Most Common Prefixes

Prefix	Meaning	Key Word
anti-	against	antifreeze
de-	opposite	defrost
dis-*	not, opposite of	disagree
en-, em-	cause to	encode, embrace
fore-	before	forecast
in-, im-	in	infield
in-, im-, il-, ir-*	not	injustice, impossible
inter-	between	interact
mid-	middle	midway
mis-	wrongly	misfire
non-	not	nonsense
over-	over	overlook
pre-	before	prefix
re-*	again	return
semi-	half	semicircle
sub-	under	submarine
super-	above	superstar
trans-	across	transport
un-*	not	unfriendly
under-	under	undersea

*Most frequent. The four most frequent prefixes account for 97 percent of prefixed words in printed school English.

Most Common Suffixes

Suffix	Meaning	Key Word
-able, -ible	can be done	comfortable
-al, -ial	having characteristics of	personal
-ed*	past-tense verbs	hopped
-en	made of	wooden
-er	comparative	higher
-er,	one who	worker, actor
-est	comparative	biggest
-ful	full of	careful
-ic	having characteristics of	linguistic
-ing*	verb form/ present participle	running
-ion, -tion, -ation, ition	act, process	occasion, attraction
-ity, -ty	state of	infinity
-ive, -ative, -itive	adjective form of a noun	plaintive
-less	without	fearless
-ly*	characteristic of	quickly
-ment	action or process	enjoyment
-ness	state of, condition of	kindness
-ous, -eous, -ious	possessing the qualities of	joyous
-s, -es*	more than one	books, boxes
-y	characterized by	happy

*Most frequent. The four most frequent suffixes account for 97 percent of suffixed words in printed school English.