

# WORD FORMATION

**EXERCISE 1** Use your dictionary to complete the word in each sentence.

- a) The children never do what I tell them to! They are very dis...**obedient**..
- b) It won't rain in August, surely! That seems extremely un.....
- c) No, I told you not to sell the shares! You must have mis.....
- d) Jack gets very good marks, and is an out..... student.
- e) If you co..... with the police you will receive a light sentence.
- f) Dave was in the first sub..... that sailed to the North Pole.
- g) Just heat up the rice, it's been pre.....
- h) Mr Jones is incredibly rich. In fact he's a multi.....

**EXERCISE 2** Complete each sentence with a word formed from the word in *italics*, beginning as shown. Begin the word with a prefix from the box.

~~dis~~      in      non      over      re      un      vice      trans

- a) I'm not *satisfied* with your work. I am ...**dissatisfied**... with it.
- b) She doesn't have the *usual* kind of haircut. It's very .....
- c) Mary is sailing across the *Atlantic*. She is on a ..... voyage.
- d) Dan is the *President's* assistant. He is the .....
- e) Terry is no longer a *smoker*. Now he is a .....
- f) Don't wear a *formal* suit. The dinner is quite .....
- g) You haven't *written* this clearly. It'll have to be .....
- h) This steak is *cooked* too much. It's .....

**EXERCISE 3** Complete each sentence with a word formed from a word in the box, ending as shown.

astonish    fool      music      thought    back      ~~free~~      lead      short

- a) I don't want to be a slave! I demand my ...**free**..dom.
- b) How kind of you to bring flowers! That was very .....ful.
- c) Martin plays the guitar, but he isn't a very good .....ian.
- d) Our school has closed because there is a .....age of teachers.
- e) Brian is one of the world's .....ing architects.
- f) Imagine my .....ment when the cat started to speak!
- g) Don't be .....ish! There is no such thing as a ghost!
- h) I prefer to begin at the end and go .....wards.

**EXERCISE 4** Rewrite each sentence so that it has the same meaning, and contains the word given in capitals. Do not change the word in any way.

- a) The forest outside the town started burning last night.      **CAUGHT**  
The forest outside the town **caught** fire last night.
- b) Suddenly Janet started crying.      **TEARS**

- |                                                 |          |
|-------------------------------------------------|----------|
| c) What's your occupation?                      | DO       |
| d) We'll have to decide soon.                   | DECISION |
| e) Can you look after my plants while I'm away? | TAKE     |
| f) You will write or phone, won't you?          | TOUGH    |
| g) Diane had a baby boy last week.              | GAVE     |
| h) Peter always remains calm in an emergency.   | HEAD     |
| i) Stop holding the steering wheel!             | LET      |
| j) He can't possibly win the race.              | STANDS   |

**EXERCISE 5** Complete each sentence with a word formed from a word in box A. Use one of the prefixes or suffixes in box B.

<b>care</b>	<b>employ</b>	<b>home</b>	<b>postpone</b>	<b>satisfied</b>
<b>charge</b>	<b>friend</b>	<b>night</b>	<b>pronounce</b>	<b>skirts</b>
dis-	mis-	out-	over-	-less
			-ment	-ship
				-ee

- a) I travelled to Scotland on the ...~~overnight~~... train and slept all the way.
- b) You're always breaking things! Why are you so .....
- c) Jane knows a lot of French words, but she tends to ..... them.
- d) We all believe in ..... between the people of different nations.
- e) Bad weather caused the ..... of nearly all the football programme.
- f) George was very ..... with the service at the hotel.
- g) We live in a flat on the ..... of London.
- h) Patsy thought the shop assistant had ..... her.
- i) David was tired of being a/an ..... so he started his own company.
- j) The government is providing more money to help ..... people.

**EXERCISE 6** Use the word given in capitals at the end of each line to form a word that fits in the space in the same line.

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Recently I decided to go to evening classes twice a week. During the day I work in a (1) ... <del>secretarial</del> ... agency	SECRETARY
as a telephonist. It is not a very interesting (2) .....	OCCUPY
and I get bored. I also got tired of coming home every evening, putting a (3) .....meal in the oven	FREEZE
and then watching TV. So I decided to take up (4) .....	CARPENTER
as a hobby. Perhaps I should give you an (5) .....for my choice. Learning a skill is a good (6) ..... to the	EXPLAIN
problem of boring work. Also, I felt I was a (7) .....	SOLVE
because any time I tried to put up a shelf, for example, it always fell down! Now I am quite a (8) .....wood-	FAIL
	SUCCESS

worker! I am working on the (9) ..... of some furniture at the moment. And although there are only two other girls in the class, I don't feel any (10) ..... I've turned out to be the best student in the class!

CONSTRUCT

EMBARRASS

**EXERCISE 7** Underline the most suitable word or phrase.

- a) Helen doesn't look well. She is extremely slim/~~thin~~.
- b) It's really hot today, but it's nice and chilly/~~cool~~ in here.
- c) Peter ~~nodded~~/shook his head in agreement.
- d) I can't pay you anything for this old coin. It's priceless/~~worthless~~.
- e) The house was surrounded by a high/~~tall~~ fence.
- f) The sun is shining, and it's a/an attractive/~~lovely~~ day.
- g) This chicken is good. It's very tasteful/~~tasty~~.
- h) Be careful of the next corner. It's rather dangerous/~~harmful~~.
- i) Graham left the film before the end because he was bored/~~lazy~~.
- j) When I saw him scratch my car I got very angry/~~nervous~~.

