Some students may have difficulty understanding that a prefix adds meaning to a base word or word root.

**Listen**
Remind students that a prefix is a word part added to the beginning of a base word or a word root to add meaning. Say: Listen carefully to the Basic Word decrease. Explain that the word decrease is made up of the prefix de- and the word root crease. Say decrease, pausing between the word parts.

Continue with the Basic Words detour, transform, and translate, emphasizing the prefix in each word.

**Speak and Read**
Say: Let’s practice saying the Basic Words decrease, detour, transform, and translate together. Say each Basic Word again, emphasizing the prefix. Have students repeat the words.

Explain that the prefix de- can mean “the opposite of,” “completely,” “away,” or “off.” The prefix trans- can mean “across,” “over,” or “through.”

Write decrease on the board. Have a volunteer draw a line between the prefix and the word root. Repeat with the Basic Words detour, transform, and translate.

**Spell**
**Beginning/Preproduction** Read aloud the Basic Words transcript, describe, decay, and transfer. Have students clap once when they hear a word with the prefix trans- and twice when they hear a word with the prefix de-.

**Early Production/Speech Emergent** Distribute a set of these word cards to each student: transfer, decline, deposit, and transaction. Have students underline the prefix in each word. Ask volunteers to take turns reading their words aloud, emphasizing the prefixes. Then have pairs put their card sets together and play a game of memory, matching cards with the same Basic Words.

**Intermediate/Advanced** Have students choose two Basic Words with the prefix de- and two words with the prefix trans-. Tell them to write a sentence for each word. Then invite students to write their sentences on the board. Say: Which word in your sentence has a prefix? What is the prefix?