

Step 4 After students make their best predictions about the meanings of the new words, they use a dictionary or a website (online dictionary) to look up the new words and check the definitions and pronunciations.

Assessment/Evidence

Student comprehension of unfamiliar vocabulary words.

Adaptations for Beginning Students

If this lesson is completed with a small group or full class, beginning students could work with partners.

Adaptations for Advanced Students

After completing this assignment, advanced students could write their own sentences that use each new word and use context to make the meanings of the new words clear to readers. In addition, if students are interested in learning about the history of words, an online etymology resource is available at: <http://www.etymonline.com/>

Teacher Reflection/Lesson Evaluation

This lesson was created by Middletown ABLE.

Common Word Elements

Prefixes:

Root words:

Uni - one	<i>Unique, united, union, unicycle</i>	Bio – life	<i>Biology, biographical, biodiversity</i>
Bi - two	<i>Bicycle, bikini, bicentennial</i>	Meter/metri – measure	<i>Metric, geometry, odometer</i>
Tri - three	<i>Triple, tripod, triathlete</i>	Port – carry	<i>Portable, transportation</i>
Dec - ten	<i>Decade, decimal, decagon</i>	Ped/pod – foot	<i>Pedal, podiatrist, pedestrian</i>
In/Un – not	<i>Invisible, unhappy, insecure, unbelievable</i>	Therm – heat	<i>Thermal, thermometer, thermos</i>
Pre – before	<i>Preview, prenuptial, predecessor</i>	Scribe/script – write	<i>Describe, prescribe, subscription, manuscript</i>
Re – again	<i>Reread, rearrange, reinstate</i>	Graph – writing	<i>Autograph, biography, geography</i>
Pro – forward, for	<i>Propel, promote, protagonist</i>	Dict – talk	<i>Dictation, predict, contradict</i>
Anti – against	<i>Antisocial, antibiotics, antibacterial</i>	Chron – time	<i>Chronic, chronicle, synchronize</i>
Poly – many	<i>Polyhedron, polygamy,</i>	Hydr(o) – water	<i>Hydrant, dehydrated,</i>
Inter – between	<i>Interview, interrupt, intermediate, international</i>	Phon(o) – sound	<i>Telephone, symphony, polyphonic</i>
Trans – across	<i>Transatlantic, transport, translate, transformation</i>	<u>Suffixes:</u>	
Dis – apart or not	<i>Disengage, dissect, displeased, disrespect</i>	Ology – study of	<i>Biology, cardiology, geology</i>
Auto – self	<i>Automatic, automobile, autobiography</i>	Phobia – fear of	<i>Claustrophobia, agoraphobia</i>

Directions: Use the meanings of the word elements to help you define the underlined words. Write what you think each word means below the sentences.

1. Humans and birds are common bipeds.
2. Jesse's favorite Olympic event is the decathalon.
3. The teacher reiterated the importance of reading directions closely when taking a test.
4. It is important to seek help if bitten by a poisonous snake, so that an antidote can be administered before there is a fatal reaction.
5. Materials in the compost pile will disintegrate over time.
6. Because of Erin's hydrophobia, her family vacations in the mountains rather than at the beach.
7. David is the class polyglot because he is fluent in Spanish, Italian, Russian, and English.
8. The job of a court reporter is to transcribe all proceedings, motions, and testimonies.
9. Marion has her photos arranged in chronological order.
10. Intermittent rain showers caused us to move the picnic from the park to the Vicky's house.

Next, use a dictionary or an online dictionary to check and/or correct your definitions and learn how to pronounce each word.

<http://www.merriam-webster.com/>

<http://dictionary.reference.com/>

<http://dictionary.cambridge.org/>

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Root words:

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Directions: Use the meanings of the word elements to help you define the underlined words. Write what you think each word means below the sentences. [Sample answers appear in blue.](#)

1. Humans and birds are common bipeds.
[Animals with only two legs \(feet\)](#)
2. Jesse's favorite Olympic event is the decathalon.
[Event comprised of 10 track and field events](#)
3. The teacher reiterated the importance of reading directions closely when taking a test.
[Repeated, said again](#)
4. It is important to seek help if bitten by a poisonous snake, so that an antidote can be administered before there is a fatal reaction.
[Medicine that counteracts a poison](#)
5. Materials in the compost pile will disintegrate over time.
[Break into small pieces](#)
6. Because of Erin's hydrophobia, her family vacations in the mountains rather than at the beach.
[Fear of water](#)
7. David is the class polyglot because he is fluent in Spanish, Italian, Russian, and English.
[Person who is able to speak many languages](#)
8. The job of a court reporter is to transcribe all proceedings, motions, and testimonies.
[Write down an exact copy of something](#)
9. Marion has her photos arranged in chronological order.
[Order in which events occurred](#)
10. Intermittent rain showers caused us to move the picnic from the park to the Vicky's house.
[Sporadic; happening from time to time](#)

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