

STUDY 1

Forming adjectives

1 Prefixes used to form opposites

prefix	examples
dis-*	disloyal, displeased
il-	illegal, illiterate
im-	immature, impossible
in-	inexperienced, insecure
un-*	unhappy, unpopular

* Note that these prefixes can also be used with some verbs, e.g. *disagree*, *unlock*.

prefix	examples	meaning
anti-	anti-social, anti-war	against
mis-	misunderstood, mismanaged	badly, in the wrong way
non-	non-stop, non-smoking	without, not
over-	over-cooked	too much
post-	post-war	after
pre-	pre-war	before
pro-	pro-European	in favour of
re-	reunited, recharged	again
self-	self-confident	relating to itself
under-	under-cooked	not enough
good/well/better	good-tempered	good
bad/badly	bad-tempered	bad

2 Common suffixes for adjectives

suffix	examples
-able*, -ible	miserable, responsible
-al	physical, psychological
-ant, -ent, -ient	pleasant, violent, efficient
-ed	depressed, talented
-ful	powerful, successful
-ic	enthusiastic, scientific
-ure	insecure, unsure
-ing	exciting, frustrating
-ive	aggressive, intensive
-less	restless, hopeless (= without)
-ious, -ous	anxious, nervous
-y	grumpy, wealthy

* This suffix sometimes means 'can be' (*washable* = can be washed)

REMEMBER!

Many adjectives to describe feelings have both an *-ing* and an *-ed* form. The *-ed* form describes how you feel.

I'm very tired this morning.

The *-ing* form describes what makes you feel that way.

Looking after babies can be very tiring.

However, not all *-ed* / *-ing* adjectives have both forms.

Ben is a very talented musician.

Fortunately, her illness isn't catching.

PRACTICE 1

1 Add prefixes to form the opposite of the adjectives below.

- | | |
|------------------|-------------------|
| 1 ___experienced | 6 ___friendly |
| 2 ___popular | 7 ___polite |
| 3 ___loyal | 8 ___respectful |
| 4 ___attractive | 9 ___enthusiastic |
| 5 ___possible | 10 ___correct |

2 Choose the correct definition.

- anti-war = *against* / *in favour of* war
- non-violent = *against* / *without* violence
- over-confident = *too confident* / *not confident enough*
- pre-paid = paid for *in advance* / *afterwards*
- post-natal = *before* / *after* birth
- misinformed = *given the wrong information* / *informed again*

3 Which word in each group does not belong with the suffix?

- success- / power- / talent ful
- confid- / persist- / pleas- ent
- disappoint- / enthusiast- / pessimist- ic
- health- / import- / wealth- y
- hope- / imagine- / penni- less

STUDY 2

Forming nouns and gerunds

1 Common suffixes for nouns

- **-ance** and **-ence** are often used to form abstract nouns from adjectives ending in **-ant** or **-ent**.
patient → *patience*
tolerant → *tolerance*
- **-ee** is used to describe a person on whom an action is performed.
employee (= person who is employed)
trainee (= person who is being trained)
- **-er, -ian** and **-or** are often used for people or things that do a particular job.
act → *actor*
music → *musician*
football → *footballer*
open → *can opener*
- **-hood** is used to form abstract nouns, especially those concerned with periods of life or relationships between people.
child → *childhood*
mother → *motherhood*
- **-ism** is often used to describe particular religions or ideologies, and with some abstract nouns.
Buddhism, liberalism, criticism, cynicism
- **-ist** is used to describe people's beliefs and sometimes their occupation.
communist, journalist, pianist
- **-ity, -iety** and **-y** are used to form nouns from adjectives.
anxious → *anxiety*
immune → *immunity*
- **-tion, -(s)ion, -ion** and **ation** are often used to form nouns from verbs.
imagine → *imagination*
admit → *admission*
- **-ment** is often used to form abstract nouns from verbs.
enjoy → *enjoyment*
move → *movement*
- **-ness** is very commonly used to form abstract nouns from adjectives.
happy → *happiness*
nervous → *nervousness*
- **-our, -iour** and **-ure** are often used to form abstract nouns.
behaviour
pleasure
- **-ship** is used to form abstract nouns, usually about relationships.
friend → *friendship*
member → *membership*

REMEMBER!

Many other nouns are exactly the same as the verb form.

to comment → *a comment*

to drive → *a drive*

to decrease → *a decrease*

to study → *a study*

2 Gerunds

The gerund (**-ing** form) is used in the same way as a noun, either as the subject or object of the sentence, or alone. It is commonly used:

- to describe general activities or abstract ideas. (We cannot use the infinitive here.)

Trusting your children is very important.

Walking and swimming are my favourite forms of exercise.

- when there is no single noun to describe that idea.

Going to the dentist's makes me really nervous.

- when ideas or activities are not put into complete sentences.

These can be in written lists:

Our priorities for next year are:

- cutting costs;

- expanding into new markets.

or in conversation:

A: So, what's your idea of relaxation?

B: Having a nice long bath and reading my book.

PRACTICE 2

1 Complete the nouns below with the suffixes in the box.

-ee -ence -iety -ion -our -ism
-ment -ness -ship -ance

- | | |
|----------------|------------------|
| 1 hon_____ | 6 move_____ |
| 2 depress_____ | 7 interview_____ |
| 3 evid_____ | 8 anx_____ |
| 4 pessim_____ | 9 annoy_____ |
| 5 member_____ | 10 tired_____ |

2 Complete the second sentence with a noun so it means the same as the first.

- 1 Were you happy as a **child**?
Did you have a happy _____?
- 2 To do this job, you need to be very **creative**.
To do this job, you need to have a lot of _____.
- 3 Roy and I have always been very close **friends**.
Roy and I have a very close _____.
- 4 I can understand why you are so **anxious**.
I can understand your _____.
- 5 He is **employed** by the post office.
He is an _____ of the post office.
- 6 The staff were very **hostile** to their new manager.
The staff felt a lot of _____ towards their new manager.

3 Underline the words in bold which should be in the **-ing** form.

- 1 Many people who wish to improve their fitness find that go to the gym is easier and more sociable than do exercise at home.
- 2 Join an internet chat room has become a popular way of meet new people.
- 3 Don't you think that go out and take exercise in the fresh air is better for you than spend half your life sit in front of a computer screen?
- 4 Change your lifestyle is a better way of lose weight than go on a crash diet.

REMEMBER THESE WORDS

ADJECTIVES TO DESCRIBE FEELINGS

amused	impatient
awkward	insecure
cheerful	panicky
curious	unsociable
dissatisfied	upset
enthusiastic	optimistic
frustrated	pessimistic
grumpy	

WORDS WITH PREFIXES THAT CHANGE THE MEANING

antisocial	postgraduate
bad-tempered	pro-/anti-government
being a (non)conformist	self-aware
financial (in)security	self-centred
good and bad things in life	self-confident
over/underpaid	self-critical
non-/anti-smoking	underfed
non-stop	well-being
non-violent	

OTHER

an active social life	to inherit a fortune
to commute	intellectual stimulation
companionship	a lack of confidence
contentment	a lack of money
criticism	loneliness
to daydream	random
determined	rational
an employee	to pay taxes
exhaustion	a purpose
fascinating	support
to get into debt	to take a nap
to giggle	talented
to give you the creeps	to track something
hostility	violence

PRACTICE

1 Complete the gaps.

adjective	noun
1 exhausting	<u>exhaustion</u>
2 _____	security
3 financial	_____
4 intellectual	_____
5 panicky	_____
6 _____	impatience
7 _____	hostility
8 enthusiastic	_____
9 curious	_____
10 aware	_____
11 creative	_____
12 _____	contentment
13 optimistic	_____
14 fit	_____

2 Complete the sentences.

behaviour creeps fortune giggle
nap security social life

- The silly picture on Jake's T-shirt made everyone _____.
- My grandparents are 80, but still have an active _____.
- Lola decided to join the civil service because of the financial _____.
- That mask you are wearing really gives me the _____.
- When his father died, Alistair inherited a _____.
- I think the children should take a _____ before we go out, or they'll be tired.
- Our neighbours have been reported to the police for anti-social _____.

STUDY TIPS

Using a dictionary for wordbuilding

1 Use the extracts below to find ...

- the past tense, *-ing* form and third person (*he, she, it*) form of *satisfy*.
- the noun from *satisfy*, and its opposite.
- three adjectives from *satisfy*. Find the difference in meaning, and the opposite of each one.

satisfaction \sætɪəs'fækʃən\ *n* a feeling of happiness because you have achieved something
[opposite = *dissatisfaction*]

satisfactory \sætɪəs'fæktəri\ *adj* something that is satisfactory seems good enough for a particular situation
[opposite = *unsatisfactory*]

satisfied \sætɪəsfaɪd\ *adj* pleased because something has happened as you want, or because you have got what you want [opposite = *dissatisfied*]

satisfy \sætɪəsfaɪ\ *v* satisfied, satisfying, satisfies to make someone pleased by doing what they want

satisfying \sætɪəsfaɪ-ɪŋ\ *adj* making you feel pleased and happy, because you have got what you wanted
[opposite = *unsatisfying*]

2 Complete the sentences below with a word related to *satisfy*. For each missing word, think about ...

- whether you need a verb, noun, adjective, etc.
 - if there is more than one adjective, noun form, etc. Make sure you choose the word which makes sense in the gap.
 - if you need to add any prefixes, suffixes, etc. (there may be more than one).
- It was very _____ to beat our rivals United in the final.
 - Although we could still do better, our overall progress has been _____.
 - There is much _____ with the government over recent failures.
 - This work is _____. You will need to do it again.
 - He's _____ with the investigation, and wants a new one.