

UNIT 16

UNABLE TO UNLOCK



Are you
unable to
unlock the
door?

UN-	+ able	= unable
IN-	+ active	= inactive
IR-	+ responsible	= irresponsible
IM-	+ possible	= impossible
IL-	+ legal	= illegal
suffix	adjective	negative word

UN- is commonly added to the simple form of the verb (V) or to participles (P) used as adjectives.

Refer to the spelling rules in Appendix C-II.

UN-	+ lock	= unlock
UN-	+ seen	= unseen
prefix	verb or participial	negative word

A. Restate each of the following phrases. Include the meaning of the prefix. Follow the example.

Example: an unbelievable story

An unbelievable story is a story that is not believable.

1. **impractical** equipment
2. an **impersonal** manner
3. an **indefinite** period of time
4. an **illegal** use of drugs
5. an **impartial** attitude
6. an **illiterate** child
7. an **independent** country
8. **incomplete** homework
9. an **uncommon** name
10. an **irresponsible** person

B. Often native speakers of English avoid negative adjectives in their criticism, rejection, complaint, warning, or refusal. They prefer using 'not' and a positive equivalent of that adjective. Apply the same principle in the following statements. Follow the example.

Example: The hotel was unclean.

The hotel wasn't clean.

1. His suggestion is impractical.
2. That was an unhelpful remark.
3. She is unhappy with her exam results.
4. John is very irresponsible at work.
5. Attending a formal meeting without wearing a tie would be inappropriate.
6. He seems to be impatient in solving his problems.
7. This name is unfamiliar to me.
8. He has irregular class hours during the week.
9. I could not reach him on the phone because he has given me an incorrect number.
10. He has an unusual way of greeting his friends.

C. Fill in each blank with the negative form of the word in bold print. Follow the example.

Example: A story that is not **believable** is **unbelievable**.

1. An impression that is not **favorable** is _____.
2. A job that is not **possible** is _____.
3. A girl that is not **happy** is _____.
4. A volcano that is not **active** is _____.
5. A size that is not **regular** is _____.
6. A question that has not been **answered** is _____.
7. Losses that are not **recoverable** are _____.
8. A behavior that is not **rational** is _____.
9. An act that is not **lawful** is _____.
10. A child that is not **responsible** is _____.

D. Put the following words into their negative forms and make up a story using as many of these negative words as you can.

VERBS	NOUNS	PARTICIPLES	ADJECTIVES	ADVERBS
cover	responsibility	realized	moral	politely
pack	possibility	heard of	liberal	clearly
button	happiness	revealed	measurable	personally
load	certainly	attempted	material	correctly
fold	activity	done	perfect	patiently
	probability		polite	moderately
	literacy		possible	

E. Fill in the blanks in the text with the appropriate words given in the box.

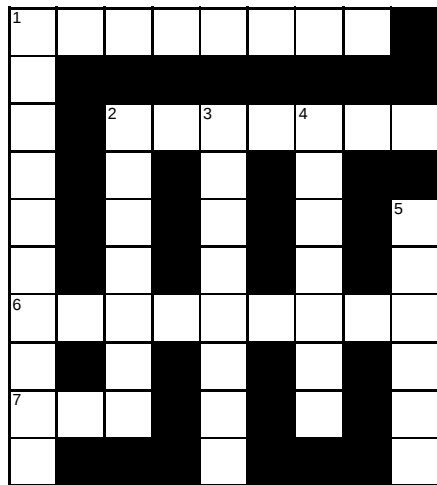
independent	unfamiliar	impatient
irresponsible	unpack	unload
unhappiness	unrecoverable	impossible
unsuitable	inflexibility	untidy

It was _____ for Jack to work permanently at one place. He was _____; he could not wait to the end of one task. He was _____; he would easily postpone his work for his own affairs. He was _____; it was difficult to find any document on his desk. So the employers would find him _____ for the job. They were very angry for his _____ errors. Therefore, they fired him.

This time Jack found an appropriate job for himself. Now he just sits and answers the phones. There is no longer any _____ in his office hours because he uses an answering machine during his absence. He does not have to work with _____ machines either. He does not need to load and _____ or pack or _____. For these reasons, he is more _____ and does not experience _____ anymore.

E. Puzzles to Solve

Puzzle 1



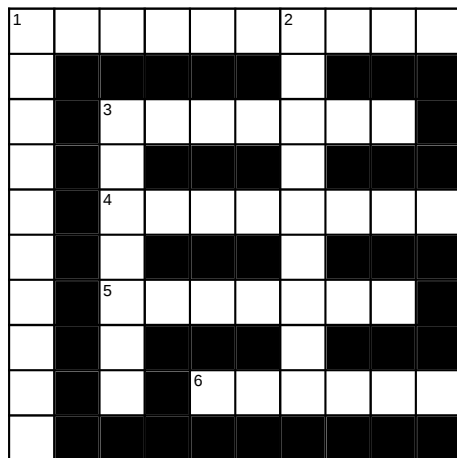
Across

- 1 not polite (8)
- 2 not usual (7)
- 6 not patient (9)
- 7 Chickens ___eggs. (3)

Down

- 1 not possible (10)
- 2 not happy (7)
- 3 opposite of button (8)
- 4 not clear (7)
- 5 not tidy (6)

Puzzle 2



Across

- 1 It's _____ to live without oxygen. (10)
- 3 an _____ child (7)
- 4 _____ your jacket (8)
- 5 an _____ explanation (7)
- 6 an _____ room (6)

Down

- 1 an _____ pronoun (10)
- 2 A (n) _____ student can't wait. (9)
- 3 A (n) _____ animal is not seen everywhere. (7)