Negative prefixes un-, in-, im-, ir-, il-

1 Look at these words. What do they have in common? What is the opposite of each word?

illegal impossible incorrect informal invisible irregular unhappy unusual

2 Choose the correct alternative.

- 1 Many common English verbs, such as go, do and make, have <u>a regular/an irregular</u> past form.
- 2 Authors aren't usually <u>happy/unhappy</u> about pirate versions of their books.
- 3 'A books' is <u>correct/incorrect</u> English.
- 4 You couldn't see the words. They were visible/invisible.
- 5 'Dear Sir or Madam' is a <u>formal/informal</u> expression.
- 6 It is <u>legal/illegal</u> to sell pirate copies of books or CDs in shops.
- 7 It is <u>possible/impossible</u> to translate a long book in two days.

Complete the words.

- 1 sad = un_____
- 2 wrong, with a mistake = in_____
- 3 not following the usual rules, e.g. go went = ir _____
- 4 criminal = il _____
- 5 you cannot do it = im _____
- 6 relaxed and friendly, casual = in _____
- 7 you cannot see it = in _____
- 8 strange = un _____