Prefixes are placed before the words to modify their meanings; like suffixes, they are groups of letters that rarely serve a purpose unless attached to a word. Here is a list of commonly used prefixes to give you an idea of how to identify them.

Prefix	Meaning	Examples
-a	On/in/out/from	Away, aboard, arise, alight
-al	all	Alone, already
-be	by	Below, before
-by	Be/on the side	Bypass, byword
-for	through	forget, forgive
-fore	before	Forecast, foresee
-gain	against	Gainsay
-in	in	Inside, income
-mis	wrong	Mislead, mistake
-over	Above/beyond	overflow, overcharge
-out	out	Outside, outcome
-to	this	Today, tonight
-un	Not/to reverse an action	Unkind, untie
-under	below	Underground, undersell
-with	Against/back	Withdraw, withhold
-wel	In good condition	Welcome, welfare