

## Spellings: Prefixes il-, ir-, im- and in-

These prefixes change the meaning of the root word to 'not' or 'opposite of'. For example, by adding the prefix 'ir' to the root word 'responsible' creates 'irresponsible' meaning 'not responsible'.

The question is which prefix do you use? Here is the spelling rule:

Prefix	Use it when	Root word	Adding the prefix
il	when the root word begins with l	legal	illegal
ir	when the root word begins with r	responsible	irresponsible
im	when the root word begins with m or p	mature	immature
		possible	impossible
in	when the root word begins with any other letter	accurate	inaccurate

**1<sup>st</sup> Activity: Complete the table below.** The first word has been done for you.

This week's spellings	Prefix used	Root word	Meaning of this week's spellings
impossible	im	possible	not possible
irresponsible			
illegible			
incomplete			
immature			
irrelevant			
inaccurate			
irregular			
inexpensive			
illiterate			
imperfect			
irrational			
illogical			

**2<sup>nd</sup> Activity: Write a meaningful sentence for each word, from this week's spellings (including the words: calendar, continue and century).**

**Extension:**

Use the correct prefixes to the root words (underlined) to complete the second sentences.

The words in the second sentences mean the opposite of the root words in the first sentences.

Charlie is an active boy, he plays hockey almost every day.

Ben is an \_\_\_\_\_ boy, he hardly does any sport.

It is probable that it will rain.

It is \_\_\_\_\_ that we will have a tornado.

Some changes to material are reversible.

Some changes to material are \_\_\_\_\_.

If I am going to read your story, your writing has to be legible.

I cannot read your story because your writing is \_\_\_\_\_.

If something is mortal, one day it will die.

If something is \_\_\_\_\_, it will never die.

Louise is capable of fixing the chair herself.

Morgan is \_\_\_\_\_ of fixing the chair herself.