93 Suffixes that form adjectives and verbs

A Suffixes that form adjectives

The suffixes **-able**, **-al** and **-ive** can be added to some nouns and verbs to form adjectives. There are sometimes minor spelling changes.

The new **agricultural** scheme is a **cooperative** venture among farmers in South Wales, but it would be **logical** to extend it to the whole of Wales.

The company has become increasingly **profitable** in recent years. It makes very simple **functional** clothes which are hard-wearing and **affordable**.

The army worked throughout the night to put up **protective** barriers, but the **destructive** force of the storm has still caused considerable **structural** damage to the town.

The school is proud of its **progressive educational** policy, but some parents still believe they are being too **selective** regarding entry requirements.

GLOSSARY

agricultural	connected with the practice of farming
cooperative	doing sth together or working together with others towards a shared aim **cooperation** *n*
logical	seeming natural, reasonable or sensible **logic** *n*
profitable	that makes or is likely to make money
functional	(of clothes, furniture, etc.) practical and useful; with little or no decoration
affordable	cheap enough that people can afford it
protective	providing or intended to provide protection
destructive	causing destruction or damage
structural	connected with the way in which sth is built
progressive	in favour of new ideas and modern methods
educational	connected with education
selective	careful about what or who you choose

1 Underline the stress on these words. Use the APP to help you.

agricultural	cooperative	affordable	profitable
progressive	structural	destructive	cooperation

2 Rewrite the sentences using suitable adjectives. Keep the same meaning.

1 They have the means to buy these houses. These houses _____.
2 He's given us his full cooperation. He's been very _____.
3 The company is making a lot of money. The company is very _____.
4 The earthquake caused massive damage. The earthquake was very _____.
5 Parts of the building are damaged. There was some _____ damage.
6 Do they have a policy on farming? Do they have an _____ policy?
7 Is the army careful about who they choose? Is the army _____?
8 Did it seem a sensible thing to do? Did it seem very _____?

3 Complete the sentences.

1 As a father he has always been very _____ towards his children.
2 It's a very forward-thinking company with lots of _____ ideas.
3 When we asked for their help, the children were all very _____.
4 Their furniture is not beautiful, but it's _____.
5 We have to consider the _____ needs of all the children, not just the clever ones.
6 Hundreds applied for places, but the company are very _____.
7 I fail to see the _____ behind his argument. It didn't make any sense at all.
8 I can't organize the talks alone. I need their _____ to get everything done.

4 Do you know or can you guess the adjectives formed from these nouns and verbs?

architecture	innovation	believe	experiment	administration
clinic	accept	constitution	communication	excuse
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

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B Suffixes that form verbs

The suffixes **-en**, **-ize** and **-ify** can be added to some nouns and adjectives to form verbs. In most cases, the meaning is easy to guess if you already know the nouns and adjectives.

Verb	Meaning
*They need to **strengthen** the bridge*	make sth/sb stronger
*This story will **weaken** the President's position.*	make sb/sth less strong or powerful
*I'm going to **shorten** this dress.*	make sth shorter
*He is **authorized** to make the payments.*	give official permision for sth, or for sb to do sth
*We need to **maximize** our efficiency.*	increase sth as much as possible OPP **minimize**
*They **specialize in** computer technology.*	be or become an expert in a particular area of work or study
*The government must **stabilize** the currency.*	become or make sth become firm and steady; become or make sth stable
*We have to **clarify** the situation.*	make sth clearer and easier to understand
*This story will **intensify** speculation.*	increase or make sth increase in degree and strength SYN **heighten**
*We need to **simplify** the rules.*	make sth easier to do or understand
*You must **specify** your name in full.*	state sth giving an exact measurement, time, instruction, etc.

5 **The stress on the verbs above is on the first syllable, with one exception. What is the verb that has the stress on the second syllable? Use the APP to help you.** .....

6 **Write the verbs related to these nouns and adjectives.**

1 maximum .....
2 strength .....
3 simple .....
4 authority .....
5 short .....
6 specific .....
7 weak .....
8 stable .....
9 clear .....
10 specialist .....

7 **Replace the underlined words with a verb ending in *-en*, *-ize* or *-ify*, and make any other necessary changes in word order. Keep the same meaning.**

1 The builder said he would make the wall stronger. .....
2 We need to make our position on this issue clearer. .....
3 He is an expert in this field of medicine. .....
4 The presence of the police heightened the concern in the crowd. .....
5 Do you have the authority to replace the tickets? .....
6 I need to increase the time available to us as much as possible. .....
7 This is too complicated. We need to make the instructions much easier for students. .....
8 You must give the exact details on the form. .....
9 Engineers are trying to make the bridge more stable. .....
10 This result makes her position less strong. .....

8 **Do you know or can you guess the verbs related to these adjectives and nouns? Check the meanings in the APP.**

tight / ..... legal / ..... modern / ..... visual / .....
pure / ..... economy / ..... equal / ..... peace / .....

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