

NEGATIVE PREFIXES

Exercise 1: Make these adjectives negative in meaning by choosing the correct prefix. Write the words in the correct columns.

honest sincere regular legal possible friendly capable patient logical expensive formal
loyal correct happy polite sensitive practical obedient responsible comfortable modest

Un-

Ir-

Im-

Dis-

Il-

In-

Exercise 2: Use one of the adjectives in the box + a negative prefix to complete the sentences

sensitive expensive regular formal comfortable
polite friendly patient sincere loyal

1 The teacher told his students to learn twenty _____ verbs.

2 Mrs. Brown is really _____. She never wants to talk to anyone.

3 Susan has no intention of being _____ to his friends.

4 Adam is so _____. He never wants to explain things twice.

5 These window locks are _____ and effective.

6 John said he was sorry, but they were sure that he was _____.

7 It is very _____ to tell people you don't like their clothes.

8 These parties are almost always _____ there is no dress code.

9 They were sitting in a very _____ position.

10 Mr. Black thinks it is very _____ of Tom to think he can do just what he likes.

Exercise 3: Choose the correct answer A, B, C or D

1. Jane doesn't like waiting. She's so _____ patient.

A. un B. im C. in D. dis 1.....

2. My brother's life is quite _____ organised.

A. un B. in C. dis D. ir 2.....

3. John said he wasn't going to change his mind. His decision is _____ reversible.

A. in B. un C. dis D. ir 3.....

4. I didn't believe what the man said. It seemed _____ credible.

A. in B. un C. dis D. im 4.....

5. What do you think is the best way to discipline a _____ obedient child?

A. in B. dis C. un D. il 5.....

6. Sarah was wearing a very _____ usual dress. It had spotty sleeves and a long, checked skirt.

A. dis B. in C. im D. un 6.....

7. I think that Jeremy is totally _____ sensitive to my feelings.

A. un B. in C. dis D. il 7.....

8. Kate is _____ modest, she thinks she's very good and clever and she likes to talk about herself.

A. un B. in C. ir D. im 8.....

9. We're staying at that hotel again. We were quite _____ satisfied with our room.

A. dis B. un C. in D. im 9.....

10. Physically _____ active people are at risk of developing heart disease.

A. un B. dis C. in D. il 10.....

11. Clare's handwriting is completely _____ legible.

A. ir B. un C. dis D. il 11.....

12. Do you know anyone who has an _____ rational fear?

A. un B. ir C. in D. dis 12.....

13. Did Sam really fail his driving test five times? That's _____ believable!

A. dis B. in C. im D. un 13.....

14. That film has a silly ending. It's completely _____ logical.

- | | | | | |
|-------|-------|-------|--------|---------|
| A. il | B. un | C. in | D. dis | 14..... |
|-------|-------|-------|--------|---------|
15. Many teenagers feel ____able to talk to their parents about their problems.
- | | | | | |
|-------|-------|-------|-------|---------|
| A. in | B. un | C. ir | D. il | 15..... |
|-------|-------|-------|-------|---------|
16. The fashion model and her assistant are ____separable. She never goes anywhere without him.
- | | | | | |
|--------|-------|-------|-------|---------|
| A. dis | B. un | C. im | D. in | 16..... |
|--------|-------|-------|-------|---------|
17. Don't drive so fast. It's ____responsible behavior.
- | | | | | |
|-------|-------|--------|-------|---------|
| A. un | B/ in | C. dis | D. ir | 17..... |
|-------|-------|--------|-------|---------|
18. There is no ____expensive way to fix this problem
- | | | | | |
|-------|-------|-------|--------|---------|
| A. un | B. im | C. in | D. dis | 18..... |
|-------|-------|-------|--------|---------|
19. Can you name three jobs a person wouldn't be able to do if he/ she were ____literate?
- | | | | | |
|-------|-------|--------|-------|---------|
| A. il | B/ un | C. dis | D. in | 19..... |
|-------|-------|--------|-------|---------|
20. Do you think that boys are more ____mature than girls?
- | | | | | |
|-------|-------|-------|--------|---------|
| A. un | B. in | C/ im | D. dis | 20..... |
|-------|-------|-------|--------|---------|

Exercise 4: Add a prefix to the correct form of the word at the end of each line and use the word in the pace on the same line. The first (0) is given as an example.

- | | |
|--------|--------|
| 1..... | 6..... |
|--------|--------|
- 2.....
- 3.....
- 4.....
- 5.....
- | | |
|--------|--------|
| 7..... | 8..... |
|--------|--------|
- 9.....
- 10.....

Attempts to communicate in a foreign language can easily (0) ...misfire...
 I'm always (1) by my attempts to get speak Greek.
 The waiter on Mykonos (2) what I wanted and instead
 of beetroots brought me mushrooms. I (3) mushrooms intensely
 but when I asked him to (4) them with beetroots he smiled,
 went into the kitchen and (5) with a plateful of aubergines.
 He also (6) my friendly attitude towards everyone I meet
 and when I complained that they had (7) the meat,
 Manuél (that was his name if I'm not (8)) grinned and
 twirled his moustache. To cap it all, I (9) the bill and accused
 the poor man of (10) me! It was just my awful Greek again.

fire
appoint
understand
like
place
turn
take
cook
take
read
charge

