

Word Formation

- There are certain **prefixes** (syllables put at the beginning of words) and **suffixes** (syllables put at the end of words) which are used to form new words. However, there are no exact rules to follow to form one word from another.

Prefixes

anti- = against	<i>antinuclear</i>	pre- = before	<i>prejudice</i>
bi- = two	<i>bilingual</i>	pro- = in favour of	<i>pro-American</i>
co- = with	<i>cooperation</i>	re- = again	<i>rearrange</i>
de- = acting against	<i>debug</i>	semi- = half	<i>semicircle</i>
ex- = before, former	<i>ex-general</i>	sub- = under	<i>subconscious</i>
inter- = between	<i>intermediate</i>	super- = above	<i>supernatural</i>
mono- = one	<i>monolingual</i>	trans- = across	<i>transatlantic</i>
non- = not	<i>non-stop</i>	tri- = three	<i>tricycle</i>
over- = too much	<i>overeat</i>	under- = not enough	<i>underestimate</i>
post- = after	<i>postgraduate</i>	uni- = one	<i>uniform</i>

- There are certain **prefixes** which mean **not** or show an **opposite** state or process. These are:

un- <i>unbelievable</i>	ir- (before r) <i>irresistible</i>	in- <i>incompetent</i>
im- <i>impossible</i>	il- (before l) <i>illegal</i>	dis- <i>disagree</i>
mal- <i>malfunction</i>		mis- <i>mistreat</i>

Suffixes

-ee (with passive meaning)	<i>employee</i>	-ish a) = with the quality	<i>childish</i>
-er (with active meaning)	<i>employer</i>	b) = rather	<i>smallish</i>
-ful a) = with	<i>careful</i>	-less = without	<i>careless</i>
b) = indicates quantity	<i>spoonful</i>	-proof = safe against	<i>waterproof</i>

- To describe people we add **-ar, -er, -or** to the end of verbs or **-ist, -ian** to the end of nouns or verbs making any necessary spelling changes. *lie – liar, rob – robber, create – creator, type – typist, music – musician*

Nouns formed from verbs

-age <i>break – breakage</i>	-ence <i>prefer – preference</i>	-sis <i>analyse – analysis</i>
-al <i>propose – proposal</i>	-ion <i>confuse – confusion</i>	-tion <i>direct – direction</i>
-ance <i>annoy – annoyance</i>	-ment <i>amuse – amusement</i>	-y <i>perjure – perjury</i>
-ation <i>organise – organisation</i>	-sion <i>suspend – suspension</i>	

Nouns formed from adjectives

-ance <i>tolerant – tolerance</i>	-tion <i>desperate – desperation</i>	-ment <i>content – contentment</i>
-cy <i>fluent – fluency</i>	-iness <i>happy – happiness</i>	-ty <i>royal – royalty</i>
-ence <i>obedient – obedience</i>	-ity <i>popular – popularity</i>	-y <i>honest – honesty</i>

Adjectives formed from verbs

-able <i>bear – bearable</i>	-ive <i>decide – decisive</i>
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Verbs formed from adjectives/nouns

-en <i>dark – darken</i>	<i>fright – frighten</i>
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14 Make nouns from the following words.

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|---|------------------|
| 1 employ ..employee, employer, employment.. | 6 publish |
| 2 injure | 7 loyal |
| 3 except | 8 reject |
| 4 amaze | 9 drive |
| 5 differ | 10 examine |

15 Add the correct prefixes to the words in bold.

- The ..anti.. **government** protesters marched to parliament.
- John **slept** and was late for work.
- He is taking a **atlantic** flight from London to New York.
- The **president** of the United States was honoured at a ceremony.
- Superman is a comic strip character who has **human** strength.
- John left his job because he was **able** to deal with such a large amount of work.
- The two countries **operated** to catch the criminal.
- That child looks very thin. I think he must be **fed**.
- The train travels **stop** from London to Edinburgh.
- Tom knew the information was somewhere in his **conscious**, but he couldn't remember it.

16 Fill in the correct form of the words in capitals.



To be a good nurse, a nursing 1) ..qualification.. is not all you need. As a nurse, your 2) plays a huge part in how 3) you are in your work. Therefore, it's very important to make an honest 4) of your own character before you start a career in nursing. You should certainly not 5) the challenges involved in the 6) As a nurse, you need to have the 7) to care for patients on both a medical and a personal level. For example, 8) of difficult patients is a very important quality. All in all, nursing may not always be 9) , but very few other jobs give such a wonderful sense of 10) each day.

QUALIFY
PERSONAL
SUCCESS
ANALYSE

ESTIMATE
OCCUPY
ABLE
TOLERANT
ENJOY
ACHIEVE

17 Add the correct prefixes to form the opposite of the words in bold.

- I don't know what this letter says because the handwriting is totally ..il.. **legible**.
- It's raining, so **fortunately** the game has been cancelled.
- Ricky is quite **polite** as he never says 'please' or 'thank you'.
- The garden is surrounded by a tall fence and is **visible** from the main road.
- Kim found a dog on her doorstep which had obviously been **treated** by its owner.
- They had their electricity **connected** because they didn't pay the bill in time.
- Grace is quite a(n) **honest** person, so I'm not sure she is telling the truth.
- Our team isn't playing well as they seem **capable** of keeping possession of the ball today.