

## 2. Affixes: Prefixes, Suffixes, Combining Forms (pp. 16-17)

Exercise 3: Observe the composition of the underlined words. Mark the affixes. How could you translate them in French?

1) His attitude at the meeting was considered unbusinesslike.

**Prefix *un-* = not + suffix *-like* → His attitude did not resemble business: *pas professionnelle***

2) I tried to turn on the car, as unrewardingly as before.

**“rewardingly” = adverb, often with suffix *-ly* + prefix *un-* = not → *Aussi peu gratifiant qu’avant***

3) They built a new well in town so that drinkable water would be accessible to all.

**Suffix *-able* = able to be + drinkable = able to be drunk → *eau potable***

4) His reputation is unquestionable.

**See above → *indiscutable, incontestable***

5) To avoid sleeping troubles, don't overheat your bedroom.

**Prefix *over-* = excessively → *surchauffer***

6) There was a misunderstanding during their conversation, which led to unfortunate consequences.

**Prefix *mis-* = badly or wrong → *un malentendu***

**Note: this prefix can also be applied to the verb to misunderstand → *mal comprendre***

7) Those kids are so misbehaved!

**See above → *mal élevé* (adj.)**

**However, if we use the prefix with the verb to misbehave, the better translation would be “*mal se comporter*”, “*avoir un mauvais comportement*”**

### 3. Inferring Meaning (pp. 18-19)

**Exercise 5:** Use the context to make sense of the underlined word. Which clues did you use? What part of speech is it? Then suggest a translation for the underlined word. **DO NOT USE A DICTIONARY!**

1) Even though John had a good job and a nice family, he yearned for more.

The word “yearned” is a verb, it ends in *-ed* and is preceded by the pronoun *he*. The phrase “even though” is important here et signifie *même si, quand bien même* → *il aspirait à plus, il voulait/désirait plus*

2) Since professional athletes have to stay in peak physical shape, most athletes seldom eat junk food.

The word “since” translates as *puisque* in this sentence. “Seldom” is an adverb which describes the verb “eat”. It is the opposite of *often*. We can deduce that because professional athletes must be in excellent physical shape, they rarely eat junk food. Therefore, *rarement* is a good translation.

3) Unlike her older brother Jerome, who stayed out all hours of the night, Kate obediently followed the curfew her parents set.

Jerome stays out all night but Kate is “unlike” him. The word “obediently” also gives us information on the verb “follow”. “Curfew” is a noun, as it is preceded by the article “the” → *un couvre-feu*

4) After the bird escaped, Chris tried to coax it back into the cage with treats.

“Treats” are *friandises*. The word “back” tells us that Chris wants the bird to return or go back in again. “Coax” is a verb as it’s preceded by the preposition “to”, indicating that it’s the infinitive of the verb → *amadouer, attirer*

5) If a wolf refuses to help its pack hunt, it becomes an outcast and must go on alone.

“Outcast” is a noun as it is preceded by the indefinite article “an”. We can guess that the prefix *out-*, as in *outside, outdoors*, means *exterior*. The word “must” describes the wolf’s obligation to go on alone, without the pack → *un paria*

6) Dad had no need for the broken air conditioner, so he discarded it on the corner by the trash.

“Discarded” is a verb, preceded by the pronoun “he” and with the *-ed* ending of regular verbs in the past simple (preterit). We understand that “trash” is where we put things which are no longer needed → *jeter (à la poubelle), se débarrasser*

7) The curling iron was so hot that Martha singed her hair when she tried using it.

We understand that this is a verb, as in exercise 6 and has an *-ed* ending. However, this is not the verb *to sing* which is irregular and is *sang* in the past

**simple! This verb *to singe* means *brûler*. We can guess that a curling iron is for making curls in one's hair and we can see that it was so hot that it singed Martha's hair. Also, she's obviously not an expert as she "tried using it". Perhaps it was the first time...**

8) Megan did not like the new girl because she was rich, haughty, and kept her nose up high.

**The word "haughty" is an adjective and describes "the new girl" → *hautaine***

9) Jackie plans every party as thoroughly as if the President were coming, so she will make sure that everything has been considered on your big day.

**The structure *as + adverb/adjective + as* means *aussi ... que*. Therefore, this sentence translates as: *Jackie planifie chaque fête aussi minutieusement que si le Président venait...***