

## 5. Verb + ment / adjective + ness

Many **verbs** can form nouns with the suffix **-ment**. And many **adjectives** can form their nouns with the suffix **-ness**.

Verb	Noun
achieve	achievement
amuse	amusement
argue	argument
develop	development
encourage	encouragement
excite	excitement
improve	improvement
involve	involvement
judge	judgement
measure	Measurement

Adjective	Noun
aware	awareness
dark	darkness
forgetful	forgetfulness
happy	happiness
homeless	homelessness
lazy	laziness
lonely	loneliness
rude	rudeness
tidy	tidiness
weak	weakness

Write the correct form of the word in brackets to complete these sentences. There are lots more examples here than in the list above, so remember that often verbs use 'ment' to make nouns, and often adjectives use 'ness'. And remember that sometimes the nouns will be plural!

- "Ladies and gentlemen, I would like to make an \_\_\_\_\_ (ANNOUNCE)
- \_\_\_\_\_ is a problem everywhere, not just in big cities. (HOMELESS)
- His \_\_\_\_\_ made me very angry. (RUDE)
- What \_\_\_\_\_ does your doctor recommend for the 'flu? (TREAT)
- We had a big \_\_\_\_\_ about whose turn it was to wash up. (ARGUE)
- I woke up at 2am. The house was in complete \_\_\_\_\_ (DARK)
- We need some special \_\_\_\_\_ if we want to go mountain climbing. (EQUIP)
- If you drink too much alcohol, it will impair your \_\_\_\_\_ (JUDGE)
- The interviewer asked me about my strengths and \_\_\_\_\_ (WEAK)
- My friends gave me a lot of \_\_\_\_\_ when I was worried about my driving test. (ENCOURAGE)
- To my \_\_\_\_\_, I was offered £10,000 for my old car! (AMAZE)
- The company has made lots of \_\_\_\_\_ to their internet services. (IMPROVE)
- I used to find his \_\_\_\_\_ funny, but now it really annoys me. (FORGETFUL)
- Winning the race was an amazing \_\_\_\_\_ for my daughter. (ACHIEVE)
- This book is very unrealistic, but that didn't spoil my \_\_\_\_\_ of it. (ENJOY)
- We are still making \_\_\_\_\_ for the wedding next month. (ARRANGE)
- Drivers should stop to rest during long car journeys, because \_\_\_\_\_ can cause accidents.  
(TIRED)
- People can experience \_\_\_\_\_ at many times during their lives, and for many reasons. (LONELY)

## 6. Word Formation: Irregular Nouns

There are lots of standard noun suffixes (e.g. -ment, -tion) or verb suffixes, but many nouns and verbs have irregular suffixes which you'll need to know for the FCE exam.

Noun	Verb	Adjective	Adverb
(dis)belief	(dis)believe	(un)believable	(un)believably
a choice	choose	chosen	-
a defense	defend	defensive	defensively
a death	die	dead/deadly	deadly
a gift	give	-	-
a loss	lose	lost	-
a marriage	marry	(un)married	-
practice	practise	practising	-
pretense	pretend	-	-
proof	(dis)prove	(un)proven	-
safety	save	(un)safe	safely
a sight	see	unseen	-
a speech	speak	(un)spoken	-
a success	succeed	(un)successful	(un)successfully
a thought	think	thoughtful/less	thoughtfully/lessly

Write the correct form of the word in brackets to complete these sentences.

1. The flowers are  poisonous - don't eat them! (DIE)
2. You have no  - you must do it. (CHOOSE)
3. Their  was a very happy one. (MARRY)
4. You need to do some more  of this grammar. (PRACTISE)
5. We don't have any  that he committed the crime. (PROVE)
6. She's really  about her new haircut.(DEFEND)
7. The company made a  on their new product. (LOSE)
8. I stared at him in . (BELIEVE)
9. Your parents really care about your . (SAVE)
10. The politician's  really made me think about the issues. (SPEAK)
11. We tried to keep up the  that everything was OK. (PRETEND)
12. I need to get a  for my parents' wedding anniversary. (GIVE)
13. I'm really sorry. You were  in your job application. (SUCCEED)
14. He lost his  in the accident (SEE)
15. He's really selfish and  (THINK)