read aloud/ for all to hear./ Both men begged in vain/ to be forgiven by the nation/ for the damage they'd caused./ Curl, pindi, pastry, aside, bold.