

1 Prefixes

Target Vocabulary

Notice how these words and their word forms are used in the reading passage.

annoy	collapse	equipment	survive
authority	endanger	furious	

Vocabulary Preview

Write the letter of the correct meaning in the space next to each word. If you don't know what a word means, leave the space blank or guess at its meaning.

- | | |
|---------------------------|--|
| _____ 1. authority | a. to disturb or upset |
| _____ 2. collapse | b. violently angry |
| _____ 3. equipment | c. an official organization that has the power to make decisions, such as the police |
| _____ 4. annoy | d. to continue to live after a dangerous or difficult experience |
| _____ 5. endanger | e. to suddenly fall down |
| _____ 6. survive | f. to put someone in a situation where he or she might be hurt or might no longer live |
| _____ 7. furious | g. the tools or materials needed for a particular activity |

Make a list of other words in the reading you did not recognize or know the meaning of.

Now, read the passage.

May 11, 1953, was an uneventful day in Waco, Texas, until the late afternoon. Lillie Matkin noticed dark clouds outside her office window, but she continued to work at the switchboard. She was not concerned until the lights the eight-story building began to go on and off. How **annoying**, she thought.

Lillie Matkin did not know what had just happened in San Angelo, Texas, 195 miles from Waco. There the sky had turned inky black, and a funnel-shaped cloud called a tornado dropped from the rolling, tumbling clouds. Eleven people in San Angelo were killed and 66 were injured.

One police officer in San Angelo tried to warn the **authorities** in Waco that the tornado was moving toward for their town, but the telephone lines went down before he could do that.

The 90,000 people who lived in Waco had no idea what was about to happen. They were all going about their business as usual. For example, near downtown, Ira Baden was trimming wood for a garage door. The air was calm, but it seemed unusually dark for 4:30 in the afternoon. The wind started picking up, and then Baden heard a scary sound: It sounded like several freight trains were roaring through Waco at the same time.

Baden also noticed that the clouds seemed to be moaning as rain began to fall. And the rain was unusual, too—it was not coming straight down but moving sideways. When Ira Baden saw the dark clouds swirling violently, like a whirlwind, he knew what was coming—a tornado.

Baden grabbed onto a steel post in the sidewalk and hung on with all his strength. He saw the business district of Waco flying into pieces right before his eyes. The front of a large building was torn away, and he could see the scared people inside. He saw the roof of the Joy Movie Theatre cave in.

Bricks, chunks of cement, lumber, and broken glass whirled around Baden. The tornado flattened a block of one-story shops. Then it hit the building where Lillie Matkin still sat in front of her switchboard. The roof **collapsed** beneath the powerful winds. A funnel cloud hovered right over the building, pulling the top floors off the ground level. The building exploded as if filled with dynamite. Dust and debris— broken, scattered remains—sprayed out over a five-block area.

When the tornado left Waco, the **residents** were left to search for **survivors**. Ira Baden and many others dug through stones and wood to answer cries for help from trapped people. By 5:00 PM, the police and fire departments were working **furiously** to dig out victims. The National Guard joined the effort.

Bright lights were brought in so the rescuers could keep working even after dark. One group of men dug through the pile of debris that had once been the building Lillie Matkin was in. They searched for signs of life by digging in the rubble and then calling for total silence so they could listen for any sounds of **survivors**. They heard something that might have been a cry for help, but they weren't sure. If there was any chance that someone was trapped, they promised to work nonstop to find the person.

The men worked for five hours, digging toward the cries they heard. It was painfully slow work that had to be done by hand. Any large **equipment** could further **endanger** anyone who was still alive. So piece by piece they worked. When the men shone their flashlights, they heard a woman cry out, "I can see the light! I can see the light!" Now they knew for sure someone was alive in that mass of wreckage, but it would be hours before they could reach the injured woman. By then, would it be too late?

Word Families

Use the words given below to fill in the word family chart. One has been done for you as an example. Some words may be used more than once. (2x means that the word in that form is used twice.)

annoy authority (2x) collapse danger equipment furious
 annoyance authoritative collapsible dangerous equip furiously
 annoying authoritatively dangerously equipped
 annoyingly authorization endanger
 authorize endangered

resident survive
 reside survival
 residence survivor
 residential

Noun	Noun (person)	Verb	Adjective	Adverb
	_____	annoy		
authority authorization	authority	authorize	authoritative	authoritatively
_____	_____	collapse		_____
danger	_____			
equipment	_____			_____
_____	_____	_____	furious	
	resident			_____
		survive	_____	_____

Prefixes are one type of **word part/affix**. They come before the root of a word to form new words. They are usually two to four letters in length. Examples of common prefixes are: *anti-*, *auto-*, *bi-*, *bio-*, *dis-*, *ex-*, *geo-*, *il-*, *im-*, *in-*, *inter-*, *ir-*, *mis-*, *multi-*, *non-*, *out-*, *over-*, *pre-*, *re-*, *trans-*, *un-*, *under-*.

Circle the prefix in each of these words:

automatic	overworked
bicycle	preview
interactive	transform
multimedia	underworld

Write other words with prefixes that you find in this book in the Vocabulary Notebook pages (pages 71–74).

Prefixes have meanings—for example, *pre-* means “before.” The prefixes *un-* and *non-* mean “not” when used with a stem. Do the exercise that follows.

Practice Using the Prefixes *un-* and *non-*

Match each word on the left with the correct definition on the right. The first one has been done for you as an example.

- | | |
|-------------------------------|---|
| <u>g</u> 1. uneventful | a. peaceful |
| _____ 2. nonstop | b. not common |
| _____ 3. unusual | c. not able to know what will happen or what effect something will have |
| _____ 4. nonfiction | d. not frightened or scared |
| _____ 5. uninjured | e. continuously, without ending |
| _____ 6. unpredictable | f. physically undamaged |
| _____ 7. nonviolent | g. nothing exciting, interesting, or important |
| _____ 8. unafraid | h. true, based on facts |

Word Forms

Complete each sentence with the correct word. The first one has been done for you as an example.

1. You must have your boss authorize your vacation request.
authority authorize authoritative authorization
2. We knew something was wrong when father suddenly _____ at the dinner table.
collapse collapsed collapsible collapsing
3. The new kitchen was very well _____. You could cook just about anything in it.
equipment equipped equip equips
4. The driver was unhurt, but both passengers suffered minor _____.
injure injured injury injuries
5. They sold the old farmhouse and moved into a nice _____ area.
resident residential residence reside
6. The airplane crashed into the sea and there were no _____.
survive survival survivors survived
7. Although the living room was normally warm and cheerful, today it was _____ cold and dark.
unusual unusually usual usually
8. It was _____ when my neighbor left her bike in my driveway.
annoy annoyance annoying annoyingly
9. She worked _____ to finish the project before the deadline.
furious furiously
10. As a result of new fishing policies, that species is soon going to be _____.
dangerous dangerously endangered endanger

Endangered species is a common phrase used with animals that could soon become extinct (eliminated).