

# Word formation list

## Nouns

### -age

#### Verb

break

cover

pack

post

store

wreck

#### Adjective

short

#### Noun

breakage

coverage

package

postage

storage

wreckage

#### Noun

shortage

### -al

#### Verb

(dis)approve

arrive

bury

deny

dismiss

propose

rehearse

remove

renew

revive

survive

#### Noun

(dis)approval

arrival

burial

denial

dismissal

proposal

rehearsal

removal

renewal

revival

survival

### -ance

#### Verb

annoy

(dis)appear

attend

disturb

endure

enter

ignore

inherit

perform

rely

resemble

resist

signify

tolerate

#### Adjective

arrogant

distant

(un)important

#### Noun

annoyance

(dis)appearance

attendance

disturbance

endurance

entrance

ignorance

inheritance

performance

reliance

resemblance

resistance

(in)significance

(in)tolerance

#### Noun

arrogance

distance

(un)importance

(ir)relevant

reluctant

(ir)relevance

reluctance

### -ence

#### Verb

confide

depend

differ

exist

insist

obey

occur

offend

persist

recur

#### Adjective

absent

(in)competent

(in)convenient

evident

innocent

intelligent

(im)patient

present

violent

#### Noun

confidence

(in)dependence

difference

existence

insistence

obedience

occurrence

offence

persistence

recurrence

#### Noun

absence

(in)competence/competency

(in)convenience

evidence

innocence

intelligence

(im)patience

presence

violence

### -cy

#### Adjective

(in)accurate

(in)adequate

bankrupt

(in)decent

(in)efficient

(in)frequent

immediate

infant

intimate

(il)literate

pregnant

private

proficient

redundant

secret

urgent

vacant

#### Noun

pirate

#### Noun

(in)accuracy

(in)adequacy

bankruptcy

(in)decency

(in)efficiency

(in)frequency

immediacy

infancy

intimacy

(il)literacy

pregnancy

privacy

proficiency

redundancy

secrecy

urgency

vacancy

#### Noun

piracy

# Word formation list

## **-dom**

### **Adjective**

bored

free

wise

### **Person**

king

star

### **Noun**

boredom

freedom

wisdom

### **Abstract noun**

kingdom

stardom

## **-ful**

### **Noun**

arm

cup

fist

hand

house

room

spoon

### **Noun (Quantity)**

armful

cupful

fistful

handful

houseful

roomful

spoonful

## **-hood**

### **Person**

adult

child

father

man

mother

neighbour

parent

woman

### **Abstract noun**

adulthood

childhood

fatherhood

manhood

motherhood

neighbourhood\*

parenthood

womanhood

\*neighbourhood part of a town or city where people live

### **Adjective**

likely

### **Noun**

likelihood

## **-iety**

### **Adjective**

anxious

notorious

sober

various

### **Noun**

anxiety

notoriety

sobriety

variety

## **-ity**

### **Adjective**

(un)able

(in)active

complex

credible

### **Noun**

(in)ability

(in)activity

complexity

credibility

curious

(un)equal

(un)familiar

ferocious

(in)flexible

(in)formal

generous

hostile

immune

intense

major

minor

(im)mobile

objective

(un)original

personal

(un)popular

prosperous

(im)pure

(in)secure

(in)sensitive

severe

similar

simple

(in)sincere

stupid

subjective

(in)valid

curiosity

(in)equality

(un)familiarity

ferocity

(in)flexibility

(in)formality

generosity

hostility

immunity

intensity

majority

minority

(im)mobility

objectivity

(un)originality

personality

(un)popularity

prosperity

(im)purity

(in)security

(in)sensitivity

severity

similarity

simplicity

(in)sincerity

stupidity

subjectivity

(in)validity

## **-ing**

### **Verb**

advertise

build

gather

like

live

meet

record

say

set

suffer

### **Noun**

advertising

building

gathering

liking

living

meeting

recording

saying

setting

suffering

## **-ment**

### **Verb**

achieve

(dis)agree

amaze

amuse

### **Noun**

achievement

(dis)agreement

amazement

amusement

# Word formation list

announce	announcement
argue	argument
arrange	arrangement
commit	commitment
content	contentment
develop	development
disappoint	disappointment
discourage	discouragement
embarrass	embarrassment
employ	(un)employment
encourage	encouragement
enjoy	enjoyment
entertain	entertainment
excite	excitement
govern	government
improve	improvement
invest	investment
involve	involvement
judge	judgement/ judgment
manage	management
measure	measurement
move	movement
(re)pay	(re)payment
punish	punishment
refresh	refreshment
replace	replacement
require	requirement
retire	retirement
settle	settlement
treat	treatment

## **-ness**

Adjective	Noun
(un)aware	(un)awareness
careless	carelessness
close	closeness
(un)conscious	(un)consciousness
deaf	deafness
eager	eagerness
(in)effective	(in)effectiveness
(un)friendly	(un)friendliness
great	greatness
hard	hardness
hopeless	hopelessness
(un)selfish	(un)selfishness
serious	seriousness
stiff	stiffness

thorough	thoroughness
tired	tiredness
useful	usefulness
weak	weakness

## **-ship**

Person	Abstract noun
champion	championship
companion	companionship
friend	friendship
leader	leadership
member	membership
owner	ownership
partner	partnership
scholar	scholarship*
sponsor	sponsorship**

\***scholarship** money given to someone to help pay for their studies

\*\***sponsorship** money given to someone/an organisation to help pay for something, e.g. an event

Adjective	Noun
hard	hardship

## **-sis**

Verb	Noun
analyse	analysis
base	basis
diagnose	diagnosis
emphasise	emphasis

## **-sion**

Verb	Noun
collide	collision
comprehend	comprehension
conclude	conclusion
confuse	confusion
convert	conversion
decide	decision
divert	diversion
divide	division
erode	erosion
evade	evasion
exclude	exclusion
expand	expansion
explode	explosion
include	inclusion
intrude	intrusion

# Word formation list

invade  
persuade  
supervise

invasion  
persuasion  
supervision

## **-son**

### **Verb**

compare

### **Noun**

comparison

## **-ation**

### **Verb**

adapt  
administer  
apply  
combine  
compile  
consider  
expect  
explain  
identify  
imagine  
inflamm  
inform  
inspire  
interpret  
observe  
prepare  
present  
publish  
(dis)qualify  
realise  
resign  
vary

### **Noun**

adaptation  
administration  
application  
combination  
compilation  
consideration  
expectation  
explanation  
identification  
imagination  
inflammation  
information  
inspiration  
interpretation  
observation  
preparation  
presentation  
publication  
(dis)qualification  
realisation  
resignation  
variation

## **-tion**

### **Verb**

accommodate  
(re)act  
associate  
collect  
complicate  
compose  
(dis)connect  
contaminate  
demonstrate  
direct  
evolve  
hesitate  
imitate  
inhibit

### **Noun**

accommodation  
(re)action  
association  
collection  
complication  
composition  
(dis)connection  
contamination  
demonstration  
direction  
evolution  
hesitation  
imitation  
inhibition

investigate  
(de)motivate  
operate  
perceive  
predict  
prescribe  
receive  
recognise  
reduce  
repeat  
(dis)satisfy  
(re)solve  
subscribe  
substitute

investigation  
(de)motivation  
operation  
perception  
prediction  
prescription  
reception  
recognition  
reduction  
repetition  
(dis)satisfaction  
(re)solution  
subscription  
substitution

## **-th**

### **Adjective**

broad  
deep  
long  
strong  
true  
warm  
wide  
young

### **Noun**

breadth  
depth  
length  
strength  
truth  
warmth  
width  
youth

### **Verb**

grow

### **Noun**

growth

## **-ure**

### **Verb**

close  
compose  
depart  
expose  
fail  
please  
proceed  
sign

### **Noun**

closure  
composure  
departure  
exposure  
failure  
pleasure  
procedure  
signature

## **-y**

### **Adjective**

difficult  
(dis)honest  
poor  
safe  
(un)certain

### **Noun**

difficulty  
(dis)honesty  
poverty  
safety  
(un)certainty

### **Verb**

discover  
enter

### **Noun**

discovery  
entry

# Word formation list

## People

### **-ant**

#### **Verb**

apply  
assist  
confide  
consult  
contest  
defend  
inhabit  
occupy  
participate

#### **Person**

applicant  
assistant  
confidant(e)  
consultant  
contestant  
defendant  
inhabitant  
occupant  
participant

### **-ar**

#### **Verb**

lie

#### **Person**

liar

### **-ative**

#### **Verb**

represent

#### **Person**

representative

### **-er**

#### **Verb**

employ  
lecture  
manufacture  
present  
read  
research  
win

#### **Person**

employer  
lecturer  
manufacturer  
presenter  
reader  
researcher  
winner

### **-ian**

#### **Noun**

comedy  
electricity  
history  
library  
mathematics  
music  
politics

#### **Person**

comedian  
electrician  
historian  
librarian  
mathematician  
musician  
politician

### **-ist**

#### **Noun**

bicycle  
environment  
motor (car)  
nature  
novel  
psychiatry

#### **Person**

cyclist  
environmentalist  
motorist  
naturalist  
novelist  
psychiatrist

science

specialism

violin

scientist

specialist

violinist

### **-or**

#### **Verb**

act  
collect  
communicate  
compete  
conduct  
contribute  
demonstrate  
distribute  
instruct  
invent  
spectate

#### **Person**

actor  
collector  
communicator  
competitor  
conductor  
contributor  
demonstrator  
distributor  
instructor  
inventor  
spectator

## Nouns formed with *up, down, in, away, out, back*

### **up-**

upbringing  
upkeep  
uprising  
uproar  
upset  
upturn

### **out-**

outbreak  
outburst  
outcome  
outline  
outlook  
output  
outset

### **down-**

downfall  
downpour  
downside  
downturn

### **-out**

breakout  
checkout  
handout  
knockout  
lookout  
payout  
turnout  
workout

### **-down**

breakdown

### **in-**

income  
input  
insight  
intake

### **-back**

comeback  
drawback  
feedback  
setback

### **-away**

getaway  
hideaway  
runaway  
takeaway

### **back-**

background

# Word formation list

## Miscellaneous

### Verb

(mis)behave  
choose  
complain  
die  
give  
know  
laugh  
lose  
prove  
receive  
respond

### Noun

(mis)behaviour  
choice  
complaint  
death  
gift  
knowledge  
laughter  
loss  
proof  
receipt  
response

### Verb

sell  
succeed  
think  
try  
weigh

### Noun

sale(s)  
success  
thought  
trial  
weight

### Adjective

high

### Noun

height

## Adjectives

### -able

### Verb

accept  
advise  
afford  
agree  
apply  
appreciate  
approach  
avoid  
bear  
believe  
compare  
consider  
desire  
dispense  
forget  
imagine  
irritate  
note  
notice  
pay  
predict  
prefer  
prevent  
regret  
rely

### Adjective

(un)acceptable  
(in)advisable  
affordable  
(dis)agreeable  
(in)applicable  
appreciable  
(un)approachable  
(un)avoidable  
(un)bearable  
(un)believable  
(in)comparable  
(in)considerable  
(un)desirable  
(in)dispensable  
(un)forgettable  
(un)imaginable  
irritable  
notable  
noticeable  
payable  
(un)predictable  
preferable  
preventable  
regrettable  
(un)reliable

remark

(un)remarkable

respect

respectable

understand

understandable

work

(un)workable

### Noun

comfort  
fashion  
knowledge  
memory  
profit  
reason  
value

### Adjective

(un)comfortable  
(un)fashionable  
knowledgeable  
(un)memorable  
(un)profitable  
(un)reasonable  
(in)valuable

### -ible

### Noun

access  
flexibility  
sense

### Adjective

(in)accessible  
(in)flexible  
(in)sensible\*

### Verb

comprehend  
defend  
perceive  
resist  
respond  
reverse

### Adjective

(in)comprehensible  
(in)defensible  
(im)perceptible  
(ir)resistible  
(ir)responsible  
(ir)reversible

**\*sensible:** showing or having good sense, e.g. *Cycling with a broken arm is not a very sensible thing to do.*

**insensible:** a unconscious

e.g. *He was found drunk and insensible.*

**b** not caring about or unaware of

e.g. *She seemed insensible to the dangers involved.*

### -al

### Noun

accident  
addition  
alphabet  
behaviour  
centre  
culture  
detriment  
ecology  
emotion  
environment  
exception  
experiment  
fact  
globe  
intention

### Adjective

accidental  
additional  
alphabetical  
behavioural  
central  
cultural  
detrimental  
ecological  
(un)emotional  
environmental  
(un)exceptional  
experimental  
factual  
global  
intentional

# Word formation list

## Noun

logic  
motivation  
medicine  
method  
monument  
nation  
occasion  
occupation  
origin  
parent  
person  
practice  
profession  
sensation  
society  
temperament  
tradition  
universe

## Adjective

(il)logical  
motivational  
medicinal  
methodical  
monumental  
national  
occasional  
occupational  
(un)original  
parental  
(im)personal  
(im)practical  
(un)professional  
(un)sensational  
social  
temperamental  
traditional  
universal

## -ial

## Noun

benefit  
commerce  
controversy  
face  
finance  
industry  
influence  
manager  
matrimony  
residence  
secretary  
substance  
territory

## Adjective

beneficial  
commercial  
(un)controversial  
facial  
financial  
industrial  
influential  
managerial  
matrimonial  
residential  
secretarial  
(in)substantial  
territorial

## -ant

## Verb

ignore  
please  
rely  
resist  
signify  
tolerate

## Adjective

ignorant  
(un)pleasant  
reliant  
resistant  
(in)significant  
(in)tolerant

## -ent

## Verb

appear  
confide  
depend

## Adjective

apparent  
confident  
(in)dependent

insist

obey

persist

recur

## Noun

absence  
(in)competence/  
competency  
(in)convenience  
evidence  
(in)frequency  
innocence  
intelligence  
(im)patience  
presence

insistent

(dis)obedient

persistent

recurrent

## Adjective

absent  
(in)competent  
(in)convenient  
evident  
(in)frequent  
innocent  
intelligent  
(im)patient  
present

## -ate

## Noun

accuracy  
adequacy  
appropriacy  
consideration  
fortune  
moderation

## Adjective

(in)accurate  
(in)adequate  
(in)appropriate  
(in)considerate  
(un)fortunate  
(im)moderate

## -ative

## Verb

administer  
argue  
compare  
consult  
imagine  
inform  
prevent  
provoke  
represent

## Adjective

administrative  
argumentative  
comparative  
consultative  
(un)imaginative  
(un)informative  
preventative  
provocative  
(un)representative

## -ive

## Verb

act  
adopt  
appreciate  
assert  
attend  
attract  
communicate  
compete  
conclude  
construct

## Adjective

(in)active  
adoptive  
(un)appreciative  
(un)assertive  
(in)attentive  
(un)attractive  
(un)communicative  
(un)competitive  
(in)conclusive  
(un)constructive

# Word formation list

cooperate	(un)cooperative
create	(un)creative
deceive	deceptive
decide	(in)decisive
defend	defensive
describe	descriptive
destroy	destructive
disrupt	disruptive
divide	divisive
explode	explosive
express	expressive
extend	extensive
impress	(un)impressive
include	inclusive
invent	inventive
offend	(in)offensive
persuade	persuasive
possess	possessive
produce	(un)productive
progress	progressive
protect	protective
receive	(un)receptive
respect	(ir)respective
respond	(un)responsive
speculate	speculative
support	(un)supportive
<b>Noun</b>	<b>Adjective</b>
aggression	(un)aggressive
effect	(in)effective
expense	(in)expensive
secret	secretive
sense	(in)sensitive

<b>Verb</b>	<b>Adjective</b>
close	closing (date)
consult	consulting (room)
recur	recurring (illness, nightmare, problem, theme)
run	running (water)
support	supporting (actor, actress, evidence, role)

## -ous

<b>Noun</b>	<b>Adjective</b>
(dis)advantage	(dis)advantageous
ambition	(un)ambitious
anxiety	anxious
caution	cautious
courtesy	(dis)courteous
curiosity	curious
danger	dangerous
disaster	disastrous
glamour	(un)glamorous
hazard	hazardous
humour	humorous
luxury	luxurious
monster	monstrous
mystery	mysterious
nerve	nervous
number	numerous
poison	poisonous
religion	(ir)religious
suspicion	suspicious
<b>Verb</b>	<b>Adjective</b>
infect	infectious
vary	various

## -ing/-ed

The following verbs can be used to form participle adjectives

e.g. *worrying/worried*

*alarm, amaze, amuse, annoy, astonish, bore, confuse, convince, depress, disappoint, disgust, embarrass, entertain, excite, exhaust, fascinate, frighten, frustrate, increase, interest, irritate, motivate, move, refresh, relax, satisfy, shock, surprise, terrify, threaten, thrill, tire, worry*

The following *-ing* adjectives are commonly used with the nouns in brackets.

## -ly

<b>Noun</b>	<b>Adjective</b>
friend	(un)friendly
life	lively
time	(un)timely

## -y

<b>Noun</b>	<b>Adjective</b>
chat	chatty
cloud	cloudy
ease	easy
fault	faulty
fog	foggy
frost	frosty



# Word formation list

grass	grassy	stress	stressful	unstressful
guilt	guilty	success	successful	unsuccessful
hair	hairy	taste	tasty*/tasteful*	tasteless
hill	hilly	thought	thoughtful*	thoughtless
mist	misty	time	_____	timeless
mud	muddy	truth	truthful	untruthful
rain	rainy	use	useful	useless
rock	rocky	waste	wasteful	_____
sleep	sleepy	wonder	wonderful	_____
sun	sunny	worth	_____	worthless*
wealth	wealthy	youth	youthful	_____

## -ful/-less

Root	-ful	-less/un_ful
beauty	beautiful	_____
care	careful	careless
cheer	cheerful	cheerless*
colour	colourful	colourless
count	_____	countless
deceit	deceitful	_____
delight	delightful	_____
effort	_____	effortless
end	_____	endless
event	eventful	uneventful
faith	faithful	unfaithful
fault	faulty	faultless
flight	_____	flightless
gratitude	grateful	ungrateful
hair	hairy	hairless
harm	harmful	harmless
heart	_____	heartless
help	helpful	helpless*/ unhelpful*
home	_____	homeless
hope	hopeful	hopeless
hurt	hurtful	_____
job	_____	jobless
meaning	meaningful	meaningless
pain	painful	painless
peace	peaceful	_____
point	_____	pointless
power	powerful	powerless
price	_____	priceless*
relent	_____	relentless
resource	resourceful	unresourceful
respect	respectful	disrespectful
skill	skilful*/skilled*	unskilled
sleep	_____	sleepless
speech	_____	speechless

**cheerless:** used mainly to describe the weather or a room which is not bright or pleasant

**helpless:** unable to do anything to help or protect yourself

**unhelpful:** not willing to help other people

**priceless:** used to describe an object which has a very high value; it is worth so much money that the price cannot be calculated (compare with *worthless* below)

**skilful/skilled:** both can be used to describe a person who has the necessary ability, experience and/or training to do something well.

e.g. *He's a skilful footballer. This work was done by skilled craftsmen.*

**skilled:** can also be used to describe a job or piece of work that requires special skill and training

e.g. *Nursing is a skilled job.*

**tasty:** used to describe food with a strong and pleasant flavour

**tasteful:** used to describe clothes, decoration, etc which is attractive and shows good taste

**thoughtful:**

**a** to describe a person who is quiet and serious because they are thinking about something

**b** to describe someone who thinks and cares about the feelings and needs of other people

**worthless:** used to describe an object with no value in money (compare with *priceless* above)

## -ic

Noun	Adjective
allergy	allergic
drama	dramatic
optimism	optimistic
pessimism	pessimistic
science	scientific
strategy	strategic

# Word formation list

## -ary

### Noun

caution  
literature  
revolution

### Verb

imagine  
volunteer

### Adjective

cautionary  
literary  
revolutionary

### Adjective

imaginary  
(in)voluntary

## -ory

### Verb

advise  
celebrate  
contradict  
explain  
introduce  
migrate  
oblige  
prepare  
satisfy  
supervise

### Adjective

advisory  
celebratory  
contradictory  
explanatory  
introductory  
migratory  
obligatory  
preparatory  
(un)satisfactory  
supervisory

## Verbs

### -ate

### Noun

alien  
assassin  
difference  
value

### Adjective

active  
captive  
dominant  
valid

### Verb

alienate  
assassinate  
differentiate  
evaluate  
activate  
captivate  
dominate  
validate

### en-

### Noun

act  
circle  
courage  
danger  
force  
list  
rage  
trust

### Adjective

able  
large

### Verb

enact  
encircle  
encourage (discourage)  
endanger  
enforce  
enlist  
enrage  
entrust  
enable  
enlarge

rich

sure

enrich

ensure

## -ify

### Noun

class  
example  
glory  
identity  
note  
(dis)qualification

### Adjective

clear  
just  
pure  
simple  
solid

### Verb

classify  
exemplify  
glorify  
identify  
notify  
(dis)qualify

### Verb

clarify  
justify  
purify  
simplify  
solidify

## -en

### Adjective

black  
bright  
broad  
dark  
dead  
deaf  
deep  
fat  
flat  
fresh  
hard  
high  
light  
long  
less  
loose  
moist  
quick  
red  
ripe  
sad  
sharp  
short  
soft  
stiff  
straight  
strong  
sweet  
thick

### Verb

blacken  
brighten  
broaden  
darken  
deaden  
deafen  
deepen  
fatten  
flatten  
freshen  
harden  
heighten  
lighten  
lengthen  
lessen  
loosen  
moisten  
quicken  
redden  
ripen  
sadden  
sharpen  
shorten  
soften  
stiffen  
straighten  
strengthen  
sweeten  
thicken

# Word formation list

tight

weak

wide

worse

**Noun**

deafness

height

length

sadness

strength

threat

width

**Verb/Noun**

rise

**-ise**

**Noun**

advert

advice

apology

character

climate

colony

computer

criticism

emphasis

energy

hypnotism

industry

maximum

memory

minimum

moisture

practice

pressure

priority

recognition

revision

revolution

standard

subsidy

summary

supervision

symbol

sympathy

**Adjective**

commercial

familiar

tighten

weaken

widen

worsen

**Verb**

deafen

heighten

lengthen

sadden

strengthen

threaten

widen

**Verb**

risen

**Verb**

advertise

advise

apologise

characterise

acclimatise

colonise

computerise

criticise

emphasise

energise

hypnotise

industrialise

maximise

memorise

minimise

moisturise

practise

pressurise

prioritise

recognise

revise

revolutionise

standardise

subsidise

summarise

supervise

symbolise

sympathise

**Verb**

commercialise

familiarise

formal

general

hypnotic

item

modern

social

special

stable

visual

formalise

generalise

hypnotise

itemise

modernise

socialise

specialise

stabilise

visualise

## Verbs formed with *up, down, over, under, out*

**up-**

update

upgrade

uphold

uplift

uproot

upset

upstage

**over-**

overcome

overcook

overeat

overestimate

overexpose

overflow

overhear

overheat

overload

overlook

overrate

overrule

overrun

overshadow

oversleep

overspend

overstay

overstretch

overtake

overthrow

overuse

overwork

**down-**

downgrade

download

downplay

downshift

downsize

**under-**

underachieve

undercharge

undercut

underestimate

undergo

underline

underrate

understate

undertake

undervalue

**out-**

outgrow

outlast

outlive

outnumber

outplay

outrun

outstay