1 Prefixed Verbs

Normally when we add a prefix to an imperfective verb, its becomes a perfective verb with a new meaning. Let us look at a few examples.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Imperfective</th>
<th>Perfective</th>
<th>Perfective</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>писать</td>
<td>описать</td>
<td>переписать</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>to write</td>
<td>to describe</td>
<td>to rewrite</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>играть</td>
<td>проиграть</td>
<td>выиграть</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>to play</td>
<td>to lose</td>
<td>to win</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>стоять</td>
<td>настоять</td>
<td>состоять</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>to stand</td>
<td>to insist</td>
<td>to consist</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Because these new perfective verbs have new meanings, they need new imperfective counterparts. The way to do this is to drop the ending and put “-ивать” or “-ывать”. For example,
Typically “-ЫВ-” is inserted if it is followed by a consonant, and “-ИВ-” is inserted if it is followed by a vowel or a consonant that cannot precede “ы”.

The perfective verb conjugates just like the original verb, and its imperfective counterpart is a regular first conjugation verb.

Note that there’s almost always a stress shift happening when we insert the infix. If the stress of the perfective verb is on the “-ать”, then the stress on its imperfective counterpart would fall on the syllable before “-ИВ-” or “-ЫВ-”

1.1 Vowel Mutations

If the syllable before “-ать” is an “о”, it changes into a stressed “а” in the imperfective counterpart. An “е” sometimes becomes a stressed “Ю”.
1.2 Consonant Mutations

просить спросить спрашивать
to request (imperf.) to inquire (perf.) to inquire (imperf.)

2 -казать family

Even if “казать” itself is not a word, there is a whole family of words coming from it.

показать показывать to show
наказать наказывать to punish
dоказать доказывать to prove
указать указывать to point, to indicate
приказать приказывать to order (to command)
заказать заказывать to order (food)