

Vocabulary file

1 Adjectives from verbs and nouns

We add these suffixes to verbs and nouns to form adjectives. Notice any spelling changes.

-able -al -ant -ful -ible -ive -ous
(t)ic -y -ed -ing

able afford – affordable, believe – believable, depend – dependable, drink – drinkable, enjoy – enjoyable

al critic – critical, culture – cultural, environment – environmental, fiction – fictional, influence – influential, inspiration – inspirational, intellect – intellectual, music – musical, nation – national, practice – practical, profession – professional

ant please – pleasant

ful care – careful, cheer – cheerful, harm – harmful, hope – hopeful, success – successful, thought – thoughtful

ible collapse – collapsible, horror – horrible, sense – sensible

ive action – active, destruction – destructive, imagination – imaginative, sense – sensitive

ous ambition – ambitious, courage – courageous, danger – dangerous, fame – famous, glamour – glamorous

(t)ic artist – artistic, energy – energetic, optimism – optimistic, romance – romantic

y fun – funny, mood – moody, scare – scary

ed amuse – amused, amaze – amazed, annoy – annoyed, bore – bored, frighten – frightened, interest – interested, tire – tired

ing amuse – amusing, amaze – amazing, annoy – annoying, bore – boring, entertain – entertaining, interest – interesting, frighten – frightening, tire – tiring

2 Nouns from adjectives

We add these suffixes to adjectives to form nouns. Notice any spelling changes.

-(an)ce -(at)ion -cy -ty -y

ance brilliant – brilliance, important – importance, tolerant – tolerance

(at)ion aggressive – aggression, determined – determination

-cy accurate – accuracy, fluent – fluency, private – privacy

-(en)ce confident – confidence, different – difference, independent – independence, intelligent – intelligence, obedient – obedience, patient – patience, violent – violence

-(il)ity able – ability, creative – creativity, equal – equality, formal – formality, generous – generosity, popular – popularity, possible – possibility, opportune – opportunity, responsible – responsibility

-ness firm – firmness, fit – fitness, happy – happiness, lonely – loneliness, sad – sadness

-th broad – breadth, dead – death, deep – depth, long – length, strong – strength, true – truth, warm – warmth, young – youth

-ty cruel – cruelty, loyal – loyalty, safe – safety

-y brave – bravery, difficult – difficulty, honest – honesty, jealous – jealousy

We can change adjectives into nouns in other ways too.

beautiful – beauty, courageous – courage, dangerous – danger, high – height, hungry – hungry, mysterious – mystery, optimistic – optimism, pleased – pleasure, poor – poverty, proud – pride

3 Nouns from verbs

We add these suffixes to verbs to form nouns. Notice any spelling changes.

-al -ance -(a)tion -ence -ment -ness
-nt -sion -ty -ure -y

-al arrive – arrival, survive – survival

-ance annoy – annoyance, appear – appearance, disappear – disappearance, perform – performance, tolerate – tolerance

-(at)ion attract – attraction, celebrate – celebration, conserve – conservation, contribute – contribution, determine – determination, discuss – discussion, educate – education, explain – explanation, inspire – inspiration, invent – invention, motivate – motivation, organise – organisation, participate – participation, pollute – pollution

-ence obey – obedience, persist – persistence

ir- regular – irregular, responsible – irresponsible

-ment amaze – amazement, amuse – amusement, arrange – arrangement, astonish – astonishment, develop – development, disappoint – disappointment, embarrass – embarrassment, encourage – encouragement, entertain – entertainment, improve – improvement, treat – treatment

-ness forgive – forgiveness
-nt participate – participant
-sion decide – decision

-ty save – safety, vary – variety

-ure please – pleasure

-y discover – discovery

We can change verbs into nouns in other ways too.

behave – behaviour, believe – belief, choose – choice, destroy – destruction, die – death, fly – flight, laugh – laughter, live – life, marry – marriage, prove – proof, succeed – success,

4 Verbs from adjectives

We add **-en** to certain adjectives to form verbs.

-en broaden – broaden, deepen – deepen, long – lengthen, strong – strengthen, wide – widen

5 Making words negative

We use these prefixes to make words negative.

dis-

il-

im-

in-

ir-

mis-

un-

dis- agree – disagree, appear – disappear, approve – disapprove, like – dislike, obedient – disobedient, obey – disobey, organised – disorganised, pleasure – displeasure

il- legal – illegal, legible – illegible, logical – illogical

im- mature – immature, patient – impatient, possible – impossible, practical – impractical

in- dependent – independent, flexible – inflexible, informal – informal, visible – invisible

6 Compound nouns

We form compound nouns in three different ways. These combinations may be written as one word, two words or with a hyphen.

1 noun + noun

- one word

headphones, screwdriver, songwriter, soundtrack

- two words

CD player, compact disc, concert hall, disc jockey, fridge freezer, jazz band, lead singer, microwave oven, mobile phone, record producer, rock concert, solo artist, song writer, sound track, table tennis, tumble dryer, vacuum cleaner, video recorder

- hyphenated
tin-opener

2 noun + verb -ing

iceskating, sightseeing, scuba diving, weightlifting

3 verb -ing + noun

recording studio, running shoes, shopping centre, swimming pool

7 Compound adjectives

Compound adjectives contain two words, usually joined by a hyphen. The second part is often a present or past participle.

1 past participle (-ed)

bad-tempered, big-headed, grey-haired, left-handed, middle-aged, old-fashioned, short-sighted

2 present participle (-ing)

easy-going, good-looking, hard-working