

**Lesson 4: Negative Prefixes**

Assign. # \_\_\_\_\_

Each Spelling Word begins with a prefix that means something negative, such as no, not, against, less, bad, or wrong. Look at the prefixes and base words that make up each of the Spelling Words.

Write the base word and the prefix of the following Spelling Words to help you remember them.

Spelling Word	Base Word	Prefix
dishonest	honest	dis
unwilling	_____	_____
antidote	_____	_____
nonsense	_____	_____
malfunction	_____	_____
disappear	_____	_____
unimportant	_____	_____
inactive	_____	_____
unfathomable	_____	_____

Base words are words that are used to form other words.

- Negative prefixes are word beginnings that mean something negative, such as *no, not, against, less, bad, or wrong.*

**Spelling Words**

1. *dishonest*
2. *unwilling*
3. *antidote*
4. *nonsense*
5. *malfunction*
6. *disappear*
7. *unimportant*
8. *inactive*
9. *unfathomable*
10. *irrational*
11. *impossible*
12. *misadventure*
13. *unruly*
14. *devalue*
15. *illogical*
16. *nonfiction*

**Your Own Words**

Look for other words with negative prefixes to add to the list. You might see the word *unwise* in an article about safety measures or *dislike* in a novel about a grumpy character. You might use *nonstop* and *illegal* in a report about traffic safety.

17. \_\_\_\_\_
18. \_\_\_\_\_
19. \_\_\_\_\_
20. \_\_\_\_\_

Lesson 4: Negative Prefixes (continued)

Assign # \_\_\_\_\_

**Spelling Clues: Base Words Spelled the Same** Most base words are spelled the same even when prefixes are added to them. When you write, make sure the base word is spelled correctly, then add the prefix to the beginning. As a result, some words with prefixes may have double letters, such as illegal and unnecessary.

Match a prefix on the left with a base word on the right by drawing a line from the prefix to the base word. Then write the correct spelling of each word.

- |         |          |
|---------|----------|
| 1. anti | sense    |
| 2. non  | rational |
| 3. il   | possible |
| 4. mal  | function |
| 5. im   | logical  |
| 6. ir   | dote     |

**Proofreading 7-11.** Circle each incorrectly spelled word with a negative prefix in the lines from the play below. Then write the words correctly on the lines.

**BEATRICE** We are late, and I am unwilling to put up with anymore of your nosense!

**IAN** Don't be irational, Beatrice. The car's malefunction was justa misadventure. Please be patient and we'll be on our way soon.

**Fun with Words** Write the Spelling Words that are defined for 12-16.

12. If something does not matter, it is (12) \_\_\_\_\_.
13. When the worth of an items decreases, it is said to (13) \_\_\_\_\_.
14. A wildly unbelievable story is said to be (14) \_\_\_\_\_.
15. Someone who lies is described as (15) \_\_\_\_\_.
16. If your hair is uncombed, it might be described as (16) \_\_\_\_\_.

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_
7. \_\_\_\_\_
8. \_\_\_\_\_
9. \_\_\_\_\_
10. \_\_\_\_\_
11. \_\_\_\_\_
12. \_\_\_\_\_
13. \_\_\_\_\_
14. \_\_\_\_\_
15. \_\_\_\_\_
16. \_\_\_\_\_