3E Word Skills

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.

1 Don't play with that knife. It isn't _____ .
2 £500 for a jacket? That's _____ !
3 The shelf is very _____ . I have to stand on a chair to reach it.
4 Well done! All the answers in your test are _____ .
5 British English is a bit _____ from American English.
6 That calculation is very _____ . I can't do it.
7 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__ __ndl__
2 k__nd
3 h__pp__
4 t__d__
5 us__ __l
6 n__c__ss__r__
7 c__mf__rt__bl__

Negative prefix: _____

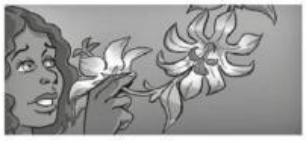
4 Complete the labels with negative forms of adjectives from exercise 3.



1 an _____ chair



2 an _____ room



3 an _____ flower



4 an _____ child



5 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: _____
2 late Opposite: _____
3 beautiful Opposite: _____
4 thick Opposite: _____
5 near Opposite: _____
6 soft Opposite: _____

awake /əˈweɪk/ *adjective* not sleeping: *The children are still awake.* > opposite **asleep**

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

ugly /ˈʌgli/ *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[2] /fɑː(r)/ *adjective* a long way away: *Let's walk – it's not far.* > opposite **near**

hard[1] /hɑːd/ *adjective* not soft: *These apples are very hard.* > opposite **soft**

LIVEWORKSHEETS