

PREFIXES

Negative Prefixes

a- , an- , ana- , in- , im- , ir- , il- , dys- , anti- , mal- , un- , non- , nor- , contra- , counter- , de-

Examples:

atrophy = no (or less) growth.

amastia = without a breast.

acellular = without cells.

atypical = not typical.

anucleate = without nucleus.

apnea = no breathing.

alopecia = no hair.

anesthesia = no feeling.

anodontia = without teeth.

anemia = no (or less) blood.

anoxia = no oxygen.

anhydrous = without water.

anacusis = no hearing (total deafness).

anaplasia = loss of the mature features of a cell or tissue.

(Note: The prefix **ana-** also means up, upward, back, again, repetition, excessive, or apart.

Examples: **anatomy**, **anabolism**, **analysis**, **anasarca**, **anaphylaxis**, **anaphase**, **anastomosis**)

invertebrate = without vertebrae.

impatient = not patient (restlessly eager, quickly irritated or provoked).

imbalance = no balance.

illegal = not legal.

irreversible = not reversible.

dyspepsia = difficult digestion.

dyspnea = difficult breathing.

dysphagia = difficult swallowing.

dysphasia = difficult speaking.

dyslexia = difficult reading.

dysostosis = bad bone development.

dysmenorrhea = painful menstrual cycle.

dysentery = intestinal bacterial infection.

antibacterial = against bacteria.

antiviral = against viruses.

malocclusion = wrong occlusion.

malnutrition = bad nutrition.

malabsorption = bad absorption.