

Word Formation (C1) – Worksheet 1

Name: _____ Class: _____ Date: _____ Score: / 38



Do this worksheet
online and check your
answers instantly

Exercise 1: Form the correct word

Use the word in capitals to form a word that fits the gap.

Example: The ___ of the bridge took three years. (CONSTRUCT) → construction

1. The _____ of the new software took much longer than expected. (IMPLEMENT)
2. The panel was impressed by her _____ approach to the problem. (INNOVATE)
3. The report highlighted a _____ lack of funding over many years. (PERSIST)
4. There has been a _____ increase in remote working since last year. (SUBSTANCE)
5. The two studies produced _____ results, so further research is needed.
(CONTRADICT)
6. Many residents expressed their _____ with the new parking rules. (SATISFY)
7. The museum's collection is of great historical _____. (SIGNIFY)
8. The team worked _____ to meet the deadline. (TIRE)

Exercise 2: Negative prefixes

Complete each sentence with a negative form of the word in brackets.

Example: The instructions were completely ___ (clear). → unclear

9. His argument was completely _____ (logic); none of it made sense.
10. It is _____ (responsible) to leave young children alone near water.
11. The new printer is _____ (compatible) with older computers.
12. The damage to the old building was _____ (repair), so it had to be demolished.
13. The figures in the report were _____ (accurate), so they had to be checked again.
14. After years of hard work, she felt _____ (appreciate) by her manager.
15. The doctor's handwriting was almost _____ (legible).
16. The witness's account was _____ (consistent) with the evidence.

Exercise 3: Verbs formed with affixes

Complete the sentences with verbs from the box. There are two extra verbs that you do not need.

WORD BOX

clarify broaden enable endanger widen strengthen modernise justify simplify
lengthen

17. Could you _____ what you mean by 'flexible hours'?
18. Living abroad can really _____ your horizons.
19. The new funding will _____ the school to hire more teachers.
20. Rising water temperatures continue to _____ many species of fish.
21. The council plans to _____ the main road to reduce traffic jams.
22. Regular exercise helps to _____ your muscles and bones.
23. The company needs to _____ its image to attract younger customers.
24. How can you _____ spending so much money on a single meal?

Exercise 4: Correct the mistakes

Each sentence contains one incorrect word form. Rewrite the sentence correctly.

Example: Her kind was appreciated by everyone. → Her kindness was appreciated by everyone.

25. The company's success depends on the reliable of its products.

26. She spoke very confident during the job interview.

27. There is a growing awareness of the important of sleep.

28. The scientists made a remarkable discover last year.

29. His behaviour at the meeting was completely unaccepted.

30. We need to find a more effectively solution to the problem.

31. The lack of communicate between departments caused serious delays.

Exercise 5: Match the words with their meanings

Match each definition with a word from the box. There is one extra word that you do not need.

WORD BOX

outnumber overestimate misunderstanding reconsider underpaid self-sufficient
irreversible underestimate

32. to be greater in number than another group → _____
33. to think something is bigger, better or more important than it really is → _____
34. a failure to interpret something correctly → _____
35. to think again about a decision or opinion → _____
36. receiving too little money for the work you do → _____
37. able to provide everything you need without help from others → _____
38. impossible to change back to a previous state → _____

Answer key – Word Formation (C1) – Worksheet 1

Exercise 1: Form the correct word

1. implementation

A noun is needed after 'the'. The suffix -ation turns the verb 'implement' into a noun.

2. innovative

An adjective is needed before the noun 'approach'.

3. persistent

An adjective describing 'lack' is needed. 'Persist' becomes 'persistent'.

4. substantial

An adjective meaning 'large' is needed. Note the spelling change from 'substance' to 'substantial'.

5. contradictory

An adjective is needed before 'results'. 'Contradict' becomes 'contradictory'.

6. dissatisfaction

A noun with a negative meaning is needed. Both a prefix (dis-) and a suffix (-faction) are added.

7. significance

A noun is needed after 'great historical'. 'Signify' becomes 'significance'.

8. tirelessly

An adverb is needed to describe 'worked'. Add -less, then -ly.

Exercise 2: Negative prefixes

9. illogical

Words beginning with 'l' usually take the prefix il-.

10. irresponsible

Words beginning with 'r' usually take the prefix ir-.

11. incompatible

'Compatible' takes the negative prefix in-.

12. irreparable

The adjective of 'repair' is 'reparable', and its negative form is 'irreparable'.

13. inaccurate

'Accurate' takes the negative prefix in-.

14. unappreciated

A negative past participle adjective is needed: un- + appreciated.

15. illegible

Words beginning with 'l' usually take the prefix il-.

16. inconsistent

'Consistent' takes the negative prefix in-.

Exercise 3: Verbs formed with affixes

17. clarify

'Clarify' means to make something clearer or easier to understand.

18. broaden

'Broaden your horizons' is a fixed collocation that means to widen your experience.

19. enable

The pattern is 'enable somebody to do something', meaning to make it possible for them.

20. endanger

'Endanger' means to put someone or something at risk.

21. widen

'Widen' means to make something wider.

22. strengthen

'Strengthen' means to make something stronger.

23. modernise

'Modernise' means to make something more up to date. The spelling 'modernize' is also correct.

24. justify

'Justify' means to give a good reason for something.

Exercise 4: Correct the mistakes

25. **The company's success depends on the reliability of its products.**
A noun is needed after 'the', so 'reliable' becomes 'reliability'.
26. **She spoke very confidently during the job interview.**
An adverb is needed to describe the verb 'spoke'.
27. **There is a growing awareness of the importance of sleep.**
A noun is needed after 'the', so 'important' becomes 'importance'.
28. **The scientists made a remarkable discovery last year.**
A noun is needed after the adjective 'remarkable'.
29. **His behaviour at the meeting was completely unacceptable.**
An adjective meaning 'not allowed' is needed: 'unacceptable'.
30. **We need to find a more effective solution to the problem.**
An adjective is needed before the noun 'solution'.
31. **The lack of communication between departments caused serious delays.**
A noun is needed after 'the lack of'.

Exercise 5: Match the words with their meanings

32. **outnumber**
The prefix out- means 'more than' or 'better than'.
33. **overestimate**
The prefix over- means 'too much'.
34. **misunderstanding**
The prefix mis- means 'wrongly'.
35. **reconsider**
The prefix re- means 'again'.
36. **underpaid**
The prefix under- means 'not enough'.
37. **self-sufficient**
The prefix self- refers to doing something for or by yourself.
38. **irreversible**
The prefix ir- gives 'reversible' the opposite meaning.

Notes for teachers: Start with Exercise 1 as a warm-up and ask students to say which part of speech each gap needs before they write the word. Typical mistakes are spelling changes (substance → substantial, repair → irreparable), choosing the wrong negative prefix (unlogical instead of illogical) and using an adjective where an adverb is needed. As a follow-up, ask students to choose five words from the worksheet and write a short paragraph on a topic of their choice that uses them.