

Negative prefixes

We add a prefix such as **in-** or **un-** or **dis-**, **im-**, to the beginning of adjectives, adverbs and verbs to give them the opposite meaning.

For example,

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| ☐ Before "t", use "dis" | distrust; distasteful |
| ☐ Before "c, b or s" use "un or in" | uncomfortable/unbelievable and incomplete/incredible/insanity; |
| ☐ Before "p", use "im" | impossible |
| ☐ Before "m", use "im" | immature, immortal |
| ☐ Before "h or f", use "un" | unhappy/unfettered; |

Exercise 1

Write the negative form of these words by adding a negative prefix: "un-", "dis-", "in-", or "im-".

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| 1 ____ comfortable | 2 ____ patient | 3 ____ honest | 4 ____ lucky |
| 5 ____ formal | 6 ____ possible | 7 ____ popular | 8 ____ lock |
| 9 ____ appear | 10 ____ agree | 11 ____ polite | 12 ____ like |
| 13 ____ convenient | | | |

Exercise 2: Write the negative form of these words by adding a negative prefix: "un-", "dis-", "in-", or "im"

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| 1 ____ frequent | 6 ____ approve | 11 ____ dependent |
| 2 ____ mature | 7 ____ curable | 12 ____ accurate |
| 3 ____ legible | 8 ____ familiar | |
| 4 ____ moral | 9 ____ grateful | |
| 5 ____ believable | 10 ____ relevant | |

Exercise 4: Complete the sentences by adding the correct pre-fix for each word.

1. It's rather ____polite if you don't say 'Please' a lot in English.
2. My parents are extremely generous with their time and money. They are very ____selfish.
3. If the traffic is bad, it'll be ____possible to get to the match on time.
4. My mum thought a burglar had been in my bedroom, but it's always really ____tidy.
5. It was completely ____responsible of you to go away for the weekend without telling us.
6. Mike's pretty ____happy about going on holiday with his girlfriend's parents.