



Quiz topic: Changing meanings with prefixes

1. *During a telephone call:* I'm sorry John, can I stop you there? I completely _____agree with the point you've just made.
 - a) un
 - b) mis
 - c) dis
 - d) de
2. You can't park here, it's _____legal.
 - a) il
 - b) ir
 - c) im
 - d) un
3. When you arrange to meet him, he is usually late or sometimes he doesn't come at all! I've never known anyone so _____reliable.
 - a) ir
 - b) il
 - c) im
 - d) un
4. *Written in an essay:* It is important to consider not only the advantages, but also the _____advantages.
 - a) un
 - b) dis
 - c) mis
 - d) all of the above answers
5. Do you think he's the right person for the job? I mean he's very _____experienced.
 - a) un
 - b) in
 - c) dis
 - d) All of the above answers
6. You wouldn't think he's 40; he acts like a child. I've never known anyone so _____mature.
 - a) im
 - b) ir
 - c) il
 - d) un

ANSWERS

Quiz topic: Changing meanings with prefixes

1. *During a telephone call:* I'm sorry John, can I stop you there? I completely _____agree with the point you've just made.

- a) un
- b) mis
- c) dis**
- d) de

- a) What verb do we use if 2 people don't agree with each other?
- b) What verb do we use if 2 people don't agree with each other?
- c) If 2 people don't agree with each other, they *disagree*.**
- d) What verb do we use if 2 people don't agree with each other?

2. You can't park here, it's _____legal.

- a) il**
- b) ir
- c) im
- d) un

- a) If a word begins with the letter 'l', we use the prefix 'il' to make it negative.**
- b) Words beginning with 'r' *sometimes* have the prefix 'ir' for example, 'irresponsible'.
- c) Words beginning with 'p' often have the prefix 'im' for example, 'impossible'.
- d) If a word begins with the letter 'l' we use the prefix 'il' to make it negative.

3. When you arrange to meet him, he is usually late or sometimes he doesn't come at all! I've never known anyone so _____reliable.

- a) ir
- b) il
- c) im
- d) un**

- a) Words beginning with 'r' *sometimes* have the prefix 'ir' - but this example does not follow the rule!
- b) If a word begins with the letter 'l', for example 'legal', we use the prefix 'il' to make it negative - 'illegal'.
- c) Words beginning with 'p' often have the prefix 'im' - for example, 'impractical'.
- d) Words beginning with 'r' *sometimes* have the prefix 'ir' - but this example does not follow the rule. In this case we say 'unreliable'.**

4. *Written in an essay:* It is important to consider not only the advantages, but also the _____ advantages.

- a) un
- b) dis**
- c) mis
- d) all of the above answers

a) 'Unadvantages' is not correct. Try again! We speak about 'advantages and _____ advantages'?

b) 'Disadvantages' is correct. In a school essay, you might write about the advantages and disadvantages of an issue.

- c) 'Misadvantages' is not correct - 'mis' is often used to talk about something done badly or not correctly, e.g. 'misunderstand'.
- d) With these kinds of prefixes, only one answer is correct.

5. Do you think he's the right person for the job? I mean he's very _____ experienced.

- a) un**
- b) in
- c) dis
- d) All of the above answers

a) It's very difficult to know when you should use 'un' or 'in'. When you meet an adjective like this, record the correct prefix in a vocabulary book.

b) It's very difficult to know when you should use 'un' or 'in'. When you meet an adjective like this, record the correct prefix in a vocabulary book.

- c) This is not the correct answer.
- d) With these kinds of prefixes, only one answer is correct.

6. You wouldn't think he's 40; he acts like a child. I've never known anyone so _____ mature.

- a) im**
- b) ir
- c) il
- d) un

a) Words beginning with 'm' often have the prefix 'im' for example, 'immoral'.

b) Words beginning with 'r' *sometimes* have the prefix 'ir' for example, 'irresponsible'.

c) If a word begins with the letter 'l' we use the prefix 'il' to make it negative, for example 'illogical'.

d) Words beginning with 'm' often have the prefix 'im', for example, 'immoral'.

Try the quiz online:

http://www.bbc.co.uk/apps/ift/worldservice/quiznet/quizengine?ContentType=text/html;quiz=1111_prefixes