99 Adjectives

A Synonyms and opposites

Marcus Campion was a man of **exceptional** talent, who had been one of the most **eminent** lawyers of his generation. He was not a **conventional** lawyer, though, and had a reputation for defending men and women accused of the most **brutal** crimes. However, even he felt uneasy as he considered his latest case. 'This Mabbutt is a **bizarre** character, and I admit I haven't formed a wholly **favourable** impression of him,' remarked Campion to his colleagues. "But I'm still **reluctant** to accept he might've killed his own children just to take revenge on their mother." Campion had defended **wicked** men in the past, but this was a most **disturbing** case, and he sat down to start preparing his case with a heavy heart.

GLOSSARY

exceptional	unusually good SYN **outstanding**
conventional	tending to follow what is done or considered acceptable by society in general OPP **unconventional**
brutal	violent and cruel SYN **vicious**; **brutality** *n*
bizarre	very strange and unusual SYN **weird**, **peculiar**
favourable	making people have a good opinion of sb/sth OPP **unfavourable**
reluctant	hesitating before doing sth because you don't want to do it or you are not sure it is the right thing to do SYN **unwilling** OPP **willing**
wicked	bad and morally wrong SYN **evil**
disturbing	making you feel anxious and upset or shocked SYN **upsetting**

SPOTLIGHT *eminent* and *notorious*

Someone who is **eminent** is famous and respected, often for being good at a profession. If someone or something is **notorious**, they are / it is famous for being bad. SYN **infamous**

- ***a notorious criminal***

1 Underline the stress on these words. Use the APP to help you.

brutal	bizarre	favourable	upsetting	peculiar	conventional
reluctant	vicious	outstanding	eminent	notorious	infamous

2 Circle the words which have a positive meaning.

outstanding	brutal	notorious	favourable	wicked	weird	
disturbing	upsetting	eminent	evil	exceptional	vicious	infamous

3 Find seven pairs of synonyms in the box.

evil	exceptional	brutal	reluctant	wicked	notorious	bizarre
disturbing	infamous	unwilling	outstanding	vicious	upsetting	weird

_____/_____ _____/_____ _____/_____
_____/_____ _____/_____ _____/_____
_____/_____

4 Complete the sentences.

1 He was an _____ man and responsible for the deaths of many innocent people.
2 There's a _____ story in the paper about a man who lives underwater.
3 She's an _____ scientist as well as being a well-known writer.
4 It's become a/an _____ road because of the number of fatal accidents on it.
5 To see my sister shouting and screaming at me like that was very _____.
6 He lives in a wooden hut without any electricity; it's a very _____ lifestyle.
7 He had an _____ game, and was easily the best player on the pitch.
8 It was a _____ attack, and the man needed 12 stitches for a head wound.
9 I was _____ to help, but I wish they'd made clear how big the job was.
10 It's a fairly _____ family: husband, wife and two children.

TEST YOURSELF

LIVEWORKSHEETS

B Adjectives easily confused

Adjective	Examples	Meaning
comparable	*The economic situation in this country is not really **comparable** to China.*	similar to another thing, situation or person, and able to be compared to it
comparative	*I've produced a **comparative** analysis of the two social care systems.*	connected with studying things to find out how similar or different they are
naked	*The child was almost **naked**.*	not wearing clothes
bare	*They walked in **bare** feet along the beach.*	(of a part of the body) not covered by clothes: ***bare arms/legs***
deadly	*It's a **deadly** snake.*	causing or likely to cause death
deathly	*There was a **deathly** silence in the room.*	like a dead person; suggesting death
comprehensive	*I need a **comprehensive** list of the hotels.*	full, and including all necessary details
comprehensible	*It's a **comprehensible** story.*	able to be understood OPP **incomprehensible**
super	*We had a **super** meal at Gino's.*	*inf, becoming old-fashioned* extremely good
superb	*Kaufmann's performance was **superb**.*	excellent; of very high quality
superior	*This model is **superior to** the others.*	greater or better in quality than sth/sb else
childlike	*My brother has a **childlike** enthusiasm.*	*approving* having qualities typical of a child
childish	*My sister's behaviour is very **childish**.*	*disapproving* behaving in a silly way
tasty	*The dish was really **tasty**.*	(of food) full of flavour OPP **tasteless**
tasteful	*It's a very **tasteful** room.*	(of clothes, furniture, etc.) attractive and of good quality OPP **tasteless**

5 **Correct the mistakes. Two sentences have no mistakes.**

1 In some countries, women can't walk around with naked arms. .....
2 A comparative house in the south would cost twice as much. .....
3 My mother always wears very tasteful clothes. .....
4 The police found a bare body in the lake. .....
5 Some of these plants can be deathly and kill you in minutes. .....
6 I thought the beds were far super in the first hotel we stayed at. .....
7 He can be very childish if he doesn't get his way – it's very annoying. .....
8 The food is always very tasteful at Amy's. .....

6 **Complete the sentences. The words in capitals at the end will give you some help.**

1 I've done some research on the subject, but we'll have to wait for a more _____ study. COMPLETE
2 She still has a _____ quality about her, which is lovely. INNOCENT
3 I really enjoyed the orchestra, and the soloist was _____. EXCELLENT
4 The woman was _____ pale and looked extremely unwell. LIKE A DEAD PERSON
5 Anyone could follow her instructions: they were entirely _____. EASY TO UNDERSTAND
6 The soup was awful: very thin and _____. WITH NO FLAVOUR

7 **Complete the questions, then write your answers, or talk to another student.** ABOUT YOU

1 Why do you think people might study _____ religion? .....
2 What type of place are you forbidden to enter with _____ arms or legs? .....
3 Why do some people find the instructions for electronic gadgets _____? .....
4 What kind of decoration in a home do you consider _____? .....
5 Why do you think adults sometimes suddenly behave in a _____ way? .....
6 Why do some people believe that a vegetarian diet is _____ to a meat diet? .....
7 Where might it be acceptable for someone to swim in the sea _____? .....
8 Where might you expect to see a _____ spider? .....

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