The Prefix un-

Sorting Words

Can you spot what is different about these words and sort them into two groups?

tie	unkind	unzip	happy
kind	zip	untie	unhappy

Sorting Words

Did you spot that some words start with the prefix **un-**?

A **prefix** is a group of letters added to the beginning of a word which changes its meaning.

How does adding un- change the meaning of these words?

tie	kind
happy	zip

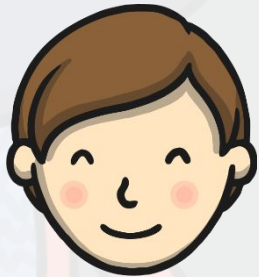|	
unzip	untie
unhappy	unkind

Sorting Words

When un- is added to **adjectives** (describing words) it means 'not'.

A prefix is a letter or group of letters added to the beginning of a word which changes its meaning.

kind ➡️ **un**kind
(not kind)

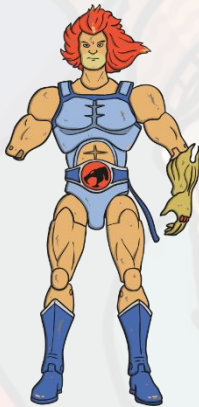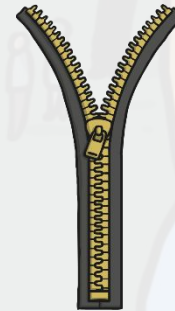happy ➡️ **un**happy
(not happy)

Sorting Words

When un- is added to **verbs** (action words) it means the **opposite**.

zip ➤ **un**zip
(undo the zip)

used ➤ **un**used
(not been used)

Lesson 1: Writing un- Words

Choose your challenge (3 stars is the hardest!). Have a go at writing un words.

Writing un- Words

1. Read each sentence. Add un- to the word in bold and complete the sentence by writing the word.

Abi is being **kind** to Tom.

I will **load** the car.

Bill and Suki are being **friendly**.

Ben can **dress** himself.

Carla is feeling fit and **well**.

Writing un- Words

1. Read each sentence. Add un- to the word in bold and complete the sentence by writing in the word.

Abi is being **kind** to Tom.

Mary is being _____ to Tim.

I will **load** the car.

Dad will _____ the car.

Bill and Suki are being **friendly**.

Suki is sometimes _____ to B

Ben can **dress** himself.

Ben can _____ himself.

Carla is feeling fit and **well**.

Last week, Carla was _____

Writing un- Words

1. Read each word. Add un- to make a new word and draw a picture to describe it.

kind	→	__kind
load	→	_____
friendly	→	_____
dress	→	_____
well	→	_____

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Lesson 2: Practise writing the prefix un-

Matching Up

Remember:
- un- means 'not' when added to a describing word (adjective).
- un- means the opposite when added to an action word (verb).

Work with your partner to match the un- words to their root words. Can you write some sentences on your whiteboard using the un- words?

kind	**unkind**

Lesson 2: Matching Up

Remember:
- un- means 'not' when added to a describing word (adjective).
- un- means the opposite when added to an action word (verb).

On the **Lesson 2 activity sheet**, match the un- words to their root words. Can you write some sentences on your whiteboard using the un- words?

kind

unkind

Lesson 2: Using un- Words in Sentences

You are now going to complete the Using un- Words in Sentences Activity Sheet.

Using -un Words in Sentences

1. Choose the correct un- words to finish the sentences.

unwell	unable	unkind	unlock	u
unpack	unbutton	unfair	unhelpful	u

a) Dan was being very _____ to Joe.

b) When Sue wouldn't clean her room she was being _____.

c) "Can you _____ my coat?" Henry asked.

d) I will just _____ the door so we can go in.

2. Now write your own sentences using some of the other un- words from the table.

_____
_____
_____
_____
_____

1. Can you write some sentences using any other un-words you can think of?

_____
_____
_____

Using -un Words in Sentences

1. Choose the correct un- words to finish the sentences.

a) Dan was being very _____ to Joe.
  unkind / unwell

b) When Sue wouldn't clean her room she was being _____.
  unfair / unhelpful

c) "Can you _____ my coat?" Henry asked.
  unbutton / unwind

d) I will just _____ the door so we can go in.
  unlock / unpack

e) Tia was _____ and lost the game.
  unable / unlucky

2. Now write your own sentences using these un- words.

unable

untidy

3. Can you write some sentences using any other un-words you can think of?

_____ _____ _____

Using -un Words in Sentences

1. Add un- to write a new word to complete the sentences.

a) Dan was _____ to Joe.
  kind

b) Sue was _____ and wouldn't clean her room.
  helpful

c) "Can you _____ my coat?" Henry asked.
  button

d) I will _____ the door.
  lock

e) Tia was _____ and lost the game.
  lucky

2. Now write your own sentences using one of these un- words:

unable   untidy   unfair

_____
_____

un- Quiz

Are you an expert on words starting with un-?

If you want an extra challenge, you can do this quiz!

Listen carefully to each question and choose an answer *a* or *b* to write on your whiteboard.

Let's begin!

un- Quiz

unfair

This word means:

a. not fair

b. you can't go to the fair

un- Quiz

unfair

Answer:

a. not fair

un- Quiz

What do we get if we add un- to this word?

fit

This word means:

a. fitun

b. unfit

un- Quiz

fit

Answer:

b. unfit – fit becomes unfit

un- Quiz

What word means:
'to take the plug out'?

This word means:

a. unplug

b. outplug

un- Quiz

What word means:

'to take the plug out'?

Answer:

a. Unplug means 'to take the plug out'

un- Quiz

unpleasant

What is the root of this word?

a. please

b. pleasant

un- Quiz

unpleasant

Answer:

b. pleasant

un- Quiz

What does this word mean?

untidy

a. not tidy

b. not happy

un- Quiz

What does this word mean?

untidy

Answer:

b. not tidy (messy)