9 Adjective forms

1 Tick the correct sentence in each pair.

1 a Many university students have a part-time job.
  b Many university students have a part time job.
2 a These jobs cannot be done by unexperienced young people.
  b These jobs cannot be done by inexperienced young people.

There are many compound adjectives in English which are usually hyphenated:

- *good-looking, good-natured, well-known, well-educated, well-paid, well-equipped*
- *badly-behaved, bad-tempered, ill-equipped, hard-working, easy-going*
- *short-lived, short-tempered, short-term, long-term, long-lasting*
- *fully-qualified, full-scale, full-size, full-time, part-time, time-consuming, time-saving*

Many phrases describing the age, size or length of something are formed in the same way. When they are used before a noun, they are hyphenated:

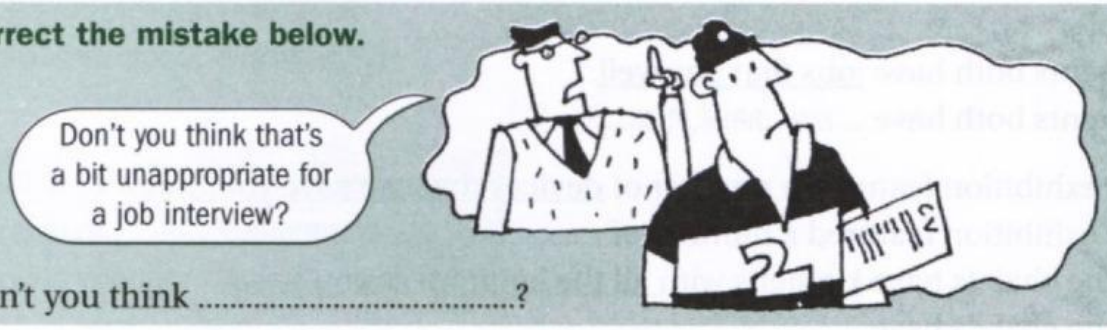
*a **six-year-old** boy*	*He is **six years old**.*
*a **three-month** training course*	*The course lasts **three months**.*
*a **two-bedroom** flat*	*a flat with **two bedrooms***

Adjectives are also formed using prefixes, especially to describe opposites:

dis-	*dissatisfied, disorganised*	***over-***	*overcrowded, overpriced*
in-	*inexpensive, inexperienced, inappropriate*	***post-***	*post-school, postgraduate*
im-	*immoral, immature, impolite*	***pre-***	*pre-school, prearranged*
non-	*nonexistent, non-smoking*	***un-***	*unaware, unsuitable, unemployed*

☆ Some of these adjectives are spelt with a hyphen and some as one word; check a dictionary for the correct spelling.

2 Correct the mistake below.



Don't you think .....?

3 Underline the correct word.

1 The figure rose steadily over a *30 year/30-year* period.
2 The stalls sell a variety of *non-expensive/inexpensive* snacks.
3 He was a polite, *well-educated/good-educated* man.
4 The family live in a simple, *single-storey/single storeys* house.
5 She is punctual, conscientious and *hard work/hard-working.*
6 Everyone needs a healthy, *well-balanced/well balanced* diet.
7 All supervisors must attend a *week-long/one week long* safety course.
8 Many tourists go into the mountains wearing *insuitable/unsuitable* clothing.

LIVEWORKSHEETS