

**LISTENING**

You will hear a lecture entitled "Medieval Masons and Their Cathedrals."

For each of the questions below (1 – 5), choose the answer (a, b, or c) which fits best according to what you hear. You will hear the recording twice. **CIRCLE** your answer (a, b, or c).

- (1) The speaker claims that medieval masons were ...  
a) ...ignorant of mathematics.  
b) ...unable to learn to write.  
c) ...negligent in mathematics.
- (2) Masons learned how to build a cathedral ....  
a) ...from their own experience.  
b) ...by stealing the tricks of the trade.  
c) ...by learning a wide range of disciplines from a master.
- (3) Gothic cathedrals can be described as:  
a) down-to-earth  
b) ethereal  
c) heavy
- (4) The elaborate decorations in cathedral building reflected masons' ...  
a) ...personal faith in God.  
b) ...personal portraits.  
c) ...personal imagination.
- (5) Gothic cathedrals no longer exist because builders no longer managed the building sites.  
a) True                      b) False                      c) Not Enough Information Given

**Academic Vocabulary / Word Formation (PRACTICE):**

Complete the following sentences (1 - 5) by filling in the blank spaces with **the proper form of the word given for that sentence**. Use ONLY ONE word per blank space; DO NOT add any words [e.g. prepositions].

- (1) APPEAR                      I cannot find my keys anywhere – they have completely \_\_\_\_\_.
- (2) BELIEVE                      She is able to eat an \_\_\_\_\_ amount of food.
- (3) COMMUNICATE              A spokesperson blamed the confusion on \_\_\_\_\_ between the company and its customers.
- (4) EDUCATE                      In biblical times women were largely \_\_\_\_\_, and had no legal rights and no place in public life.
- (5) INTEREST                      Uninterested means not interested. \_\_\_\_\_ means having no personal involvement or receiving no personal advantage, and therefore free to act fairly.

## PREFIXES

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A **prefix** is a letter or group of letters added to the beginning of a word to make a new word.

### EXAMPLES (of common General Vocabulary Prefixes):

- In the word "**un**important", "**UN**-" is a prefix.
- In the word "**ir**replaceable", "**IR**-" is a prefix.
- In the word "**ine**fficient", "**IN**-" is a prefix.
- In the word "**il**legal", "**IL**-" is a prefix.
- In the word "**im**patient", "**IM**-" is a prefix.

← These are the most common examples of prefixes added to make a word have the opposite meaning.

### EXAMPLES (of common Academic Vocabulary Prefixes):

(1) sub -	(subheading, subsonic)	= under / below / less important / smaller part
(2) intra -	(intrafamily, intracompany)	= within / into
(3) pro -	(pro-vaxxer, pro-life)	= supporting / approving
(4) post -	(postgraduate, post-industrial)	= after / later than
(5) under -	(underfunded, underrate)	= not enough / below / less important
(6) super -	(super-virus, superabundance)	= more than usual / over / above
(7) extra -	(extra-tropical, extraordinary)	= outside / in addition to / beyond
(8) anti -	(anti-freeze, anticlockwise [BrE] [AmE = counter-clockwise])	= opposed to / against / opposite of / preventing
(9) pre -	(prerequisite, prerecord)	= before
(10) over -	(over-ambitious, overheat)	= too much / more than / on / above / on top of

## PRACTICE:

Use one of the following prefixes to complete the words in **bold** in the sentences (1 - 16) below.  
Use each prefix ONLY ONCE.

ANTI / EXTRA / IL / IN / INTRA / IR / OVER / PRE / POST /  
PRO / RE / SUB / SUPER / TRANS / UN / UNDER

- (1) There were also reports that the prime minister was having an \_\_\_\_\_ **marital** affair.
- (2) It would be incredibly \_\_\_\_\_ **responsible** to ignore these warnings.
- (3) The surgery was followed by \_\_\_\_\_ **operative** radiation to kill cancer cells.
- (4) The market for \_\_\_\_\_ **bacterial** soaps last year surpassed \$ 500 million.
- (5) She divorced him on the grounds of \_\_\_\_\_ **reasonable** behaviour.
- (6) Don't \_\_\_\_\_ **load** the washing machine, or it won't work properly.
- (7) Much of the handwriting on the FEL B2 English Exam is terrible – it is sometimes so \_\_\_\_\_ **legible** that the answer is simply marked wrong.
- (8) Companies are going to have to be more \_\_\_\_\_ **active** about environmental management.
- (9) Originally the contractor gave me a price of €2,000, but now they say they \_\_\_\_\_ **estimated** and it's going to be at least €3,000.
- (10) The plants should be grown indoors until spring, when they can be \_\_\_\_\_ **planted** outside.
- (11) The cathedral was completely \_\_\_\_\_ **built** in 1425 after it had been destroyed by fire.
- (12) There were so few opportunities, and everything was \_\_\_\_\_ **arranged**.
- (13) The district's efforts to build schools and the lack of clean sites in the city was the central issue in \_\_\_\_\_ **departmental** disputes.
- (14) An experiment in the new \_\_\_\_\_ **collider** is supposed to find proof of gravitons and strings.
- (15) The place is \_\_\_\_\_ **accessible** except by a high mountain trail.
- (16) In nuclear reactions, a \_\_\_\_\_ **atomic** particle collides with an atomic nucleus and causes changes to it.

In most cases, it is not easy to say which form of adjectives ending in *-ic* and *-ical* is correct. Some *-ic* words are preferred over their *-ical* counterparts (e.g., *ironic* over *ironical*), and some *-ical* words are preferred over their *-ic* counterparts (e.g., *metaphorical* over *metaphoric*, *alphabetical* over *alphabetic*). Still other *-ic* and *-ical* pairs have differentiated over time and now have different meanings. *Historic* and *historical*, for instance, have different definitions, as do *periodic* and *periodical*, *classic* and *classical*, and *economic* and *economical*.

When you are in doubt about which form is preferred or whether an *-ic/-ical* word pair has differentiated, the only way to know for sure is to check a dictionary or other reference source.

**PRACTICE:**

For each of the sentences below (1 - 20), choose the correct word.  
There is ONLY ONE correct option for each.

- (1) He advised us on **technic** / **technical** matters.
- (2) Environmentalists are alarmed by the **dramatic** / **dramatical** increase in pollution.
- (3) These sentences all have the same **grammatic** / **grammatical** pattern.
- (4) It's a **classic** / **classical** timeless film.
- (5) These two objects are **symbolic** / **symbolical** of life and death.
- (6) It's an **economic** / **economical** car because of its low fuel consumption.
- (7) It was a **historic** / **historical** day when the government fell.
- (8) During the course, students will develop their **analytic** / **analytical** skills.
- (9) The first year provides students with a sound **theoretic** / **theoretical** basis for later study.
- (10) Sleep disorders are a serious **psychologic** / **psychological** problem.
- (11) The country has a lot of **economic** / **economical** problems.
- (12) For women, the "**biologic** / **biological** clock" governs the time for having children.
- (13) The play is quite **tragic** / **tragical**.
- (14) She's learning **classic** / **classical** Spanish guitar.
- (15) The company is trying to create a young **energetic** / **energetical** image.
- (16) It's a **historic** / **historical** site with many monuments.
- (17) Da Vinci was **methodic** / **methodical** in his research, carefully recording his observations and theories.
- (18) I'm sure there is a **logic** / **logical** explanation for all this.
- (19) Cameras were set up at **strategic** / **strategical** points along the route.
- (20) He's studying **politic** / **political** science.

### CLASSIC / CLASSICAL

Classic means 'belonging to the highest class or degree'.

*Cullinan's tasty offering adds a personal touch to classic recipe.*

Classical refers to the culture of ancient Greece or Rome. It may also refer to works of art of the so called 'classical' period in the 18th century.

*I am studying classical languages.*

### ECONOMIC / ECONOMICAL

Economic refers to the science of economics.

*The company is having serious economic problems.*

*She is studying economic theory at the University of Economics.*

Economical means 'not wasting money'.

*He purchased an economical little car.*

### ELECTRIC / ELECTRICAL

Electric means operated by electricity.

*My grandmother didn't have an electric washing machine; the one she had was operated manually.*

Electric also means very vibrant, giving a (pleasant) shock:

*The actor's performance was electric.*

Electrical (used less often) refers to a circuit of electricity:

*The storm damaged the electrical connection to my computer.*

### HISTORIC / HISTORICAL

Historic means unique, important in history, famous, something that happened for the first time. It also implies that the event itself made history:

*The first trip to the moon was a historic event. (AN historic event also possible)*

Historical usually refers to history in general; it means the event was part of a long story about the past:

*"War and Peace" is a historical novel. (A novel based on real events in history)*

*Napoleon's historical importance is enormous. (His importance in the history of Europe)*

### POLITIC / POLITICAL\*

Politik means wise or prudent (rozumný / prozíravý / opatrný).

*It would not be politic for you to be seen there.*

Political means 'connected with politics'.

*There are two major political parties in the US - the Democratic Party and the Republican Party.*

\*(NOTE: "politics" is a subject which involves the activities of the government, members of law-making organizations, or those who try to influence the way a country is governed. The people within the government are called "politicians".)

↪ *meaning Czenglish*

**ANALYTIC / ANALYTICAL**

ANALYTICAL is preferred, as ANALYTIC is considered outdated and often sounds strange. There are some cases in which ANALYTIC might collocate better – however, ANALYTICAL is far more common.

(NOTE: An "analyst" is a person who analyzes or who is skilled in analysis.)

**BIOLOGIC / BIOLOGICAL**

BIOLOGICAL is preferred, as BIOLOGIC is considered outdated and often sounds strange. There are some cases in which BIOLOGIC might collocate better – however, BIOLOGICAL is far more common.

**DRAMATIC / DRAMATICAL**

DRAMATIC is the proper choice, as DRAMATICAL does not exist (...or possibly antiquated and strange sounding).

**ENERGETIC / ENERGETICAL**

ENERGETIC is the proper choice, as ENERGETICAL does not exist (...or possibly antiquated and strange sounding).

(NOTE: ENERGETICS is the branch of physics that deals with energy, and The ENERGY industry is the totality of all of the industries involved in the production and sale of energy)

**GRAMMATIC / GRAMMATICAL**

GRAMMATICAL is the proper choice, as GRAMMATIC does not exist (...or possibly antiquated and strange sounding).

**LOGIC / LOGICAL**

LOGICAL is an adjective, and LOGIC is a noun.

**METHODIC / METHODICAL**

METHODICAL is the proper choice, as METHODIC does not exist (...or possibly antiquated and strange sounding).

**PSYCHOLOGIC / PSYCHOLOGICAL**

PSYCHOLOGICAL is the proper choice, as PSYCHOLOGIC does not exist (...or possibly antiquated and strange sounding).

(NOTE: A "psychologist" is a specialist in the field of psychology.)

**STRATEGIC / STRATEGICAL**

STRATEGIC is the proper choice, as STRATEGICAL does not exist (...or possibly antiquated and strange sounding).

(NOTE: A "strategist" is an expert in strategy, especially in warfare)

**SYMBOLIC / SYMBOLICAL**

SYMBOLIC is the proper choice, as SYMBOLICAL does not exist (...or possibly antiquated and strange sounding).

(NOTE: "Symbol" is a noun – "A heart shape is the SYMBOL of love.")

**TECHNIC / TECHNICAL**

TECHNICAL is the proper choice, as TECHNIC does not exist (...or possibly antiquated and strange sounding).

(NOTE: A "technician" is a person who is trained or skilled in the technicalities of a subject, and a "technique" is the body of specialized procedures and methods used in any specific field, especially in an area of applied science.)

**THEORETIC / THEORETICAL**

THEORETICAL is the proper choice, as THEORETIC does not exist (...or possibly antiquated and strange sounding).

(NOTE: A "theorist" is a person who deals mainly with the theory of a subject)

**TRAGIC / TRAGICAL**

TRAGIC is the proper choice, as TRAGICAL does not exist (...or possibly antiquated and strange sounding).

## More on Affixes (prefixes & suffixes)

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Adding affixes (prefixes & suffixes) to existing words (the base) to form new words is common in academic English. Prefixes are added to the front of the base (like right arrow dislike), whereas suffixes are added to the end of the base (active right arrow activate). Prefixes usually do not change the class of the base word, but suffixes usually do change the class of the word.

The most common prefixes used to form new verbs in academic English are: re-, dis-, over-, un-, mis-, out-. The most common suffixes are: -ise/ize, -en, -ate, -(i)fy.

By far the most common affix in academic English is -ise/ize.

### FOR EXAMPLE: verbs + prefix → verb

Prefix	Meaning	Examples
re-	again or back	restructure, revisit, reappear, rebuild, refinance
dis-	reverses the meaning of the verb	disappear, disallow, disarm, disconnect, discontinue
over-	too much	overbook, oversleep, overwork
un-	reverses the meaning of the verb	unbend, uncouple, unfasten
mis-	badly or wrongly	mislead, misinform, misidentify
out-	more or better than others	outperform, outbid
be-	make or cause	befriend, belittle
co-	together	co-exist, co-operate, co-own
de-	do the opposite of	devalue, deselect
fore-	earlier, before	foreclose, foresee
inter-	between	interact, intermix, interface
pre-	before	pre-expose, prejudge, pretest
sub-	under/below	subcontract, subdivide
trans-	across, over	transform, transcribe, transplant
under-	not enough	underfund, undersell, undervalue, underdevelop

### FOR EXAMPLE: Suffix used to form verbs with the meaning "cause to be".

Suffix	Example
-ise	stabilise, characterise, symbolise, visualise, specialise
-ate	differentiate, liquidate, pollinate, duplicate, fabricate
-fy	classify, exemplify, simplify, justify
-en	awaken, fasten, shorten, moisten

The most common prefixes used to form new nouns in academic English are: co- and sub-.  
The most common suffixes are: -tion, -ity, -er, -ness, -ism, -ment, -ant, -ship, -age, -ery.  
By far the most common noun affix in academic English is -tion.

**FOR EXAMPLE: noun+prefix → noun**

Prefix	Meaning	Examples
<i>anti-</i>	against	anticlimax, antidote, antithesis
<i>auto-</i>	self	autobiography, automobile
<i>bi-</i>	two	bilingualism, biculturalism, bi-metalism
<i>co-</i>	joint	co-founder, co-owner, co-descendant
<i>counter-</i>	against	counter-argument, counter-example, counter-proposal
<i>dis-</i>	the converse of	discomfort, dislike
<i>ex-</i>	former	ex-chairman, ex-hunter
<i>hyper-</i>	extreme	hyperinflation, hypersurface
<i>in-</i>	the converse of	inattention, incoherence, incompatibility
<i>in-</i>	inside	inpatient,
<i>inter-</i>	between	interaction, inter-change, interference
<i>kilo-</i>	thousand	kilobyte
<i>mal-</i>	bad	malfunction, maltreatment, malnutrition
<i>mega-</i>	million	megabyte
<i>mis-</i>	wrong	misconduct, misdeed, mismanagement
<i>mini-</i>	small	mini-publication, mini-theory
<i>mono-</i>	one	monosyllable, monograph, monogamy
<i>neo-</i>	new	neo-colonialism, neo-impressionism
<i>out-</i>	separate	outbuilding,
<i>poly-</i>	many	polysyllable
<i>pseudo-</i>	false	pseudo-expert
<i>re-</i>	again	re-organisation, re-assessment, re-examination
<i>semi-</i>	half	semicircle, semi-darkness
<i>sub-</i>	below	subset, subdivision
<i>super-</i>	more than, above	superset, superimposition, superpowers
<i>sur-</i>	over and above	surtax
<i>tele-</i>	distant	telecommunications,
<i>tri-</i>	three	tripartism
<i>ultra-</i>	beyond	ultrasound
<i>under-</i>	below, too little	underpayment, under-development, undergraduate
<i>vice-</i>	deputy	vice-president

Suffix	Meaning	Examples
-tion	action/instance of V-ing	alteration, demonstration
-ity	state or quality of being A	ability, similarity, responsibility
-er	person who V-s something used for V-ing person concerned with N	advertiser, driver computer, silencer astronomer, geographer
-ness	state or quality of being A	darkness, preparedness, consciousness
-ism	doctrine of N	Marxism, Maoism, Thatcherism
-ment	action/instance of V-ing	development, punishment, unemployment
-ant/-ent	person who V-s	assistant, consultant, student
-ship	state of being N	friendship, citizenship, leadership
-age	collection of N action/result of V	baggage, plumage breakage, wastage, package
-ery/-ry	action/instance of V-ing place of V-ing	bribery, robbery, misery refinery, bakery

Many adjectives are formed from a base of a different class with a suffix (e.g. -less, -ous).

Adjectives can also be formed from other adjectives, especially by the negative prefixes (un-, in- and non-).

The most common suffixes are -al, -ent, -ive, -ous, -ful, -less.

FOR EXAMPLE: Suffix added to verbs or nouns → adjective

Suffix	Examples
-al	central, political, national, optional, professional
-ent	different, dependent, excellent
-ive	attractive, effective, imaginative, repetitive
-ous	continuous, dangerous, famous
-ful	beautiful, peaceful, careful
-less	endless, homeless, careless, thoughtless
-able	drinkable, countable, avoidable,

FOR EXAMPLE: adjective + negative → adjective

Prefix	Examples
un-	unfortunate, uncomfortable, unjust
im-/in-/ir-/il-	immature, impatient, improbable, inconvenient, irreplaceable, illegal
non-	non-fiction, non-political, non-neutral
dis-	disloyal, dissimilar, dishonest



	-able	-tion	-tive	-ment	-ar
un-	uncomfortable unavoidable unforgettable		unimaginative		
mis-		misinformation		misjudgement mismanagement	
re-	recoverable recyclable	reformulation	reproductive	realignment repayment	
in-	irreplaceable	incoordination inattention	inactive inoperative		
dis-		disconnection		disappointment	
semi-			semiconductive		semi-circular