

Word formation: Nouns

- 1 Which suffixes are added to the following verbs to create nouns?

achieve motivate fail

- 2 Complete each gap with an appropriate noun form of the word in capitals at the end of the line. Use each suffix in the box once only and make any further spelling changes necessary. The noun you require may also need a plural ending or a negative prefix (*un-*, *in-*, *im-*, *dis-* etc). There is an example at the beginning (0).

-hood -ship -ure -al -ness -ation
-ance -ence -iety -ity -ment -age -cy

- | | |
|---|----------------|
| 0 His latest <u>publication</u> is a book of verse on the theme of relationships. | PUBLISH |
| 1 Light _____ will be served from 3.30pm in the main hall. | REFRESH |
| 2 Union members expressed their _____ of the management's offer by walking out of the meeting. | APPROVE |
| 3 In her _____ to answer the phone, she almost fell down the stairs. | EAGER |
| 4 In the interests of safety, a number of standard _____ need to be followed. | PROCEED |
| 5 Her 5,000-metre run paled into _____ when compared with the marathon her grandfather completed the following week. | SIGNIFY |
| 6 The _____ of the device is what has made it so popular. | SIMPLE |
| 7 I cannot comment; I have been sworn to _____ on the matter. | SECRET |
| 8 The cost of _____ has increased by 10% this year. | MEMBER |
| 9 Customers will be required to pay for any _____. | BREAK |
| 10 There is every _____ that prices will continue to rise next year. | LIKELY |
| 11 He valued his _____ too much to ever want to get married. | DEPEND |
| 12 It's quite natural to experience a certain amount of _____ on your first day at work. | ANXIOUS |

- 3 Using the same suffixes as in exercise 2, write noun forms for the following words. The same suffix is needed for all three words. Some words require further spelling changes. The exercise begins with an example (0).

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|--------------|------------------|------------|----------------|----------|-----------------|
| 0 notorious | <u>notoriety</u> | various | <u>variety</u> | sober | <u>sobriety</u> |
| 1 please | _____ | expose | _____ | close | _____ |
| 2 appear | _____ | annoy | _____ | rely | _____ |
| 3 store | _____ | short | _____ | pack | _____ |
| 4 rehearse | _____ | renew | _____ | propose | _____ |
| 5 efficient | _____ | intimate | _____ | vacant | _____ |
| 6 enjoy | _____ | require | _____ | commit | _____ |
| 7 prosperous | _____ | original | _____ | familiar | _____ |
| 8 leader | _____ | companion | _____ | partner | _____ |
| 9 neighbour | _____ | father | _____ | adult | _____ |
| 10 absent | _____ | persistent | _____ | evident | _____ |
| 11 selfish | _____ | tired | _____ | careless | _____ |
| 12 explain | _____ | interpret | _____ | apply | _____ |

- 4 Look back at the reading text on page 8 and underline those nouns which have been formed by the addition of a suffix to a verb, adjective or another noun. Add them to the list in exercise 3.

Self help

Keep a record in your notebook of noun forms you come across when reading which are new to you, or different from what you expected. Group them according to their suffix endings, as in exercise 3.