


Lesson 19

Prefixes

L.2.4b: Determine the meaning of the new word formed when a known prefix is added to a known word (e.g., *happy/unhappy, tell/retell*).

 **Introduction** You can use word parts to figure out what a word means.

A **prefix** is a word part added to the beginning of a word. It changes the meaning of the word.

| Prefix | Meaning | Prefix + Word | New Word | Meaning |
|--------|----------|---------------|----------|------------|
| un- | "not" | un + fair | unfair | not fair |
| re- | "again" | re + tell | retell | tell again |
| pre- | "before" | pre + pay | prepay | pay before |

 **Guided Practice** Look at the prefix in each underlined word. Then circle the correct meaning of the word.

HINT When you see a long word with a prefix, first look for a word you know in it. Then cover that word with your finger and look at the prefix. Think about what the prefix means and add the meaning to the word you know.

- 1 Dad and I are unhappy with our tree fort.
happy again not happy
- 2 We will rebuild it.
build again not build
- 3 The roof is broken and unsafe.
not safe safe again
- 4 This time we will preplan how to build it.
not plan plan before
- 5 We buy precut boards for the walls and roof.
cut before not cut

 **Independent Practice**

Look at the prefix in each underlined word. Then choose the correct meaning of the word.

1 We redo the walls of our fort.

- A do again
- B not do
- C do before
- D do wrong

2 We save the unbroken boards.

- A broken again
- B broken before
- C very broken
- D not broken

3 We pretest the old boards to be sure they are strong.

- A test again and again
- B do not test
- C test before
- D test later

4 We repaint the whole fort.

- A not paint
- B paint again
- C paint quickly
- D paint before