

WORD PART: UN

Un means "not." Other prefixes do, too, but they have slightly different meanings.

Here are some activities to practice using and thinking about “un” words. Discussing your ideas for these activities will help even more with understanding how these words are used. Choose some words from this list -- a few familiar ones, and some *un*familiar ones.

Un- words are usually verbs (unplug or untie) or adjectives (untidy, unbreakable)

Suggested timeline for activities: (also see “Multisensory Vocabulary: Guidelines and activities” by Susan Jones at <http://www.resourceroom.net/myarticles/vocabulary.htm>)

First day: Write the word and what it means. Be able to explain what it means in your own words.

Second day: Draw a picture to go with it

Third day: Discuss your picture, then answer the question about it.

Fourth day: Discuss examples and question answers and study the vocabulary (see “

Word	Definition/ example	Picture	Question for discussion
unplug	to take a plug out of; to disconnect from electricity, or to take out something blocking the way. Examples: you can unplug a toaster or unplug a hole that had been plugged up.	Something unplugged from electricity AND an "unplugged" pipe.	What is “unplugged” music?
untidy	not tidy; not neat and orderly Examples: untidy desk	an untidy place (room, desk, car)	What are three places that can get untidy? Name a place you know that is usually tidy.
unbreakable	not able to be broken example: a sturdy plastic cup	two things that are unbreakable (or nearly so)	What are two things that should be unbreakable, and why?
unruly	not following rules; hard to manage Examples: unruly children, unruly hair	An unruly child with unruly hair	What would an unruly crowd at a football game be like?

unvanquished	not vanquished; not beaten down, never giving up. Examples: Anyone (or a group of people) who keeps going even though there are many problems.	Someone who is unvanquished.	Name a person or group of people do you know who is unvanquished?
unconditional	without conditions; not limited in any way. “Unconditional love” means loving whether someone loves you back or not, and no matter what the other person does; “unconditional surrender” means you give up everything, totally.		Here’s a situation: Kim and Jan are fighting over a case of sodas. Jan unconditionally surrenders. What does this mean? Could Jan have surrendered with conditions?
uncertain	not sure about something, or something that is not clearly one thing or another. Example: uncertain weather (you can’t tell what’s going to happen), uncertain game (who’s going to win?), a student uncertain about the answer to a test question	uncertain weather	What are two things you are uncertain about?
unselfish	thinking of other people’s feelings or needs before your own. Opening the door for someone is an unselfish act.	Someone doing something unselfish	What are three unselfish things a person could do?
unthinkable	something that goes against what is reasonable, wanted or likely to happen. For example, serving the moldy leftovers from the back of the refrigerator to someone else would be unthinkable. Swimming across the ocean is unthinkable. (Of course, at one time, sending a man to the moon was considered unthinkable. Slavery is unthinkable in our current society but hasn’t always been.)	A fish doing something unthinkable.	Why was traveling to the moon unthinkable in 1900?

unveil	to remove a veil or a covering, OR to make something publicly known. Examples: taking the cover off a painting so people can see it, or showing people the newest model of a car.	Something (other than a painting) being unveiled	What are three things that could literally be unveiled? (Literally means there is an actual veil covering an actual object.)
unconscious	not conscious; not aware of what is going on. You can be medically unconscious -- "knocked out" -- or simply unaware of a specific thing. For example, getting hit on the head can make a person unconscious. A person can also be unconscious that another person is madly in love with her or him; a person in an office with no windows could be unconscious of a terrible thunderstorm outside. You are unconscious of millions of things happening in the world that you aren't aware of.	An unconscious person.	What are two things you could be unconscious of even though you are awake and alert?

Other UN words:

unabated	unreconstructed	unalloyed	unstoppable	uneasy	unfair	unfortunate
unhappy	unfetter	unfurl	unkempt	unwise	unleash	undoing
unlawful	unflinching	uncharted	unscrupulous	unavailable	unknown	

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