

Spelling Rules



Common Prefixes



Prefix

A **prefix** is a word part that is placed before a base word or a root to provide meaning.

Example: unkind un = prefix added to kind

Common Prefixes

Closed Syllable

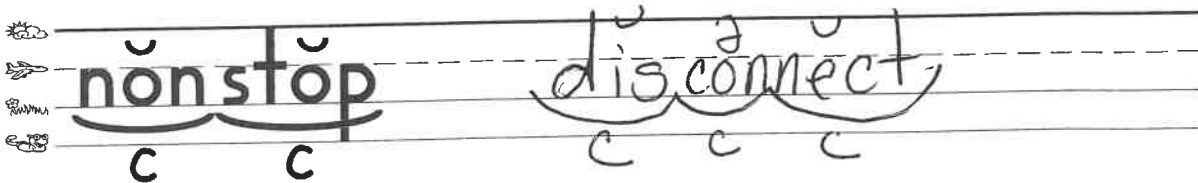
Prefix	Meaning
con	with or together
*dis, un	not, opposite of
en, em	in, into, cause to
ex	out of, away from
*in-im-il-ir	not
mis	wrongly, bad
non	not
sub	under
trans	across, beyond

Open Syllable

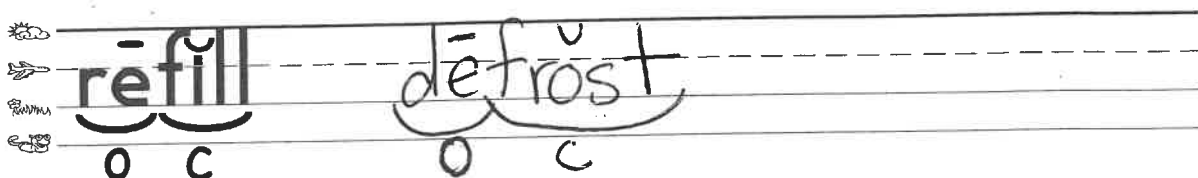
Prefix	Meaning
de	opposite
e	out of, away
pre	before
pro	in favor of/ move forward
*re	again

*These prefixes make up 97% of prefixed words in English!

Example of closed syllable prefix:



Example of open syllable prefix:





Common Roots



Root

A **root** is the basic element of a word, and it is the foundation on which the meaning of a word is built.

Common Roots

Root	Meaning
dict	speak
duct	lead, guide
fect	make
fract	break
ject	throw
junct	join
lect	choose

Root	Meaning
min	little, small
scrib	write
sist	to make firm, to stay
spec	see, look
struct	build
tract	drag

Examples of prefix + root word:

predict inspect
o c c c

destruct reject
o c o c