

106 Forming adjectives



1 Changing nouns or verbs into adjectives

NOUN OR VERB	+	= ADJECTIVE
centre music nation	-al	central musical national
beauty care help pain use	-ful	beautiful careful helpful painful useful
care pain use	-less	careless painless useless
comfort fashion	-able	comfortable fashionable
dirt health rain wind	-y	dirty healthy rainy windy
danger fame	-ous	dangerous famous
act attract expense	-ive	active attractive expensive

The spelling often changes when we add letters to a word that ends with a vowel or -y:

fame → famous

expense → expensive

beauty → beautiful

2 Making adjectives negative

in-, *un-* and *im-* mean 'not':

unhappy = not happy

informal = not formal

	+ ADJECTIVE	= ADJECTIVE WITH NEGATIVE MEANING
un-	comfortable happy healthy helpful lucky tidy usual	uncomfortable unhappy unhealthy unhelpful unlucky untidy unusual
in-	complete correct expensive formal	incomplete incorrect inexpensive informal
im-	patient perfect polite possible	impatient imperfect impolite impossible

! If the adjective begins with the sound /p/ we use *im-*, not *in-* to make it negative:

polite → ~~in~~polite
✓ impolite

perfect → ~~in~~perfect
✓ imperfect

Practice

- 1 Match the words in A with the letters in B to make nine more adjectives. You need to change the spelling in some of them.

A music act beauty care comfort
fame formal happy health possible

B -al -able -ful im- in-
-ive -less -ous un- -y

0 musical 1 2 3 4
5 6 7 8 9

- 2 Write an adjective under each picture. Some of the adjectives are negative. Use the words in the box.

comfort correct danger expense happy health pain rain



0 unhappy



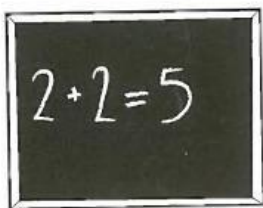
1



2



3



4



5



6



7

- 3 Complete the second sentence so it means the same as the first. Use adjectives from this unit. Use one, two or three words.

0 Cotton is a material you can use for many things.

Cotton is a useful material.

1 That sofa costs a lot of money. It is sofa.

2 Don't worry; the operation won't give you any pain.

Don't worry; the operation

3 I want a hotel in the centre of the city. I want hotel.

4 You shouldn't eat food that is bad for your health.

You shouldn't eat

5 Some people never have any luck. Some people

6 My sister helps people all the time. My sister is person.

7 Everyone in my family is good at music. I come from family.

8 In autumn there are a lot of days when it rains all the time.

There are a lot of in autumn.

9 I hate people who don't behave in a polite way. I hate

10 Two of the answers in the exercise are not correct.

There are two in the exercise.