Prefixes retro-, ir-, mal-, inter-, ab-

retroactive retrospective

irresponsible irrational

malfunction malformed intersection interpose

abduct abstain

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A **PREFIX** IS A WORD PART THAT HAS BEEN ADDED TO THE BEGINNING OF A WORD AND CHANGES THE WORD'S MEANING.

retro- means "backward"
ir- means "not"
mal- means "bad"
inter- means "between"
ah- means "from"

If something **malfunctions**, it doesn't work.

A law that is **retroactive** applies to events before the law was passed.

A **retrospective** is a survey of past experiences. If you are **irresponsible**, you are not responsible.

When someone is **irrational**, that person is not thinking clearly.

Malformed means "poorly shaped." / An intersection is where one thing crosses another.

To interpose means "to come between things." / Abduct means "carry off by force."

If you abstain from something, you do without it.

- A. Read the words in each row. Write a vocabulary word that means almost the same thing.
- 1. unreliable, untrustworthy
- 2. refrain, forego
- 3. intervene, insert
- 4. distorted, misshapen
- 5. seize, kidnap
- 6. illogical, unreasonable

- **B.** Add the correct prefix to each word to form a new word. Use the meaning clue in parentheses to help you.
 - 1. (backward)

____active

2. (between)

____section

3. (bad)

____function

4. (backward)

____spective

Word Meaning_

Building Stalling Skills

| 1 | W | EEK | 1 |
|---|---|-----|---|
| | 7 | 7 | |
| 1 | 4 | 4 | J |

Match each spelling word to its meaning.

| 2 | 1. careless 2. arrangement | a. entertainment |
|----------|----------------------------|--|
| 3 | 2. arrangement | |
| | | b. not paying enough attention |
| | 3. excitement | c. to be afraid of nothing |
| | 4. amusement | d. marvelous |
| - Ro | 5. fearless | e. an excited condition |
| | 6. predicament | f. an unpleasant or difficult situation |
| | 7. reckless | g. a penalty for doing something wrong |
| | 8. punishment | h. good-for-nothing |
| | 9. successful | i. to be rash or careless |
| 1 | 10. worthless | j. using or spending too much |
| <u> </u> | 11. thoughtful | k. considerate |
| 1 | 12. wonderful | l. the way in which things are organized |
| | 13. government | m, the ruling of a country, state, or city |
| | 14. wasteful | n. having success |