Lesson 1: Prefixes: dis-, un-

All-STAR Readers Know

A prefix is a word part that is added to the beginning of a base word. It changes the word’s meaning.

The prefix dis- means “not” or “the opposite of.”

- dislike = “not like”
- disappear = “the opposite of appear”

Find It! Read the paragraph below. Circle eight words that begin with the prefix dis-.

She’s a Winner!

Few people would disagree that track star Wilma Rudolph was lightning fast. In the late 1950s and early 1960s, Americans discovered Rudolph. She was the first American woman to win three gold medals in one Olympic Game. Born in a poor family, young Wilma wore a brace on her left leg. Back then it was easy to discount her chances for success. But Wilma was not discouraged by her disability. She took off her brace every time she could. As her legs grew stronger, her discomfort disappeared. Her talent left others in disbelief. Today, Wilma Rudolph is remembered as one of the top athletes of the twentieth century!

On-Track Fact While in high school, Wilma Rudolph once scored 49 points in one basketball game, setting a Tennessee state record.
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All-STAR Readers Know

The prefix un- means “not” or “to do the opposite of.”

- unlikely = “not likely”
- untie = “to do the opposite of tie”

Spell It! Add the prefix un- to the beginning of each base word below. Write the new word in the blank.

1. fair  ____________  5. happy  ____________
2. pack  ____________  6. lock  ____________
3. button  ____________  7. clear  ____________
4. sure  ____________  8. cover  ____________

Write It! Use the prefix -un to write the word for each definition.

9. not happy  ____________
10. the opposite of cover  ____________
11. not sure  ____________
12. not clear  ____________
13. the opposite of do  ____________
14. the opposite of lock  ____________
15. the opposite of tie  ____________
16. the opposite of wrap  ____________

Big Idea

A true athlete is never unprofessional. How can an athlete be a hero?
Unit 5 • Lesson 1

Prefixes: dis-, un-

Objectives
Students will
• read a paragraph and circle the words that begin with the prefix dis-.
• add the prefix un- to base words and write them in the blanks.
• write the word with the un-prefix that matches the definition.

5-STAR Pointers

Activating Prior Knowledge
Write the following on the overhead: My grandparents said, “We’re hoping to eat the grapes we got. They’re bigger than the cherries we bought from the farmer’s daughter herding calves.” Instruct students to identify the compound (grandparents), contraction (we’re), inflectional and comparative endings (hoping, bigger), plurals (grapes, cherries, calves), and possessive (farmer’s).

Introducing the Lesson
Tell students that in this lesson they will be learning about prefixes, beginnings that can be added to words to change their meaning. Write the words disagree and unhappy on the overhead. Explain that the prefix dis- means “not” or “the opposite of.” The prefix un- means “not” or “to do the opposite of.” Direct students to the All-STAR Readers Know boxes on pages 149 and 150.

Guided Practice
Write the following sentences on the board: The sisters fight and disagree about which team is the best. It was so shocking I was in belief. That crazy story is unbelievable. Read aloud the sentences. Instruct the students to listen carefully and touch their noses if the sentence is correct (yes, no, yes).

Informal Assessment
Observe students during guided practice. Use the All-STAR Intervention Strategies on the next page for students who are struggling.

Find It! Read the paragraph below. Circle eight words that begin with the prefix dis-.

She’s a Winner!
Few people would disagree that track star Wilma Rudolph was lightning fast. In the late 1950s and early 1960s, Americans discovered Rudolph. She was the first American woman to win three gold medals in one Olympic Game. Born in a poor family, young Wilma wore a brace on her left leg. Back then it was easy to discount her chances for success. But Wilma was not discouraged by her disability. She took off her brace every time she could. As her legs grew stronger, her discomfort disappeared. Her talent left others in disbelief. Today, Wilma Rudolph is remembered as one of the top athletes of the twentieth century!

On-Track Fact
While in high school, Wilma Rudolph once scored 49 points in one basketball game, setting a Tennessee state record.

Independent Practice
Review the All-STAR Readers Know boxes on pages 149 and 150 with the students. Assign Student Workbook, pages 149 and 150. Read the instructions with the students, and make sure they understand the assignment. Assess the assignment in the way you deem most appropriate for the lesson.
Lesson 1: Prefixes: dis-, un-

**All-STAR Readers Know**
The prefix *un-* means “not” or “to do the opposite of.”
- unlikely = “not likely”
- untrue = “to do the opposite of tie”

**Spell It!** Add the prefix *un-* to the beginning of each base word below. Write the new word in the blank.

1. fair _____ unfair
2. pack _____ unpack
3. button _____ unbutton
4. sure _____ unsure
5. happy _____ unhappy
6. lock _____ unlock
7. clear _____ unclear
8. cover _____ uncover

**Write It!** Use the prefix *un-* to write the word for each definition.

9. not happy: _____ unhappy
10. the opposite of cover: _____ uncover
11. not sure: _____ unsure
12. not clear: _____ unclear
13. the opposite of do: _____ undo
14. the opposite of lock: _____ unlock
15. the opposite of tie: _____ untie
16. the opposite of wrap: _____ unwrap

**Big Idea** A true athlete is never unprofessional. How can an athlete be a hero?

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**Auditory Reinforcement**
Create a class story. Say the first line of the story, making sure to include a word with the *dis-* or *un-* prefix. Call on students in turn to give the next line. Instruct them to include a word with one of the prefixes as well. After the class is done, read aloud the story.

*(Tiger the cat was very unhappy.)*

**Tactile/Kinesthetic Reinforcement**

**Materials:** papers with an 8-square grid, marker, construction paper, pencils, scissors, glue

Write the words happy, lucky, clear, wrap, appear, belief, comfort, and agree in the grid. Make a copy for every student. Instruct students to draw a line down the middle of their construction paper, creating two columns. Tell them to label the columns *dis-* and *un-*.

Instruct students to cut out the squares and glue the words under the correct heading.

**Literature Connection**


Point out the word *unlimited* in the title and ask students what it means. Read from the book, instructing students to listen for words with the *un-* and *dis-* prefixes.

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**English-Language Development Strategies**

**Choosing Prefixes**

English-language learners may be confused by the altering of word meanings by adding prefixes. They may also have trouble deciding when to use one of two similar prefixes, such as *dis-* and *un-*. To practice, write base words on the board and ask students to give the correct prefix (*happy [un-], agree [dis-], comfortable [un-]).