

Name:

Date:

Prefix Origins 'dis-' (not, opposite)

Adding the prefix "dis" to a word can apply the "opposite" meaning. In classical Latin "de" and "dis" could be added as a prefix to change a word to the opposite meaning. However, when words passed into Old French, "dis" became "des". Over time words were changed back to "dis" in English and in French changed to "de". So today we have two prefixes that mean "not": "de" and "dis"



Word	Word Origin	Current Word Meaning
--- allow	Late 14thC from Old French: "desalouer" to reject (dis "not" + alouer "recognise or admit")	
--- obey	Late 14thC from Old French: "desobeir" to refuse service or homage (dis "not" + obeir "be obedient")	
--- embark	1580's from Middle French: "desembarquer"	(dis "not" + embarquer "put on small ship")
--- approve	1640's from Old French: "aprover" to agree to (dis "not" + aprover "agree to")	
--- advantage	Late 14thC from Old French: "desavantage"	(dis "not" + avantage "position of advance")

Write sentences using the above words that begin with the prefix 'dis':

How many words can you make using the letters in:

DISAPPROVAL