

Math Vocabulary - Prefixes & Suffixes

Below is just a few words you might encounter in math worded problems. Create a class list where the students can add to it when new vocabulary is found.

Referring to Number

Prefix	Meaning	Words
un/uni, mono, solo	one	university, unicorn, monorail, unicycle, universe,
bi, du/duo, do/dou	two	biannual, bicentenary, bicycle
tri	three	triangle, triangular, tricycle
qua/quad/quadr, tetra/tetr	four	quadrilateral, quadrant, quarter,
quin/quint, pent/penta	five	quintuplets, quins
sex, hex/hexa	six	hexagon, sextuple,
sept/hept	seven	September, heptagon,
oct/octa/octo	eight	octagon, octopus, October
non/nov	nine	nonagon, November,
dec/deca/deci	ten	decade, decagon, December,
cent	one hundred	cents, century, centimeter,
mille/milli	one thousand	millimeter, millipede,
multi, poly	many, much	polygon, multicoloured, multipurpose

Referring to Direction

Prefix	Meaning	Words
dia	through	diagonal, diameter,
semi	half, partly, twice	semi-circle
de	down	decrease, descend, decent,
ex	out, out from	exit, extend,
intra	within	intrapersonal, intranet,
inter	between	internet, interactive, interval,

Prefix	Meaning	Words
medi	middle	median, mediator,
post	after, behind	post meridian,
pre	before, in front of	previous, pre-made,
sub	below, under	submerge, submarine, subconscious,