72 Word building: suffixes

A Nouns and verbs

Instead of some verbs, we can use a related noun in a phrase with another verb.

Verb	Verb + noun	Example
attract	**feel an attraction (to sb)**	*He **felt** an immediate **attraction** to Joanna.*
breathe	**take a breath**	*I **took a** deep **breath** and jumped into the pool.*
conclude	**reach a conclusion**	*We **reached** the **conclusion** that Ana was lying.*
confuse	**cause confusion**	*Changing the times of classes **caused** a lot of **confusion** amongst the students.*
encourage	**give sb encouragement**	*My father **gave me** a lot of **encouragement** when I was learning to drive.*
improve	**make an improvement (to sth)**	*The new law has **made a big improvement** to road safety.*
know	**have knowledge of sth**	*Do you **have any knowledge** of the man's disappearance?*

She's **praying.**
She's **saying a prayer.**

He's **quoting** *Hamlet.*
He's **reading a quotation** from *Hamlet.*

GLOSSARY

attraction a feeling of liking sb/sth, sometimes sexually **attract** *v*
breath the air you take in and blow out of your lungs **breathe** *v*
conclusion an opinion that you reach after thinking about sth carefully **conclude** *v*
confusion a state of not being able to think clearly or not understanding sth **confuse** *v*
encouragement words or actions that give sb hope or confidence **encourage** *v*
improvement a change that makes the quality or condition of sth better **improve** *v*
knowledge the state of knowing about a particular fact or situation
prayer the words you use when you speak to God or a god **pray** *v*
quotation (*inf* **quote**) a phrase from a book, speech, play, etc. that sb repeats because it is interesting or useful **quote** *v*

1 Are the underlined sounds the same or different? Write *S* or *D*. Use the APP to help you. Practise saying the words.

▶ encourage / knowledge S
1 breathe / breath .....
2 pray / prayer .....
3 know / knowledge .....
4 improve / conclusion .....
5 attraction / encouragement .....

2 Complete the sentences using a form of the word on the right.

▶ Take a deep breath BREATHE
1 I don't have much ..... of classical music. KNOW
2 The changes will make a big ..... to your health. IMPROVE
3 The jury haven't reached a ..... yet. CONCLUDE
4 Do you think Dee feels any ..... to Ed? ATTRACT
5 The meeting ended in complete ..... . CONFUSE
6 At church, we said a ..... for the people in the floods. PRAY
7 I read aloud a ..... from Voltaire. QUOTE
8 My English teacher gave me a lot of ..... . ENCOURAGE

3 Complete the sentences with a suitable verb or noun.

▶ I hope the changes will improve the situation.
1 It's not my opinion. I'm just ..... from what it says in the newspaper.
2 I didn't ..... an immediate attraction to Sam. I fell in love with him slowly.
3 I often get ..... when I try to do three different things at the same time.
4 As a child, I always said a ..... to God when I went to bed to keep my family safe.
5 They ..... the conclusion that they needed to make some ..... to the office space.
6 If you feel stressed, you should ..... in and out slowly for a minute.
7 I have very little ..... of modern art: I just don't understand it.

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B Adjective suffixes

Suffix	Examples	Meaning
-less -ful	Feel **powerless** in your job? Want to be **powerful**? Get our PEOPLE POWER video!	**powerless** not able to influence or control people OPP **powerful; power** *n*
-al	Modern **industrial** property to rent in **central** location. Andersons.com	**industrial** connected with **industry** *n* **central** in the **centre** *n* of sth
-ical	Cool, **practical, economical** clothing for every day. Go to practicalgear.com.	**practical** useful and suitable **practice** *n* **economical** costing or using less money, time, fuel, etc. than usual **economy** *n*
-able	Fabulous **fashionable** shoes – a **valuable** part of your wardrobe!	**fashionable** popular at the moment **fashion** *n* **valuable** very useful **value** *n*
-ous	**Get our T-shirts with humorous slogans, in various colours.**	**humorous** funny and entertaining **humour** *n* **various** several different **variety** *n*
-y	For beautiful, **shiny** hair, use Jango **creamy** shampoo and conditioner.	**shiny** causing a bright effect when in the sun or light **shine** *n* **creamy** with cream in, or smooth like cream **cream** *n*

SPOTLIGHT adjectives ending in *-ful* and *-less* (2)

Some pairs of opposites end in *-ful* and *-less*.

- *He's a **careful** student.* OPP ***careless***
- *It was a **useful** suggestion.* OPP ***useless***
- *It's a **painful** treatment.* OPP ***painless***

4 Good or bad? Write *G* or *B*.

▶ a powerful speaker G
1 shiny windows .....
2 an economical car .....
3 a shop in a central location .....
4 a valuable suggestion .....
5 a useless idea .....
6 a humorous novel .....
7 industrial smoke .....
8 a careless essay .....
9 a painless operation .....

5 Write the adjectives from these nouns.

▶ industry industrial
1 power ..... and .....
2 cream .....
3 fashion .....
4 practice .....
5 variety .....
6 centre .....
7 shine .....

6 Complete the sentences using adjectives from the table.

▶ She left the water boiling on the cooker for an hour. That was very careless of her.
1 I come from an ..... town in the north where they make chemicals.
2 A bike is much more ..... than a car for getting around town.
3 These shoes may be ....., but they're incredibly uncomfortable.
4 My sister made fish with a ..... sauce, which was delicious.
5 The teacher told us a very ..... story about himself. We couldn't stop laughing.
6 Soldiers entered the town from all sides, and we were ..... to stop them.
7 I can't see you today: there are ..... things I have to do in town.
8 My mother gave me a very ..... piece of advice: be patient and don't give in.

7 *-able* and *-al* are common suffixes at the end of adjectives. Which of these nouns and verbs form adjectives ending in *-able* and *-al*? You will have to make some small spelling changes. Use the Word List or the APP to help you.

nature ..... health ..... drink .....
emotion ..... music ..... rely .....

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