

99 Adjectives

A Synonyms and opposites

Marcus Campion was a man of **exceptional** talent, who had been one of the most **eminent** lawyers of his generation. He was not a **conventional** lawyer, though, and had a reputation for defending men and women accused of the most **brutal** crimes. However, even he felt uneasy as he considered his latest case. 'This Mabbutt is a **bizarre** character, and I admit I haven't formed a wholly **favourable** impression of him,' remarked Campion to his colleagues. 'But I'm still **reluctant** to accept he might've killed his own children just to take revenge on their mother.' Campion had defended **wicked** men in the past, but this was a most **disturbing** case, and he sat down to start preparing his case with a heavy heart.

GLOSSARY

exceptional	unusually good SYN outstanding
conventional	tending to follow what is done or considered acceptable by society in general OPP unconventional
brutal	violent and cruel SYN vicious ; brutality <i>n</i>
bizarre	very strange and unusual SYN weird , peculiar
favourable	making people have a good opinion of sb/sth OPP unfavourable
reluctant	hesitating before doing sth because you don't want to do it or you are not sure it is the right thing to do SYN unwilling OPP willing
wicked	bad and morally wrong SYN evil
disturbing	making you feel anxious and upset or shocked SYN upsetting

SPOTLIGHT *eminent and notorious*

Someone who is **eminent** is famous and respected, often for being good at a profession. If someone or something is **notorious**, they are / it is famous for being bad. SYN **infamous**
■ **a notorious criminal**

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

brutal bizarre favourable upsetting peculiar conventional
reluctant vicious outstanding eminent notorious infamous

- 2 Circle the words which have a positive meaning.

outstanding brutal notorious favourable wicked weird infamous
disturbing upsetting eminent evil exceptional vicious

- 3 Find seven pairs of synonyms in the box.

evil exceptional brutal reluctant wicked notorious bizarre
disturbing infamous unwilling outstanding vicious upsetting weird

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- 4 Complete the sentences.

- He was an man and responsible for the deaths of many innocent people.
- There's a story in the paper about a man who lives underwater.
- She's an scientist as well as being a well-known writer.
- It's become a/an road because of the number of fatal accidents on it.
- To see my sister shouting and screaming at me like that was very
- He lives in a wooden hut without any electricity; it's a very lifestyle.
- He had an game, and was easily the best player on the pitch.
- It was a attack, and the man needed 12 stitches for a head wound.
- I was to help, but I wish they'd made clear how big the job was.
- It's a fairly family: husband, wife and two children.



TEST YOURSELF

B Adjectives easily confused

Adjective	Examples	Meaning
comparable	<i>The economic situation in this country is not really comparable to China.</i>	similar to another thing, situation or person, and able to be compared to it
comparative	<i>I've produced a comparative analysis of the two social care systems.</i>	connected with studying things to find out how similar or different they are
naked bare	<i>The child was almost naked. They walked in bare feet along the beach.</i>	not wearing clothes (of a part of the body) not covered by clothes: bare arms/legs
deadly deathly	<i>It's a deadly snake. There was a deathly silence in the room.</i>	causing or likely to cause death like a dead person; suggesting death
comprehensive comprehensible	<i>I need a comprehensive list of the hotels. It's a comprehensible story.</i>	full, and including all necessary details able to be understood OPP incomprehensible
super superb superior	<i>We had a super meal at Gino's. Kaufmann's performance was superb. This model is superior to the others.</i>	inf, becoming old-fashioned extremely good excellent; of very high quality greater or better in quality than sth/sb else
childlike childish	<i>My brother has a childlike enthusiasm. My sister's behaviour is very childish.</i>	approving having qualities typical of a child disapproving behaving in a silly way
tasty tasteful	<i>The dish was really tasty. It's a very tasteful room.</i>	(of food) full of flavour OPP tasteless (of clothes, furniture, etc.) attractive and of good quality OPP tasteless

5 Correct the mistakes. Two sentences have no mistakes.

- In some countries, women can't walk around with naked arms.
- A comparative house in the south would cost twice as much.
- My mother always wears very tasteful clothes.
- The police found a bare body in the lake.
- Some of these plants can be deathly and kill you in minutes.
- I thought the beds were far super in the first hotel we stayed at.
- He can be very childish if he doesn't get his way – it's very annoying.
- The food is always very tasteful at Amy's.

6 Complete the sentences. The words in capitals at the end will give you some help.

- I've done some research on the subject, but we'll have to wait for a more study. COMPLETE
- She still has a quality about her, which is lovely. INNOCENT
- I really enjoyed the orchestra, and the soloist was EXCELLENT
- The woman was pale and looked extremely unwell. LIKE A DEAD PERSON
- Anyone could follow her instructions: they were entirely EASY TO UNDERSTAND
- The soup was awful: very thin and WITH NO FLAVOUR

7 Complete the questions, then write your answers, or talk to another student.

- Why do you think people might study religion? ABOUT YOU
- What type of place are you forbidden to enter with arms or legs?
- Why do some people find the instructions for electronic gadgets ?
- What kind of decoration in a home do you consider ?
- Why do you think adults sometimes suddenly behave in a way?
- Why do some people believe that a vegetarian diet is to a meat diet?
- Where might it be acceptable for someone to swim in the sea ?
- Where might you expect to see a spider?



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