

<b>A WRITING THE WORDS</b>
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- A. Write these words on the blank lines.  
Then say each word.

*Write*

absent

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

absurd

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

abduct

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

obscure

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

obstruct

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

obstacle

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

obligation

7. \_\_\_\_\_

dispense

8. \_\_\_\_\_

dispel

9. \_\_\_\_\_

disburse

10. \_\_\_\_\_

- B. Each word begins with a prefix.  
Write the prefix for each word.

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

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

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

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

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

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

7. \_\_\_\_\_

8. \_\_\_\_\_

9. \_\_\_\_\_

10. \_\_\_\_\_

**THESE PREFIXES HAVE MEANINGS THAT GIVE DIRECTION.**

## SEQUENCE 8-1

**ab-** prefix [ME, fr. OF & L; OF, fr. L *ab-*, *abs-*, *a-* fr. *ab*, *a* – more at OF] : from : away : off <*abaxial*> <*abstrict*>

**dis-** prefix [ME *dis-*, *des-*, fr. OF & L; OF *des-*, *dis-*, fr. L *dis-*, lit., apart, to pieces; akin to OE *te-* apart, to pieces, OHG *zi-*, *ze-*, Goth *dis-* apart, Gk *dia-* through, L *duo* two – more at TWO] **1 a** : do the opposite of : reverse (a specified action) <*disjoin*> <*disestablish*> <*disown*> <*disqualify*> **b** : deprive of (a specified character, quality, or rank) <*disable*> <*disprince*> : deprive of (a specified object) <*disfrock*> **c** : exclude or expel from <*disbar*> <*discastle*>

**2** : opposite of : contrary of : absence of <*disunion*> <*disaffection*> **3** : not <*dishonest*> <*disloyal*> **4** : completely <*disannul*> **5** : [by folk etymology] : DYS- <*disfunction*> <*distrophy*>

**ob-** prefix [ME, fr. OF fr. L. to, toward, against, over, completely, fr. *ob* to, before, against, on account of – more at EPI-] **1** : inward <*obimbricate*> **2** : incompletely <*obrotund*> <*obround*> **3** : inverse <*obovate*> <*obconic*> <*obcordate*>

### B USING CONTEXT CLUES

*Place an X in front of each correct answer. The word may be used correctly in one or both of the sentences.*

- The boy was absent from school means  
 a. the boy was late.  
 b. the boy was not in school.
- The girl's answer to the question was absurd means  
 a. the girl's answer made no sense.  
 b. the girl's answer was correct.
- The man planned to abduct the dog means  
 a. the man was going to punish the dog.  
 b. the man was going to kidnap the dog.
- The meaning of the report was obscure means  
 a. the meaning was clear.  
 b. the meaning was not clear.
- A range of mountains obstruct the view of the coastline means  
 a. the mountains block out the view of the coastline.  
 b. the mountains add to the beauty of the coastline.

*Check your answers with the Key on page 137.*

<b>C CHECKING THE MEANING</b>
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**Read the words in the boxes. Choose the word that best completes the sentence under them. Write that word on the line. Then complete the next sentence by placing an X in front of the correct answer.**

1. 

absurd
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obstacle
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Lack of an education is an \_\_\_\_\_ to living a comfortable lifestyle.

This sentence means

- a. a lack of education is never a problem.  
 b. a lack of education can help a person achieve success.  
 c. a lack of education can prevent a person from living well.

2. 

dispense
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obligation
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The boy had an \_\_\_\_\_ to pay for the window he had broken.

This sentence means

- a. it was the boy's duty to pay for the broken window.  
 b. the boy paid for the window.  
 c. the boy was not responsible for the broken window.

3. 

absurd
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dispel
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The realtor tried to \_\_\_\_\_ the rumor that the house was haunted.

This sentence means

- a. the realtor ignored the rumor.  
 b. the realtor tried to do away with the rumor.  
 c. the realtor started the rumor.

4. 

disburse
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dispel
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The man had to \_\_\_\_\_ twelve thousand dollars for a new roof.

This sentence means

- a. the man took out a loan to pay for the new roof.  
 b. the man could not afford the new roof.  
 c. the man had to pay a large sum for the new roof.

5. 

dispense
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absurd
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Three nurses were needed to \_\_\_\_\_ the medicine to all the patients.

This sentence means

- a. three nurses were needed to give out the medicine.  
 b. three nurses were needed to destroy the medicine.  
 c. three nurses were needed to count the medicine.

**Check your answers with the Key on page 137.**

**SEQUENCE 8-1**

**D COMPLETING THE SENTENCES**

*Choose a word from the box that best completes each sentence. Write it on the line.*

absent	abduct	obstruct	obligation
absurd	obscure	obstacle	disburse

1. The man tried to \_\_\_\_\_ justice by telling a lie.
2. The meaning of the professor's lecture was \_\_\_\_\_.
3. The student was \_\_\_\_\_ from school frequently.
4. We were instructed to \_\_\_\_\_ the toys to needy children.
5. A large mud hole was just one \_\_\_\_\_ we encountered during the race.

*Check your answers with the Key on page 137.*

**E USING THE SKILL**

*Underline the word that best completes each sentence.*

1. A doctor has an (absurd, obligation) to help those who are ill.
2. The student's answers to the test questions were (disburse, absurd).
3. Hoping for a hefty ransom, the man planned to (abduct, obscure) the little girl.
4. The child's mother tried to (disburse, dispel) the child's fear by singing a song.
5. When you put a coin in the machine, it will (abduct, dispense) a cup of coffee.

*Check your answers with the Key on page 137.*

**F SUPPLEMENTARY WRITING EXERCISE**

*The prefixes that were taught in this lesson are:*

ab-	ob-	dis-
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*Write sentences in which you use each of the prefixes in a word in the sentence.*

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_