

Study these rules

Word Formation Rules

1. Nouns

a. Forming Nouns from Verbs

- **Suffixes:**
 - **-er/-or:** A person who does an action (e.g., teach → teacher, act → actor).
 - **-ment:** The result of an action (e.g., achieve → achievement, govern → government).
 - **-ion/-tion/-sion:** The process or result of an action (e.g., decide → decision, inform → information, confuse → confusion).
 - **-ance/-ence:** The state or quality of (e.g., assist → assistance, exist → existence).

b. Forming Nouns from Adjectives

- **Suffixes:**
 - **-ness:** The state or quality of being (e.g., happy → happiness, kind → kindness).
 - **-ity:** The state or condition (e.g., active → activity, possible → possibility).

2. Verbs

a. Forming Verbs from Nouns

- **Prefixes:**
 - **en-:** To cause to be (e.g., rich → enrich, able → enable).
 - **be-:** To make or cause to be (e.g., friend → befriend, wit → bewitch).

b. Forming Verbs from Adjectives

- **Suffixes:**
 - **-en:** To make or become (e.g., dark → darken, weak → weaken).

c. Forming Verbs from Other Verbs

- **Prefixes:**
 - **re-:** To do again (e.g., write → rewrite, build → rebuild).
 - **un-:** To reverse the action (e.g., tie → untie, pack → unpack).
 - **over-:** To do excessively (e.g., cook → overcook, estimate → overestimate).

3. Adjectives

a. Forming Adjectives from Nouns

- **Suffixes:**
 - **-al:** Pertaining to (e.g., nation → national, accident → accidental).
 - **-ous:** Full of or having the quality of (e.g., danger → dangerous, fame → famous).
 - **-ful:** Full of (e.g., beauty → beautiful, joy → joyful).
 - **-less:** Without (e.g., hope → hopeless, care → careless).
 - **-ic:** Relating to (e.g., artist → artistic, hero → heroic).

b. Forming Adjectives from Verbs

- **Suffixes:**
 - **-able/-ible:** Capable of being (e.g., break → breakable, comprehend → comprehensible).
 - **-ive:** Having the nature of (e.g., attract → attractive, create → creative).

4. Adverbs

a. Forming Adverbs from Adjectives

- **Suffixes:**
 - **-ly:** In the manner of (e.g., quick → quickly, happy → happily).

5. Other Rules

a. Prefixes to Alter Meaning

- **un-:** Not or opposite of (e.g., happy → unhappy, kind → unkind).

- **in-/im-/il-/ir-:** Not (e.g., correct → incorrect, possible → impossible, legal → illegal, relevant → irrelevant).
- **dis-:** Not or opposite of (e.g., agree → disagree, appear → disappear).
- **mis-:** Wrongly (e.g., understand → misunderstand, spell → misspell).
- **pre-:** Before (e.g., view → preview, historic → prehistoric).
- **post-:** After (e.g., war → postwar, graduate → postgraduate).
- **sub-:** Under or below (e.g., marine → submarine, title → subtitle).

b. Combining Forms

- **Compounding:** Combining two words to create a new word (e.g., sun + flower = sunflower, book + shelf = bookshelf).

These rules can help you form and understand new words in English. Keep in mind that there are exceptions, so always consult a dictionary if unsure.

Then do this exercise.

Word Formation – 1

Advanced Word Formation Exercise

Instructions: For each base word, fill in the correct form of the word as indicated (noun, verb, adjective, adverb) to complete the sentences.

1. Create (Verb)

- Noun: The _____ of the new software took several months.
- Adjective: The project required a _____ approach to problem-solving.
- Adverb: The team worked _____ to meet the deadline.

2. Decide (Verb)

- Noun: The final _____ was made after hours of discussion.
- Adjective: Her _____ manner left no room for doubt.
- Adverb: He spoke _____, leaving no room for argument.

3. Happy (Adjective)

- Noun: His _____ was evident when he received the news.
- Verb: She always knows how to _____ her friends.
- Adverb: They lived _____ ever after.

4. Improve (Verb)

- Noun: There was a noticeable _____ in his performance.
- Adjective: The _____ system enhanced productivity.
- Adverb: She _____ managed to finish the project on time.

5. Possible (Adjective)

- Noun: The _____ of success motivated him to work harder.
- Verb: The new technology will _____ us to complete tasks faster.
- Adverb: They worked as quickly as _____ to meet the deadline.

6. Communicate (Verb)

- Noun: Effective _____ is key to a successful team.
- Adjective: The message was clear and _____.

- Adverb: She spoke _____, ensuring everyone understood.

7. Courage (Noun)

- Verb: His actions _____ many to stand up for their beliefs.
- Adjective: The firefighter's _____ act saved many lives.
- Adverb: She faced her fears _____.

8. Knowledge (Noun)

- Verb: Reading daily will _____ your understanding of the subject.
- Adjective: He is a _____ expert in his field.
- Adverb: She answered the questions _____.

9. Power (Noun)

- Verb: The new regulations aim to _____ the local authorities.
- Adjective: The CEO holds a _____ position in the company.
- Adverb: The machine operates _____.

10. Act (Verb)

- Noun: Her _____ in the play was outstanding.
- Adjective: They took _____ measures to ensure safety.
- Adverb: He responded _____ to the emergency.