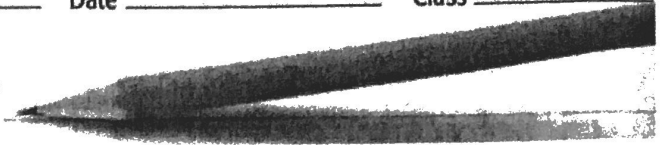




Vocabulary Power



Lesson 15 Prefixes Meaning "For" and "Against"

Knowing the meaning of prefixes can help you discover the meanings of unknown words. The Latin prefix *pro-* means "for" or "in favor of." The following Latin prefixes mean "against" or "opposed to": *counter-*, *contra-*, or *con-*; *anti-*; and *ob-* or *op-*. These prefixes also have other meanings; not all words that begin with these letter combinations have the meanings of the prefixes.

Word List

| | | | |
|------------|---------------|----------|-----------|
| antibiotic | contraband | obstruct | oppugn |
| antipathy | contradictory | obtrude | proponent |
| antithesis | counterweight | | |

EXERCISE A Definitions

Underline the prefix in each of the ten boldfaced words. Then, look up the word in a dictionary and write its meaning.

1. **obstruct**: _____
2. **counterweight**: _____
3. **antipathy**: _____
4. **oppugn**: _____
5. **contraband**: _____
6. **obtrude**: _____
7. **antithesis**: _____
8. **antibiotic**: _____
9. **contradictory**: _____
10. **proponent**: _____

EXERCISE B Context Clues

Write the vocabulary word that best matches the clue.

1. Politicians try to do this to each other's positions on the issues. _____
2. A person who is one of these argues in favor of something. _____
3. You'd look for this if you were a customs agent. _____
4. Doctors and veterinarians use this frequently. _____
5. A big door in a small hallway can easily do this. _____



Vocabulary Power *continued*

6. This allows some types of bridges to be raised. _____
7. Many people have this in regard to snakes and spiders. _____
8. Evidence in a murder trial is often presented in this way. _____
9. A slang synonym for this word is *butt in*. _____
10. In many ways, communism is this when compared with capitalism. _____

EXERCISE C Usage

Write a sentence of your own using each boldfaced word.

1. antithesis _____

2. oppugn _____

3. contradictory _____

4. counterweight _____

5. contraband _____

6. obtrude _____

7. proponent _____

8. antibiotic _____

9. obstruct _____

10. antipathy _____

EXERCISE D Prefixes

Prefixes meaning "for" and "against" appear often in newspapers and magazines. On a separate sheet of paper, make a list of words you find using these prefixes. After each word, use the context or the dictionary to define the word.