



I suppose, I assume, it might be, I can barely guess, I'd like to make a guess

Q/ – Everything you think you know is probably wrong...

- 1 In the last 90 years, 82 Americans have been killed in bear attacks. However, teddy bears, along with other toys, have been responsible for an average of 22 deaths each year. **Teddy bears** are particularly dangerous because of their small parts, like glass eyes, which can cause choking, making them much more deadly than any species of real bear.
- 2 Not Alsatians (German Shepherds) or Wolfhounds, which physically resemble wolves. Recent DNA analysis has confirmed that **Pekingese**, whose name comes from Peking, the former name for Beijing, are one of the oldest dog breeds, and the most genetically similar to wolves.
- 3 The reason that the Sun looks yellow to us is because the Earth's atmosphere scatters colours with a longer wavelength, like red, orange, and yellow, less easily. These wavelengths are what we see, which is why the Sun appears yellow. However, the real colour of the sun is **white**.
- 4 Ice cream was first developed into something resembling its current form by the Italian Giambattista della Porta in the 16th century. It is one of the most complex food products that you will ever consume, a thermodynamic miracle that contains all three states of matter, **solid, liquid, and gas** at the same time.
- 5 No, it wasn't Hannibal. Elephants played a critical role in several key battles in antiquity, and continued to be used in combat up till the 19th century in Thailand and Vietnam. The last recorded use of elephants in war occurred in **1987**, when Iraq is alleged to have used them to transport heavy weapons during the **Iran / Iraq war**.
- 6 We all associate boomerangs with Australia. However, they were used in almost all continents in ancient times, and an Iron Age wooden boomerang was recently found in Holland. In fact, the world's oldest boomerang, made from the tusk of a mammoth, was found in a cave in **Poland**, in 1987.

1 NEGATIVE PREFIXES

a Write the words from the list in the correct column to make negatives.

agree appropriate attractive capable coherent competent continue do
embark helpful honest hospitable legitimate literate logical mobile moral
official personal practical rational regular relevant replaceable

im-	il-	ir-	in-	un-	dis-
					disagree

b 7.4 Listen and check. What letters do the words begin with after im-, il-, and ir-?

2 PREFIXES WHICH ADD OTHER MEANINGS

a Read the sentences carefully and match the **bold** prefixes to their meanings A–U.

- 1 **D** My daughter has **out**grown most of her clothes – she needs a bigger size.
- 2 A lot of common English verbs are **mono**syllabic, like get, have, give, etc.
- 3 The whole town was **re**built after the earthquake.
- 4 After the operation, I'll have to go to the hospital once a week as an **out**patient.
- 5 My dog was **ill**-treated* as a puppy, but he's much happier now.
- 6 I haven't been feeling very well recently. The doctor told me to take **multi**vitamins.
- 7 I must have **mis**understood you. I thought you said you didn't want to come tonight.
- 8 I need to install a new **anti**virus on my computer.
- 9 I was incredibly lucky on my flight to Mexico – I was **up**graded to business class!
- 10 High consumption of meat is leading to **de**forestation of the planet.
- 11 My brother did a **post**graduate course in translation and interpreting.
- 12 A ceasefire is an essential **pre**condition for any negotiation.
- 13 Even though I set my alarm clock, I **over**slept this morning and was late for work.
- 14 The committee has **bi**annual meetings in October and March.
- 15 Several different species now **co**exist peacefully side by side.
- 16 This work is totally **sub**standard. It's just not acceptable.
- 17 There will be an **inter**governmental conference to look at climate change.
- 18 They're really **under**staffed at the moment because a lot of their workers are off sick.
- 19 With a **super**human effort, he managed to lift the car and save the injured man.
- 20 I'm not very good with my camera. I almost always use the **auto**focus setting.
- 21 Bacteria are **micro**organisms which often cause disease.

*The prefix *ill* is always followed by a hyphen.

- A not enough
- B too much
- C more than one, many
- D more than, better than, bigger than, etc.
- E wrongly
- F below
- G two, twice
- H against
- I one
- J by yourself, by itself
- K after
- L outside, not inside
- M before
- N remove or reduce
- O higher, towards the top
- P together
- Q badly
- R between
- S above average
- T extremely small
- U again

b 7.5 Listen and check.

Prefixes with more than one meaning

Some prefixes have more than one meaning, e.g. *out-*, *de-*. Compare:

- *out-* + verb usually means *more than, better than*, etc., e.g. *Boys outnumber girls in this class* (= there are more boys than girls)
- *out-* + noun / adjective means *outside*, e.g. *He lives on the outskirts of the city*
- *de-* often means *remove or take away sth*, e.g. *demystify* = remove the mystery
- *de-* can also mean *reduce*, e.g. *devalue* = reduce the value of sth

ACTIVATION Which prefixes from 2 could you use before each of these words?

- cook (verb) -lingual -war
- national -place (verb)

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d Add a prefix to the **bold** words and make any other necessary changes to complete the sentences.

- 1 I completely _____ Alan. I thought he was self-centred, but I see I was wrong. **judge**
- 2 This paragraph in your essay is rather unclear. I advise you to _____ it. **write**
- 3 I can't read my doctor's handwriting. It's completely _____. **legible**
- 4 Having to take care of my sister's dogs while she's on holiday is terribly _____. **convenient**
- 5 The police have promised to tackle _____ behaviour in city centres. **social**
- 6 The expedition failed because they were _____. **equip**
- 7 It's going to be an _____ struggle to motivate the team after last week's defeat. **hill**
- 8 Food poisoning from _____ meat can be very serious. **cook**
- 9 We're not going back to that restaurant – they _____ us last time we went. **charge**
- 10 The hotel has an _____ swimming pool that's only open from June to September. **door**