

I can recognise and form a wide range of words using prefixes.

1 Think about how the weather affects human behaviour. Choose the option you think is correct.

- 1 Rainy / Sunny weather makes you sleepy.
- 2 Rainy / Sunny weather makes you hungry.
- 3 Rainy / Sunny weather makes you more violent.
- 4 Calm / Stormy weather makes children hyperactive.
- 5 Dull / Sunny weather makes your memory better.
- 6 Rainy / Sunny weather makes you feel comforted.

2 Read the blog and check your ideas in Exercise 1.



HOW WEATHER AFFECTS HUMAN BEHAVIOUR

Are you **incapable** of getting up in the morning? That may be because it's raining, and the absence of sunlight causes the sleep hormone melatonin to be **overactive**. Heavy rain can also make you hungry. When it's cloudy, the hormone serotonin decreases, and you need more carbohydrates.

The effect of rain on crime rates cannot be **underestimated**. A *New York Times* investigation found that crimes committed on dry days far **outnumber** those committed in bad weather because people (including criminals) are **unwilling** to go out in the rain. Perhaps we should **reconsider** our negative opinion of British weather in the light of these statistics!

High temperatures on the other hand have long been linked with an **upturn** in violence. Raised temperatures cause an increase in heart rates and people are less able to control their temper.

Another study concluded that the behaviour of children can predict when a storm is brewing. When the barometer hits **pre-storm** lows, children become **hyperactive** and start **misbehaving**. One theory is that the positive electrical forces in the atmosphere increase blood pressure and cause **antisocial** behaviour.

An Australian study shows that sunshine can affect our mental sharpness: it may seem **illogical**, but it has been proven that people think better on days when the sky is grey. A selection of shoppers saw ten **unusual** objects in the checkout area of a shop and were asked to recall the objects later. Shoppers on cloudy days could remember them better than shoppers on sunny days.

Ending on a positive note, it's not all bad news for rain. If your emotions are **off-balance** or you're feeling **off-colour**, the sound of raindrops can be comforting. So if it's raining where you are, the best thing is to curl up and have a nap.

3 Read and complete the LANGUAGE FOCUS with the examples in blue in the blog.

LANGUAGE FOCUS

Prefixes

Prefixes can be added to the same root word to create different words. For example from the root word *use* you can form **reuse** and **misuse**.

Prefix	Meaning	Examples
un- in- dis- il- im- ir-	not (mainly adjectives)	¹ incapable , ² _____ , ³ _____ , ⁴ _____
un- dis-	opposite (mainly verbs)	<i>undo, disallow</i>
re-	do again	<i>remarry</i> , ⁵ _____
hyper-	extremely	⁶ _____ , <i>hypersensitive</i>
mis-	bad(ly), wrong(ly)	⁷ _____ , <i>misinformation</i>
multi-	many or several	<i>multicultural</i>
off-/on-	not the case/ a place where ...	⁸ _____ , ⁹ _____ / <i>onstage</i>
out-	more than or better	¹⁰ _____ , <i>outdo</i>
over-/under-	too much/ not enough	¹¹ _____ / ¹² _____
anti-/pro-	against/in favour	¹³ _____ / <i>pro-democracy</i>
pre-/post-	before/after	¹⁴ _____ / <i>post-match</i>
self-	done to/by yourself	<i>self-esteem, self-obsessed</i>
sub-	inferior or lower	<i>substandard</i>
up-/down-	increase or improve/become worse	¹⁵ _____ / <i>downturn</i>

4 Look the example words in the table. Does your language have similar prefixes?

5 Work out the meaning of the words in the box. Then choose three words and write example sentences for them.

antinuclear misjudge multipurpose
overpaid pre-election self-awareness
uncontrollable understaffed

I believe self-awareness can be learned.

- ★ 6 Match the words in the box with the correct prefixes to make twelve new words. What spelling rules can you work out for *il-*, *im-* and *ir-*?

adequate approve aware believe
capable legal literate mature
probable relevant responsible safe

- 1 dis- _____, _____ 4 in- _____, _____
2 il- _____, _____ 5 ir- _____, _____
3 im- _____, _____ 6 un- _____, _____

- ★ 7 Rewrite the sentences so they have the opposite meaning by changing the underlined word. Which statements do you agree with?

- 1 It's probable that people will live on Mars one day.
2 The money I get from my parents is adequate.
3 It ought to be legal to cycle without a helmet.
4 Most people would describe me as responsible.
5 The roads in my country are really safe.
6 Doctors are underpaid for the job they do.
7 People who are pro-nuclear don't understand the dangers.
8 Pre-match interviews with footballers are boring.

- ★ 8 **USE OF ENGLISH** Complete the two comments about the blog with the correct form of the words in brackets.

I don't like winter. I suffer from low (**ESTEEM**)
1 _____ and I fall out with friends because
I'm very (**SOCIAL**) 2 _____. I'm (**CAPABLE**)
3 _____ of getting up in the morning and I know
that my work is (**STANDARD**) 4 _____ because I
lack concentration. I need sunshine to feel alive.

Jonny

All this weather stuff is (**RELEVANT**) 5 _____
for people like me. I work all day in a shop, I travel
to work and back by bus and I go to the gym in
the evening. I'm totally (**AWARE**) 6 _____ of the
weather most of the time!

Julie

- ★ 9 **USE OF ENGLISH** Complete another two comments about the blog with the correct forms of the words in the box.

balance comfortable controllable
able obsessed sensitive

Personally, I'm 1 _____ to changes in the
weather. I find the transition from one season to
another particularly 2 _____. For a couple of
weeks I don't feel like myself – I feel 3 _____ and
4 _____ to concentrate. Then I go back to
normal again.

Emma

It really annoys me when people say the weather
affects them. These people think it's all about them!
They're 5 _____ and I get an 6 _____ desire
to shout 'It's not the weather – it's just another
excuse to talk about yourself!'

Tim

- ★ 10 **SPEAKING** Read the comments in Exercises 8 and 9 again. Which do you agree or disagree with? Discuss how the weather affects your behaviour or how you feel.

- ★ 11 **SPEAKING** Complete the sentences with the correct forms of the words in capitals. Then discuss whether you share any of these worries.

I worry about ...

- 1 jobs. Youth _____ is a big problem in my country.
EMPLOY
2 the environment. People should use more _____
energy. **NEW**
3 the media. There is too much _____: you can't trust
anybody. **INFORM**
4 health. There aren't enough doctors. Our hospitals are
_____. **STAFF**
5 politics. There has been a _____ in the numbers of
people who vote in elections. If you can vote, you should.
TURN
6 our society. I think it should be more diverse and more
_____. **CULTURE**

SHOW WHAT YOU'VE LEARNT UNITS 1–8

- ★ 12 **USE OF ENGLISH** Complete the second sentence so that it has a similar meaning to the first. Use between two and five words including the word in capitals.

- 1 Could you tell me when the conference starts?
WONDERING
I _____ you could tell me when the conference
starts.
2 My parents are both extremely clever and I can't
overestimate how much they've taught me. **HIGHLY**
Both of my _____ and I can't overestimate how
much they've taught me.
3 I'm not allowed to use my electronic devices after 10 p.m.
BANNED
I'm _____ my electronic devices after 10 p.m.
4 In my class, all the students turn off their phones in school
time. **WHOLE**
The _____ turn off their phones in school time.
5 My last birthday wasn't as good as I expected and I was
disappointed. **LETDOWN**
My last birthday was a bit _____ and I was
disappointed.
6 I get very short of breath when I run for more than five
minutes. **BREATHE**
I _____ when I run for more than five minutes.
7 My brother is so broad-shouldered that it's difficult to find
tops to fit him. **SUCH**
My brother _____ that it's difficult to find tops to
fit him.
8 I think football players earn too much for what they do.
ARE
I think football players _____ for what they do.

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