



## Grammar Connection

An *idiom* is a group of words that when used together mean something different from what those same words mean when used on their own.



## Extra

Listen for idioms. You'll be surprised at how many you hear on a daily basis.

### Pre-Activity

When you say it is "raining cats and dogs," you mean that it is raining heavily. Such expressions are called *idioms*.

### Activity

**A.** Try to guess what each idiom means.

1. turn over a new leaf

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2. take the bull by the horns

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3. kill two birds with one stone

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4. hit the nail on the head

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5. nose to the grindstone

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6. keep this under your hat

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**B.** Sometimes it is easier to match an answer than to think of one "from scratch." So now try to match each idiom to a meaning. Did you guess correctly above?

1. turn over a new leaf

secretly

2. take the bull by the horns

exactly

3. kill two birds with one stone

tackle

4. hit the nail on the head

change

5. nose to the grindstone

simultaneously

6. keep this under your hat

incessantly

**C.** What does "from scratch" mean?

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### Post-Activity

Read each idiom to a friend or family member. Take turns using the idioms in sentences. You may want to write the funniest ones in your journal.

## Pre-Activity

Read this sentence.

Let me reassure you that we can reword, repeat, or refine this sentence.

Can you identify each word that includes a prefix?

## Activity

Adding the letters *re* to the beginning of a word changes its meaning—that's what prefixes do. *Re* means again or new, as in *recycle*. *Re* can also mean back, as in *react*.

**A.** Use the prefix *re* to make new verbs in the list below.

___ write	___ trace	___ juvenate
___ place	___ stock	___ store
___ count	___ paid	___ fresh
___ work	___ cycle	___ generate
___ new	___ incarnate	___ invigorate

**B.** Use the new verbs from the third column to write sentences that describe how you might feel after you drink a glass of cold water on a hot day.

**Example:** *A drink of water can restore my energy level.*

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## Post-Activity

Work with a partner and show him or her the list of verbs in the third column. See if your partner can guess one thing that can do what each word suggests. (Water is the answer.) Give your friend a hint or two if needed.



## Grammar Connection

A *prefix* is a group of letters affixed to the front of a word, giving it a different meaning.





## Grammar Connection

*Pre-, anti-, micro-, sub-, super-, and non-* are some common prefixes.

*pre-* means *before*

*anti-* means *against*

*micro-* means *small*

*sub-* means *below*

*super-* means *greater*

*non-* means *not*

## Extra

Some words that look as though they involve a prefix don't. For example, *press, pretty, preside, under, unit*. Can you name some others or find some in a dictionary?

## Pre-Activity

Knowing the meaning of prefixes is a great and easy way to improve your vocabulary. For example, if you know the prefix *un* means *not* or *opposite of*, you just added dozens of words to your vocabulary. Can you think of at least two prefixes other than *re* and *un*?

Did you name any of the prefixes listed at the left?

## Activity

**A.** Write a word using each of these prefixes:

1. pre \_\_\_\_\_

4. sub \_\_\_\_\_

2. anti \_\_\_\_\_

5. super \_\_\_\_\_

3. micro \_\_\_\_\_

6. non \_\_\_\_\_

**B.** Rewrite the sentences below, adding the prefix *non* to each underlined word. See how the meaning of each is changed.

1. I like to read fiction books.

\_\_\_\_\_

2. Their towels must be very absorbent.

\_\_\_\_\_

3. Toby has a competitive personality.

\_\_\_\_\_

4. Caitlyn and her friend are such conformists.

\_\_\_\_\_

5. The twins communicate verbally.

\_\_\_\_\_

6. Is that a dairy creamer?

\_\_\_\_\_

7. The joint political meeting seemed very partisan.

\_\_\_\_\_

## Post-Activity

Choose one of the prefixes at the top of the page. Use the dictionary to see how many words begin with that prefix. List at least ten words in your journal.

## Pre-Activity

If a prefix appears at the beginning of a word, where might a suffix be? Seven words in these sentences have suffixes. Can you identify them?



Listening to cheerful music gives me a feeling of renewal and relaxation.

I am better prepared to work vigorously.



## Activity

**A.** Here are some common suffixes. List a word for each.

- |             |              |               |
|-------------|--------------|---------------|
| 1. _____ly  | 5. _____ing  | 9. _____less  |
| 2. _____ful | 6. _____ion  | 10. _____ness |
| 3. _____er  | 7. _____al   | 11. _____ship |
| 4. _____ed  | 8. _____able | 12. _____ment |

**B.** Make new words by adding one of the suffixes listed above. There could likely be more than one correct answer for each one.

- |               |                |               |       |
|---------------|----------------|---------------|-------|
| 1. play       | <u>playful</u> | 16. foolish   | _____ |
| 2. quick      | _____          | 17. partner   | _____ |
| 3. pitch      | _____          | 18. enjoy     | _____ |
| 4. walk       | _____          | 19. fresh     | _____ |
| 5. regard     | _____          | 20. conduct   | _____ |
| 6. perplex    | _____          | 21. embarrass | _____ |
| 7. perish     | _____          | 22. fit       | _____ |
| 8. periodic   | _____          | 23. exhibit   | _____ |
| 9. pay        | _____          | 24. member    | _____ |
| 10. peace     | _____          | 25. renew     | _____ |
| 11. coast     | _____          | 26. nation    | _____ |
| 12. entertain | _____          | 27. exceeding | _____ |
| 13. sign      | _____          | 28. happen    | _____ |
| 14. match     | _____          | 29. relation  | _____ |
| 15. inject    | _____          | 30. magic     | _____ |



## Grammar Connection

You know that a prefix appears at the beginning of a word and changes that word's meaning. A word can also be changed by adding a group of letters to its end. The group of letters is called a *suffix*.

For example,  
sing, singer  
music, musician  
violin, violinist