



A. The following prefixes are used to make the opposite of words:

PREFIXES	EXAMPLES
un + verb/adj.	un happy
dis + verb	dis honest
il + adj	il legal
im + adj.	im perfect
in + adj.	in direct
ir + adje.	ir regular
mis + verb	mis taken

SOME RULES

YOU USUALLY USE:

- “il” + words starting with (palavras que começam com) “l”: il + legal = illegal
- “im” + words starting with (palavras que começam com) “m” ou “p”: im + polite = **imp**olite; im + possible = impossible
- “ir” + words starting with (palavras que começam com) “r”: ir + responsible = **ir**responsible

B. The following suffixes are used to form adjectives:

SUFFIXES	EXAMPLES
noun / verb + able noun + ible	control + able = controll able adapt + able = adapt able terror + ible = terr ible
verb + ive	creat e + ive = creat ive
noun + ious / ous	nutrit ion + ious = nutrit ious nerv e + nerv ous
noun + ful	care + ful = care ful
noun + less	end + less = end less
noun + y	salt + y = salt y
verb + ing	bore + ing = bore ing

Able: SOME RULES:

- Words that exist without the suffix (palavras que existem sem o sufixo): treat**able** – treat ✓; if not: use “**ible**”: horr**ible** – horr X
- Words ending in (palavras que terminam em) “e”: advis**e** + able = advis**able**
- Words ending in a consonant (palavras que terminam em consoante): forget + able = forget**table**
- Two-syllable words ending in (palavras com duas sílabas que terminam em) “ate”: demonstr**ate** + able = demonstr**able**

C. The following suffixes are used to form nouns. Pay attention to the changes in the base word.

SUFFIXES	EXAMPLES	SUFFIXES	EXAMPLES
verb + ion	locat e + ion = locat ion	noun + hood	child + hood = child hood
	exclud e + s + ion = exclus ion	noun + ship	relation + ship = relation ship
	permi t + ss + ion = permi ssion	verb + ment	encourage + ment = encourag ement
adj. + ness	happ y + ness = happ iness		

SUFFIXES	EXAMPLES	SUFFIXES	EXAMPLES
adj. + ity	able + ility = ability	verb + er	teach + er = teacher
	necess ary + ity = necessity	verb + or	act + or = actor
	etern al + ity = eternity	noun + ist	science + ist = scientist biology + ist = biologist
	act ive + ity = activity		
	secure + ity = security		
	cur ious + osity = curiosity (there are some exceptions)		
noun + ian	music + ian = musician library + ian = librarian	noun + ian	music + ian = musician library + ian = librarian

III. Make new ADJECTIVES with the suffixes “ful”, “less”, “able”, “ous” “y”, “ive” AND with the prefixes “in”, “im”, “un”, “ir”, “il”, “dis”, “mis”. Sometimes you can make more than one adjective with the same word.

NOUN / VERB	ADJECTIVE WITH A SUFFIX	ADJECTIVE	ADJECTIVE WITH A PREFIX
1. colour		10. dependent	
2. value		11. moral	
3. imagine		12. selfish	
4. accept		13. logical	
5. marvel		14. relevant	
6. sense		15. understood	
7. create		16. kind	
8. fashion		17. secure	
9. wonder		18. safe	

Now, let's practice.

Fill in with the missing word. Mind the words in brackets. (You may have to use a prefix and a suffix at the same time to form an adjective or a noun.)

- John is a very _____ young man. He is really nice. (help)
- Don't be afraid. This snake is _____. (harm)
- She likes wearing _____ clothes: she loves to match all types of colours. (colour)
- She is always so _____. (nerve)
- When I grow up I want to be _____. (fame)
- This teddy-bear is _____. (adore)
- I love the place where I live. It's a very friendly _____. (neighbour)
- My teacher is very _____. (communicate)
- I don't like this sofa. It's so _____! (comfort)
- She likes to do things on her own, she's very _____. (autonomy)
- I will always remember her. She is absolutely _____. (forget)



12. I can't stand _____ people. (honest)
13. I feel _____ about my friend's situation. (terror)
14. It may be _____ to cross the train line, so you must be very _____.
(danger/care)
15. Beckham is one of the most _____ football _____ ever. (fame/play)
16. Since it was such a _____ day, the children went to play outside. (sun)
17. This is a really _____ book. I think you should read it. (interest)
18. The shop assistant was so _____ that I think I will go back to that shop again. (help)
19. It's really _____ to speak a foreign language. (use)

And...

20. We must consider the _____ of helping the children. (possible)
21. The electronic _____ doesn't work! (equip)
22. Our _____ is very important to me. (friend)
23. The _____ of the violin in the band was a good idea. (include)
24. You need some _____ to write a text. (create)