

Vocabulary Practice 4: Prefixes

Prefixes: *mon-*, *mono-*, *uni-*

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

The prefix *uni-* means "one." Adding *uni-* to the base word *cycle*, meaning "wheel or circle," makes *unicycle*, which means "a one-wheeled vehicle." The prefixes *mon-* and *mono-* also mean "one."

A. Underline the words in these sentences with the prefixes meaning "one."

1. Stereophonic sound systems replaced monaural record players, which became collectibles.
2. An imaginary animal depicted as a horse is called a unicorn.
3. Chad's nervousness caused him to read his report in a monotone.
4. In many airports, a monorail takes passengers from parking lots to terminals.
5. One form of marriage custom practiced in many societies is monogamy.
6. The universal theme of the conference attracted people from all over the world.
7. Monaco is a monarchy ruled by the Grimaldi family since the thirteenth century.
8. Some hospitals require the nursing staff to conform to a uniform dress code.
9. Children who are monolingual study other languages in school.
10. The unilateral report, read by its author, presented a very narrow view.

B. For each word you underlined, write the prefix and base word beside the definition.

Prefix	Base Word	Definition of the Underlined Word
1. _____	_____	means "using one tone or sound with no variety"
2. _____	_____	means "a train that runs on one track"
3. _____	_____	means "the custom of marrying only one person"
4. _____	_____	means "government ruled by a single person"
5. _____	_____	means "including the entire or whole world as one"
6. _____	_____	means "knowing or using one language"
7. _____	_____	means "a mythological one-horned animal"
8. _____	_____	means "having one or the same manner or degree"
9. _____	_____	means "a single speaker path for sound"
10. _____	_____	means "concerned with one person or side of a subject"

C. Write two more words with each prefix and write the definitions.
