# Adjective Formation

**CEFR B1 · Suffix families and -ing / -ed adjectives**
WS1 Suffix Families · WS2 -ing vs -ed Adjectives · WS3 Prefixes & Word Building · WS4 Editing & Writing · Answer Key

## Worksheet 1: Suffix Families

*Name: _____ Date: _____ Level: B1 (CEFR)*

### Reference: Which Suffix Does the Job?

At B1 you learn to choose the right adjective suffix and to make the right spelling change. Different suffixes carry different meanings: **-able/-ible** (can be done), **-ous** (having a quality), **-ful/-less** (with/without), **-al/-ial** (relating to), **-y** (like/covered in).

| Suffix | Meaning | Example (base → adjective) |
|---|---|---|
| -able / -ible | can be ___ed | rely → reliable; sense → sensible |
| -ous | having the quality | fame → famous; mystery → mysterious |
| -al / -ial | relating to | region → regional; finance → financial |
| -ent / -ant | showing a quality | differ → different; please → pleasant |
| -y / -ly | like / having | fun → funny; friend → friendly |

### Part A – Form the Adjective (watch spelling)

1. rely → _____
2. fame → _____
3. mystery → _____
4. finance → _____
5. comfort → _____
6. please → _____

### Part B – Complete the Sentence

1. He's a _____ worker; he never misses a deadline. (rely)
2. They stayed in a _____ hotel. (comfort)
3. The city has serious _____ problems. (finance)
4. It was a _____ evening with friends. (please)

**Score: ____ / 20**

# Worksheet 2: -ing vs -ed Adjectives

*Name: _____ Date: _____ Level: B1 (CEFR)*

## Reference: The Cause and the Feeling

Many adjectives come from verbs and end in **-ing** or **-ed**. The **-ing** form describes what **causes** a feeling (the thing); the **-ed** form describes the **feeling** itself (the person). Confusing them is one of the commonest B1 errors.

| -ing (the cause) | -ed (the feeling) |
|---|---|
| The film was **boring**. | I was **bored**. |
| The news is **surprising**. | We were **surprised**. |
| a **tiring** journey | a **tired** traveller |
| The book is **interesting**. | I'm **interested** in it. |

> **Thing/cause → -ing; person/feeling → -ed. ✗ I am boring (unless you bore others!) → ✓ I am bored.**

### Part A – Choose -ing or -ed

1. The lesson was really _____. (interest)
2. I felt _____ after the long flight. (tire)
3. The results were _____. (surprise)
4. She was _____ by the loud noise. (frighten)
5. This is the most _____ book I've read. (excite)

### Part B – Correct the Sentence

| # | Sentence | Correction |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | I am very boring in this class. | |
| 2 | The trip was exhausted. | |
| 3 | We were amazing by the view. | |
| 4 | He felt embarrassing when he fell. | |

**Score: _____ / 25**

# Worksheet 3: Prefixes & Word Building

*Name: _____ Date: _____ Level: B1 (CEFR)*

## Reference: Prefixes Add Meaning

Prefixes change meaning without changing the word class. Learn negative prefixes (**un-, in-, im-, il-, ir-, dis-**) and others: **over-** (too much), **under-** (too little), **re-** (again), **non-** (not). Choose the right prefix for meaning and form.

| Prefix | Meaning | Example |
|---|---|---|
| un- / in- / im- | not (negative) | unfair, informal, immature |
| ir- / il- | not (before r / l) | irresponsible, illogical |
| over- | too much | overcrowded, overconfident |
| under- | too little | underpaid, underdeveloped |
| dis- | opposite / not | dishonest, dissatisfied |

### Part A – Add the Correct Prefix

1. _____ logical → _____
2. _____ mature → _____
3. _____ responsible → _____
4. _____ paid (too little) → _____
5. _____ confident (too much) → _____

### Part B – Build the Word

Use a prefix AND a suffix to form an adjective from the base.

1. rely (negative) → _____
2. comfort (negative) → _____
3. predict (can be done, negative) → _____

### Part C – Complete the Sentence

1. His argument was completely _____. (logic → negative)
2. The workers felt _____ and quit. (satisfy → negative)
3. The city became _____ after the festival. (crowd → too much)
4. Her behaviour was very _____ for her age. (mature → negative)

**Score: _____ / 30**

# Worksheet 4: Editing & Writing

*Name: _____ Date: _____ Level: B1 (CEFR)*

### Part A – Intensive Edit

This text has **eight** word-formation errors (-ing/-ed confusion, wrong suffix, or wrong prefix). Find and correct them.

> The trip was really tired but very interested. On the first day we visited a mysterius old castle, which was quite frightened. Our guide was reliable and knowledgable, though a bit unpolite at times. The mountain views were amazed, and the food was delicous. I felt a little disappointing that it rained on the last day, but the whole week was unforgetable. I would recommend it — it's a very enjoyful place.

| # | Error | Correction |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | | |
| 2 | | |
| 3 | | |
| 4 | | |
| 5 | | |
| 6 | | |
| 7 | | |
| 8 | | |

### Part B – Guided Writing

Write 120–150 words reviewing a film, trip, or event. You must include: (1) at least three **-ing/-ed** adjectives used correctly; (2) at least three **suffix** adjectives from different families; (3) at least two **prefixed** adjectives. Underline every formed adjective.

| # | Line |
|---|---|
| 1 | |
| 2 | |
| 3 | |
| 4 | |
| 5 | |
| 6 | |
| 7 | |

| | |
|---|---|
| **8** | |
| **9** | |

**-ing/-ed: _____ / 3  Suffix: _____ / 3  Prefix: _____ / 2  Score: _____ / 35**

# Answer Key & Teacher Notes

*For teacher use only — B1 Level, Adjective Formation*

## Worksheet 1 – Part A

1 reliable · 2 famous · 3 mysterious · 4 financial · 5 comfortable · 6 pleasant

## Worksheet 1 – Part B

1 reliable · 2 comfortable · 3 financial · 4 pleasant

Note spelling changes: rely→reliable (y→i), fame→famous (drop e), mystery→mysterious.

## Worksheet 2 – Part A

1 interesting · 2 tired · 3 surprising · 4 frightened · 5 exciting

## Worksheet 2 – Part B

1 I am very bored in this class. · 2 The trip was exhausting. · 3 We were amazed by the view. · 4 He felt embarrassed when he fell.

The -ing/-ed contrast is the highest-value item here; drill "the thing is -ing, the person is -ed."

## Worksheet 3 – Part A

1 illogical · 2 immature · 3 irresponsible · 4 underpaid · 5 overconfident

## Worksheet 3 – Part B

1 unreliable · 2 uncomfortable · 3 unpredictable

## Worksheet 3 – Part C

1 illogical · 2 dissatisfied · 3 overcrowded · 4 immature

## Worksheet 4 – Part A

1 tiring · 2 interesting · 3 mysterious · 4 frightening · 5 knowledgeable · 6 impolite · 7 amazing · 8 delicious (also: disappointed, unforgettable, enjoyable — any eight)

## Worksheet 4 – Part B: Marking Guide

| Criterion | Descriptor | Marks |
|---|---|---|
| -ing/-ed adjectives | Three+ correct (cause vs feeling) | 0–4 |
| Suffix range | Three+ from different families | 0–4 |
| Prefixes | Two+ correct negative/degree prefixes | 0–3 |
| Task & length | 120–150 words; coherent | 0–3 |