

## Word formation 1

Words can be formed by adding a prefix to the beginning or a suffix to the end. There are many prefixes and suffixes are included in this unit and in Vocabulary 3.

Examples of prefixes: *un-, dis-, im-, mis-*

*un- + certain uncertain      dis- + appear disappear*  
*im- + possible impossible      mis + understand misunderstand*

Examples of suffixes: *-ness, -ful, -less, -ship*

*happy + -ness happiness      care + -ful careful*  
*end + -less endless      friend + -ship friendship*

Words of two or more syllables ending in *-y* change *-y* to *-i*. See Grammar 49.

### 1 Add a word from the box to the prefix in each sentence to make a negative word.

advantage	agree	appear	employed	fortunately
interesting	patient	understanding		

- I didn't read all of the book because I found it un...*interesting*...
- Cycling has one dis..... . It makes you feel hot and sweaty.
- Sue had a ticket for the theatre, but un..... she fell ill that night.
- Terry can't stand waiting in *queues*, because she's very im..... .
- My brothers always dis..... *when* it's time to do the washing-up.
- After Jack lost his job, he was un..... for three months.
- Oh, I completely dis..... *with you*. I think it was a great film.
- Because of a mis..... , half the class went to the wrong classroom.

### 2 Complete the word in each sentence with a prefix from the box.

out-	over-	under-	re-
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- My alarm clock didn't go off, and so I ...*over*... slept this morning.
- Pete packed some shirts and socks, some ..... wear, and his jeans.
- It's very cold this morning, so wear your ..... coat.
- Our team was completely ..... played by the team from Wales.
- I've decided to ..... write my letter, because I made too many mistakes.
- Steve ..... cooked the meat, and it was burnt in places.
- I have to go to the library today and ..... new my ticket.
- The staff went on strike because they were ..... paid and overworked.

**3** Complete the word in each sentence with a suffix from the box. Make any other necessary changes to the word.

-er      -let      -ess      -hood      -ship      -ful      -ery

- a) After two years of friend.....*ship*..... , Kate got to know David really well.
- b) If you don't speak the language you feel more like a foreign..... .
- c) Sarah spent a very happy child..... on a small island.
- d) I asked a steward..... what time the plane arrived, but she didn't know.
- e) Every teenage..... knows that parents worry a lot.
- f) Don't forget to add a spoon..... of sugar, and some milk.
- g) We live in a beautiful neighbour..... on the outskirts of the city.
- h) Tina picked up a hand..... of snow, and threw it in my face.
- i) Under the floor there was a rumbling sound of machine..... .
- j) The college sent Sue a small book..... describing its courses.

**4** Complete each sentence with a noun made from the verb given.

- a) There are over one million .....*inhabitants*..... in this city.  
**inhabit**
- b) Greg often suffers from ..... in the school holidays.  
**bore**
- c) This is the tallest ..... in the whole of the country.  
**build**
- d) Some students can't find suitable ..... .  
**accommodate**
- e) I was upset by Carol's ..... to help me.  
**refuse**
- f) It took Richard years to become a successful ..... .  
**act**
- g) Every ..... in this company has received a pay rise.  
**employ**
- h) You need a lot of ..... to write a good story.  
**imagine**
- i) Don't forget to turn off the ..... before you leave.  
**cook**
- j) I saw an interesting ..... in the local paper.  
**advertise**

- 5** Complete each sentence with a noun ending in *-ness* made from a word in the box. Make any necessary changes.

dark	friendly	happy	lonely	<del>short</del>	sick
silly	thin	tired	thorough		

- a) The *shortness* of the journey surprised me, as I thought it would be longer.  
 b) Sue was impressed by the ..... of everyone in her new school.  
 c) We knew it was going to rain because of the ..... of the sky.  
 d) Old Mrs Holt's ..... was cured when she was given a pet cat.  
 e) The doctor told Peter that his ..... was a result of overwork.  
 f) Wendy's teacher was impressed by the ..... of her work.  
 g) We wished the bride and groom ..... in their new life together.  
 h) Joe's teachers began to grow tired of his ..... in class.  
 i) I felt rather cold when I arrived because of the ..... of my clothes.  
 j) Jean took a travel ..... pill, and then she felt much better.

- 6** Complete the word in each sentence with a suffix from the box.

-less	-ly	-y	-ish	-ie	-al	-ous
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- a) Everyone thanked the fire-fighters for their heroic ..... efforts.  
 b) Paul received most of his music ..... education from his mother.  
 c) The government is going to provide more houses for home ..... people.  
 d) Lisa's mother ..... qualities made her a favourite with the children.  
 e) This road is extremely danger ..... when the weather is bad.  
 f) It was very fool ..... of you to leave all the doors and windows open.  
 g) On rain ..... days, we spend a lot of time indoors watching television.

