3E Word Skills

Negative adjective prefixes

I can form and use adjectives with negative prefixes.

1 Write the opposite of the adjectives by adding a negative prefix: *dis-*, *il-*, *im-*, *in-* or *un-*.

1 satisfied _____
2 tidy _____
3 correct _____
4 legible _____
5 visible _____
6 kind _____
7 believable _____
8 polite _____

2 Complete the text about illegal downloads. Use the adjectives in brackets with or without a negative prefix.

In the USA, around 200 million [1] illegal (legal) music downloads take place every year, in spite of laws to stop them. In the UK, the figure is about 100 million – the second highest in the world. The music industry complains that these downloads are [2] _____ (fair) to artists because they stop them earning money from their work. It is [3] _____ (possible) to know exactly how much money artists and record companies are losing because many people who download illegally do not have any money to spend. However, one thing is [4] _____ (certain): overall, the industry is earning a lot less than it earned a few years ago.

Record companies pay for adverts telling people that downloading music without paying is as [5] _____ (acceptable) and [6] _____ (honest) as stealing from a shop. If you're a [7] _____ (loyal) fan, they suggest you buy a [8] _____ (legal) version of a song or album from iTunes or another website. But the adverts are [9] _____ (likely) to work because people see the music industry as rich and powerful compared to them. Most do not see sharing music online as [10] _____ (responsible).

In fact, the number of illegal downloads is now going down, but that's not because of the warnings. For people who are [11] _____ (patient) to hear the latest tracks, streaming services like Spotify now offer a simple and [12] _____ (safe) way to enjoy them without the need for downloads at all.

3 Complete the sentences with the adjectives below, with or without a negative prefix.

honest legal patient polite possible safe

1 Police are investigating an _____ file-sharing site in the Philippines.
2 It was very _____ of him to arrive an hour late for dinner.
3 I get very _____ if I have to wait more than a few minutes for a download.
4 You don't have to pay before the excursion; it's _____ to pay at the end.
5 You mustn't climb on that wall; it's _____ .
6 You can believe everything she tells you; she's always completely _____ .

Dictionary Skills Strategy

You can often find synonyms (words with the same meaning) and antonyms (words with the opposite meaning) of adjectives in a learner's dictionary.

4 Study the dictionary entries. Then answer the questions below.

caring /ˈkeərɪŋ/ *adj* showing that you care about other people: *I want to live in a caring society* SYN **kind** OPP **uncaring**

considerate /kənˈsɪdərət/ *adj* **considerate (of sb) (to do sth)** careful not to upset people; thinking of others: *It was very considerate of you to offer me your coat.* SYN **thoughtful** OPP **inconsiderate**

1 What is a synonym for *caring*? _____
2 What is a synonym for *considerate*? _____
3 Do both adjectives have antonyms beginning with a negative prefix? _____
4 Which dictionary entry has information about which preposition you use with the adjective? _____

VOCAB BOOST!

When you record a new adjective, make a note of synonyms and antonyms at the same time. Antonyms often begin with a negative prefix.

5 Read the *Vocab boost!* box. Use a dictionary to find one synonym and one antonym of each adjective.

1 **pleasant** SYN _____ OPP _____
2 **fortunate** SYN _____ OPP _____
3 **courteous** SYN _____ OPP _____
4 **probable** SYN _____ OPP _____

LIVEWORKSHEETS