**The Prefix *un*-.** The most common prefix is *un*-, which means *not*. Use the words below to complete the sentences correctly.

undesirable unexpected

unfastened unfruitful

ungrateful uninformed

uninterested unleashed

unlimited unsafe

unskilled untrue

* + 1. It is simply that the automobile has had very little impact on how we live.
    2. Blacksmiths found the popularity of the automobile particularly\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ because, in a few short years, they found themselves out of work.
    3. Tommy was completely in the fact that his sister needed a way to get home from play practice. All he knew was that it was his night to use the family car.
    4. One reason that Americans are so \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ about the nation’s transportation problems is that most newspapers confine their reporting of transportation issues to strikes and tragic accidents.
    5. As J oe his safety belt, he delicately rubbed his aching stomach and wondered if the extra money he was earning as a driving instructor was worth an ulcer.
    6. Most attempts to improve the transportation system in the United States have been

because neither the city, state, nor federal governments have had a clear idea of what the goals should be.

* + 1. Mrs. Wade was stunned when her husband presented her with a brand-new car for her fiftieth birthday; the gift was totally \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.
    2. Of the 142 million tons of gases, soot, chemicals, and acids that are into the skies of the United States each year, 82 million tons come from automobile, truck, and bus exhausts.
    3. “A bunch of boneheads must have worked on my car at that garage!” roared Mr. Valentine as his Volkswagen spluttered to a grinding halt in the middle of nowhere.
    4. In the best-selling book, *at Any Speed*, the description of how dangerous automobiles were finally prompted the federal government into forcing the automobile industry to make safer cars.
    5. “You know, if you weren’t so , people who give you lifts might be more willing to take you exactly where you want to go,” the truck driver remarked after studying the look of resentment on the hitchhiker’s face.
    6. If everyone could drive at speed, what do you think highway travel would be like?

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**More Prefixes That Mean *Not.*** In addition to *un-*, five other prefixes can mean not: *il-*, *im-*, *in-*, *ir-*, and *non-*. Use the words below to complete the sentences correctly. Use each word only once.

illegal impatient

improper impure

indecent indigestion inexperience irresponsible independent indirect insane nonmetal

nonsense nonskid

* 1. When you drink water, you may be in grave danger.
  2. If you suffer from , you may be headed for an ulcer.
  3. The selling of whiskey to minors is .
  4. An person cannot be depended upon.
  5. Because of their , many new employees are given training programs by their employers.
  6. Oxygen is an example of a .
  7. An state or country is one that is self-governing.
  8. A person who speaks in an way has trouble making himself understood.
  9. The word might be on your mind if you were shopping for a new set of tires.
  10. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_describes the clothing of a person who attends a formal wedding dressed in blue jeans, a sweat shirt, and sneakers.
  11. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ describes how a person would be regarded if he or she showed up at a formal wedding stark naked.
  12. The actions of a madman can be described as .
  13. You might reply, “ !” when somebody tells you a story that you regard as silly or untrue.
  14. If you have completed this exercise in an manner, you may have made quite a few errors.

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**The Prefix *re-*.** The prefix *re-*has two common meanings: *again* (for example, rerun) and *back* (for example, replace). Choose the word from each set that completes the sentence correctly, and write it in the blank.

* 1. The lawyer was certain that the judge would \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ the case since new evidence had recently come into his possession.

renew reopen retrieve

* 1. Annabel had spent most of the afternoon \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ the steps of her hectic morning, but her efforts were in vain. She still couldn’t find her purse.

reforming rerunning retracing

* 1. His high school class’s twenty-fifth was coming soon, but Mr. Beech was having second thoughts about attending, because he had gained quite a few pounds and lost quite a few hairs.

recycling reorganization reunion

* 1. The loser often demands a after a close election if he either suspects foul play or clings to the hope that he might be the winner after all.

reconstruction recount replacement

* 1. William his answer after noting the puzzled expression on the interviewer’s face and hoped that his confusing response hadn’t ruined his chances of getting the job.

recounted rephrased retraced

* 1. When Pat learned that the bank was about to\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ her brother-in-law’s car, she finally agreed to lend him the money, even though she knew she’d probably never see it again.

refit refuel repossess

* 1. Joe’s doctor was able to successfully his shattered leg bone after his terrible automobile accident.

reconsider reconstruct refit

* 1. “Don’t worry. If we our efforts, things will work out just fine,” the foreman cheerfully advised, in an effort to raise the workers’ sagging spirits after they had just experienced a setback.

redouble regain retrace

* 1. As part of his evidence to 15,000 acres for the tribe, the lawyer presented a treaty signed by the federal government in 1837 which proved that the land had been granted to the Indians.

rebuild reclaim replant

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* 1. The court slowed Lucy to a walk by her license after she had received three traffic tickets in one month.

reversing revising revoking

**The Prefix *pre-*.** The prefix *pre*- means *before or happening earlier in time*. Use the words listed below to complete the following sentences correctly.

precooked predated

preheat prehistory

prejudged premedical

prepay preschool

preshrunk pretest

preview prewar

* 1. “I’m sorry I was so harsh with you. I guess I you as a lousy actress, but your work tonight proved I was dead wrong,” the producer said sheepishly after Jill’s faultless performance on opening night.
  2. Anthony hoped that although he had forgotten to the oven, it wouldn’t affect the new recipe he was preparing for his guests that evening.
  3. At 3:30 the children left the zoo and were pleasantly surprised when the adults treated them to ice cream sodas before dropping them off at their homes.
  4. Franklin thought that if he the rent check, his landlord might believe that the only reason his payment was late was that he had forgotten to mail it.
  5. “If this movie is anything like the ,” remarked Pearl, “it’s going to win the prize for most boring picture of the year.”
  6. Months before the first shot was fired, the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ movement of troops made the people of Europe tense and uneasy.
  7. On the first day, the students took a so the instructor would have a fairly good idea of how much they already knew about auto repair.
  8. Until reading that her new pantsuit had been , Miss Adams was uncertain about whether she could wash it.
  9. Figuring out how to earn enough money for school was the next step, once Herb decided he wanted to be a psychiatrist.
  10. is the study of mankind in the period before written or recorded history.
  11. Simply having to heat up the ham made preparing dinner take only a few minutes.
  12. Learning that he had to for the tools he wanted to send for, Mr. Cooper replied, “Forget it. I don’t fork over my hard-earned money for anything until I see it.”

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