

Vocabulary insight 3 Building word families through suffixes

1 Work in pairs. Study the dictionary entries below. How many different forms of the word **sad** are there? What part of speech are they?

1 sad /sæd/ **adj** (sadder; saddest) **1** sad (to do sth); sad (that ...) unhappy or causing sb to feel unhappy: *We are very sad to hear that you are leaving.* • *I'm very sad that you don't trust me.* • *That's one of the saddest stories I've ever heard!* • *a sad poem/song/film* **2** bad or unacceptable: *It's a sad state of affairs when your best friend doesn't trust you.* ► **sadden** /'sædn/ **verb** [T] (formal): *The news of your father's death saddened me greatly.* ► **sadness** **noun** [C,U]

2 sadly /'sædli/ **adv** **1** unfortunately: *Sadly, after eight years of marriage they had grown apart.* **2** in a way that shows unhappiness: *She shook her head sadly.* **3** in a way that is wrong: *If you think that I've forgotten what you did, you're sadly mistaken.*

STRATEGY

Word-building: suffixes

Words that have similar forms can be grouped into a 'family'; for example, *happy, happily, happiness, unhappy*. Every family is built around a 'root' word. In this case, it is *happy*.

You can form new words by adding **prefixes** (to the beginning of the root word) or **suffixes** (to the end of the root word). When you come across a new word, it is good to record other forms of that word as this will help you to develop your vocabulary.

2 Read the strategy above. Then use a dictionary to complete the table.

| noun | adjective | adverb |
|-----------|-----------|------------|
| happiness | | |
| | sad | |
| beauty | | |
| | | generously |
| | necessary | |
| | | memorably |

3 Study the suffixes in the table in exercise 2. Then complete the rules.

Typical noun suffixes are: _____

Typical adjective suffixes are: _____

Typical adverb suffixes are: _____

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4 Choose the correct answers.

- Does great wealth always bring happiness / happy / happily?
- My little sister often plays happiness / happy / happily for hours with her toys.
- We were amazed by the beauty / beautiful / beautifully of the countryside.
- The musician played the piano beauty / beautiful / beautifully.
- She's very generosity / generous / generously and spends a lot of time helping the elderly.
- Living generosity / generous / generously makes people feel happier.
- If necessity / necessary / necessarily, I can help you with the shopping on Saturday.
- There's no necessity / necessary / necessarily to give lots and lots of money to charity. Even a small amount will help.

5 Complete the table with the correct verb forms. Use a dictionary to help you. What are the typical verb suffixes?

| adjective | verb |
|-----------|------|
| sad | |
| beautiful | |
| memorable | |
| different | |

6 Complete the sentences with the correct forms of the words in brackets. Use the suffixes on this page.

- We were all _____ (sad) to hear that our teacher left the school.
- It was a very _____ (memory) experience – I'll never forget it.
- My brother can't _____ (different) between red and orange. He always gets them mixed up.
- She _____ (kind) offered to carry my bags.
- The class was very _____ (friend) and kind to the new students.
- The school is really old, so the classrooms will be _____ (modern) next year.

7 Use the suffixes on this page to make word families built around the words below. Use a dictionary to help you. Then write your own example sentences with each word.

■ prosper ■ respect ■ kind