

Adjectives: opposites

I can use a variety of adjectives.

1 Match the adjectives below to make pairs of opposites.

awful different difficult expensive fantastic good
large low new safe true wrong

- | | |
|-----------|--------------|
| 1 bad | 7 terrible |
| 2 great | 8 high |
| 3 similar | 9 old |
| 4 easy | 10 right |
| 5 cheap | 11 dangerous |
| 6 false | 12 small |

2 Complete the sentences with adjectives from exercise 1.

- Don't play with that knife. It isn't .
- £500 for a jacket? That's .
- The shelf is very . I have to stand on a chair to reach it.
- Well done! All the answers in your test are .
- British English is a bit from American English.
- That calculation is very . I can't do it.
- Joe says he's seventeen. But that isn't . He's only fifteen.

3 Complete the adjectives. Use a, e, i, o, u and y. Which prefix do we add to make the adjectives negative?

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1 fr <input type="text"/> ndl <input type="text"/> | 5 us <input type="text"/> l <input type="text"/> |
| 2 k <input type="text"/> nd <input type="text"/> | 6 n <input type="text"/> c <input type="text"/> ss <input type="text"/> r <input type="text"/> |
| 3 h <input type="text"/> pp <input type="text"/> | 7 c <input type="text"/> mf <input type="text"/> rt <input type="text"/> bl <input type="text"/> |
| 4 t <input type="text"/> d <input type="text"/> | |
- Negative prefix:

4 Complete the labels with negative forms of adjectives from exercise 3.

1 an chair2 an room3 an flower4 an child5 an boy

5 Choose three adjectives from exercises 1 and 3 that you could use to describe these things. Try not to use any adjective more than once.

A a pair of jeans

1 2 3

B a city

1 2 3

C an exercise

1 2 3

D the weather

1 2 3

E a classmate

1 2 3

VOCAB BOOST!

In entries for adjectives in most learner's dictionaries you can often find the adjective with the opposite meaning. When you look up an adjective, make a note of the opposite too, if it is given.

6 Read the Vocab boost! box. Then study the dictionary entries below. Complete the pairs of adjectives.

- | | |
|-------------|--------------------------------|
| 1 awake | Opposite: <input type="text"/> |
| 2 late | Opposite: <input type="text"/> |
| 3 beautiful | Opposite: <input type="text"/> |
| 4 thick | Opposite: <input type="text"/> |
| 5 near | Opposite: <input type="text"/> |
| 6 soft | Opposite: <input type="text"/> |

awake /ə'weɪk/ adjective not sleeping: The children are still awake. > opposite **asleep**

early /'ɜ:li/ adjective before the usual or right time: The train arrived ten minutes early. > opposite **late**

ugly /'ʌgli/ adjective not pleasant to look at: The house was really ugly. > opposite **beautiful**

thick /θɪk/ adjective far from one side to the other: The walls are very thick. > opposite **thin**

far /fɑ:(r)/ adjective a long way away: Let's walk – it's not far. > opposite **near**

hard /hɑ:d/ adjective not soft: These apples are very hard. > opposite **soft**