

A Good adjectives



a good restaurant



an excellent restaurant

good _____ very good
 nice lovely great wonderful excellent



A: That's a nice jacket.
 B: Thank you.

It's a great film. We all loved it.



A: It's a lovely day today! /'lʌvli/
 B: Yes, it is.



a wonderful view
 /'wʌndəfəl/

A: Do you want to go to London on Saturday?
 B: That's an excellent idea! [very good]

B Bad adjectives



bad weather



My hair is awful!

The weather this summer was very bad.

Other words that mean very bad are dreadful, horrible, terrible:

The food in that café was horrible. Nobody liked it.

What's that dreadful smell?

I had a terrible day at work today.

The traffic's terrible at 5 o'clock on Fridays.

C Expressions

A: The train arrives at 7 o'clock; dinner is at 8 o'clock.

B: Excellent! / Great! / Wonderful! / Lovely! / Perfect!

Note: We often say not bad when we are speaking.

A: I get \$500 a week in my job.

B: That's not bad! (= good!)

We use these adjectives with how:

A: I have to get up at 5.30 tomorrow.

B: Oh, how awful! / how horrible!

A: I've got a great new job in New York!

B: How nice! / How wonderful! / How lovely!

Error warning

How awful! / How horrible!
 [NOT How bad!]

Exercises

55.1 Complete the sentences.

- 1 My hair's ~~awful~~..... . I must go to the hairdresser's.
- 2 The weather's I don't want to go out.
- 3 The traffic is in the city centre. Take the train.
- 4 That's a(n) idea! Let's do it!
- 5 How ! Three exams on the same day!
- 6 What a house! The sea is only 100 metres away!
- 7 My timetable's not I'm free on Wednesdays and Fridays.
- 8 We have a view of the mountains from our hotel room.

55.2 What can you say? Someone says to you ...

- 1 Do you like my new skirt? Yes, it's lovely!
- 2 I have to get up at 4.30 tomorrow morning.
- 3 Do you want to go out for dinner tonight?
- 4 (*in your town*) Excuse me. Is there a good restaurant in this town?
- 5 What do you think of your English lessons?
- 6 Is it OK if I come to your house at 6.30 tomorrow evening?

55.3 Match the words on the left with an expression from the right.

- | | |
|---|----------------------|
| 1 Blue sky, sun 25° | a Wonderful news |
| 2 Five stars (*****) | b Awful weather |
| 3 I don't want to walk. Let's take a taxi. | c Lovely weather |
| 4 90 out of 100 in an exam | d A very good idea |
| 5 (<i>in summer</i>) Grey sky, wind, rain, 4° | e An excellent hotel |

55.4 Put these words into the good or bad column. Use a dictionary.

dreadful brilliant marvellous nasty fine

good	bad
	dreadful

55.5 Now think of two nouns to go with each of the adjectives in 55.4. Use a dictionary to help you.

- dreadful *weather / film*.....
 brilliant
 marvellous
 nasty
 fine

A Saying positive / good things about people

Nice is the most common word used for people who we like / who are good.

Olga's very **nice**.

Richard's a **nice** man.

If we want to make **nice** stronger, we can use **wonderful**.

Ron is a **wonderful** teacher. All the students love him.

If someone is good to other people, we use **kind**.

She's very **kind**; she helps me with the children.

My teacher is a lovely man. (I like him very much)

My friend Neil is very **easy-going**. [relaxed, easy to be with]

Maureen's a **happy** person. (*opposite*: an **unhappy** person)

All my friends are more **intelligent** than me. [clever]

Error warning

Mary is wonderful [NOT ~~Mary is~~
very wonderful].

B Saying negative / bad things about people

Marcia is **not** very nice.

Horrible is a lot stronger than 'not very nice'.

Margaret is a **horrible** woman; nobody likes her.

My uncle is a **difficult** person. He is never happy.

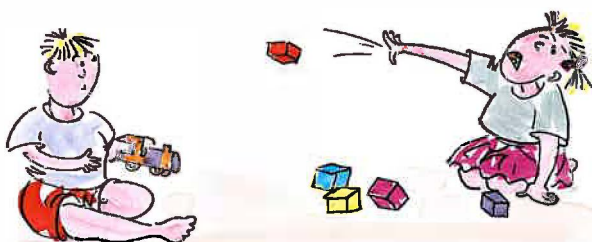
That waiter is **stupid**. I asked for coffee and he has given me tea! (**stupid** is a very strong word)

I don't like **selfish** people. [people who think only of themselves]

C Children

We often say that children are **good** or **well-behaved**. If they are not, we say they are **naughty**.

Tim is very good / well-behaved, but his sister is very **naughty**.

**D** Prepositions

Jean was **nice / kind / wonderful** to me when I was in hospital.

You were **horrible** to me yesterday!

It was **nice / kind** of you to remember my birthday.

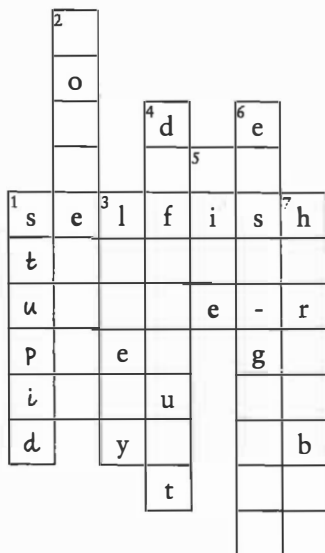
Exercises

56.1 Complete B's sentences.

- 1 A: Jessica's very nice.
B: She's more than nice, she's wonderful!.....
- 2 A: Was Paul nice to you?
B: No, he was really !
- 3 A: Let me carry your bag.
B: Thanks, that's
- 4 A: Is your little cousin well-behaved?
B: No, he's
- 5 A: Katie only thinks about herself.
B: I know. She's really



56.2 Complete the word puzzle. Use the letters given and words from the opposite page. (Note that 'selfish' is the only word that reads across; all the other words read down.)



56.3 Circle the words that describe you.

I am: easy-going sometimes difficult kind to animals sometimes stupid
 happy intelligent selfish horrible to some people nice to my friends

56.4 Fill in the correct prepositions.

- 1 The teacher is never horrible ~~to~~..... the students.
- 2 It is kind you to help me.
- 3 Barbara was wonderful me when I needed a friend.
- 4 It was nice her to ring me.

Follow-up

Think of some people you like and some people you don't like and write sentences about them using vocabulary from this unit.
 e.g. I don't like (name). He/She's horrible.

Prefixes (at the beginning of words) can help you to understand what a new word means. Here are some common prefixes.

prefix	meaning	examples
ex (+ noun)	was but now isn't	ex-wife, ex-president
half (+ noun or adjective)	50% of something	half-price, half-hour
in, im (+ adjective)	not	informal, impossible
non (+ adjective or noun)	not	non-smoking
pre (+ noun, adjective, verb)	before	pre-school, pre-heat
re (+ verb)	again	redo, rewrite
un (+ adjective or noun)	not	unhappy, unsafe

An **ex-wife** is a wife who is now divorced.

President Bush is an **ex-president** of the USA.

Something that cost £10 yesterday and costs £5 today is **half-price**.

A **half-hour** journey is a journey of 30 minutes.

Informal clothes are clothes like jeans and trainers. Formal clothes are things like a suit.

If something is **impossible**, you can't do it. It's impossible to read with your eyes closed.

You must not smoke in a **non-smoking** restaurant.

Pre-school children are too young to go to school.

You nearly always need to **pre-heat** the oven before you cook something.

To **redo** something is to do it a second time, and to **rewrite** something is to write it a second time.

Unhappy means sad, the opposite of happy.

Unsafe means dangerous, the opposite of safe.



Tip

Sometimes words with prefixes have a hyphen [-], e.g. a half-hour programme, and sometimes they don't, e.g. an impossible question. Use a dictionary when you are not sure if there is a hyphen or not.

Exercises

58.1 Choose one of the words from the opposite page to fit in these sentences.

- 1 This part of the restaurant is ~~non-smoking~~...
- 2 I can't read this. Please your homework.
- 3 In English we often say 'Hi', not 'Good morning'.
- 4 I liked school but my sister was very there.
- 5 I bought two T-shirts because they were in the sale.
- 6 Don't walk on that wall – the notice says it is

58.2 Write your own sentences to show what these words mean.

- 1 ex-wife *Jennifer Aniston is Brad Pitt's ex-wife.*
- 2 ex-president
- 3 redo
- 4 impossible
- 5 pre-school

58.3 What do you think these words and phrases mean? Look at the table opposite to help you.

- 1 an ex-husband *a husband who is now divorced from his wife*
- 2 pre-exam nerves
- 3 an incorrect answer
- 4 an unread book
- 5 to retell a story
- 6 a half-brother
- 7 an unfinished letter
- 8 a non-alcoholic drink
- 9 to reread a book
- 10 to resend an email

58.4 Find the negative forms of these words. Use a dictionary to help you.

- 1 possible *impossible*
- 2 comfortable
- 3 polite
- 4 pleasant
- 5 attractive

Follow-up

Look at the table opposite and write one more example of a word using each prefix. Use a dictionary to help you. Write a sentence using your word.

ex: *My ex-boss lives near me.*

half: *You stop at half-time in a football match.*

Suffixes come at the end of words. They help you to understand the meaning of a new word. Here are some common suffixes.

suffix	meaning	examples
er, or (noun)	person	worker, swimmer, instructor
er, or (noun)	machine, thing	cooker, calculator
ful (adjective)	full of	useful, beautiful
less (adjective)	without	useless, endless
ly	makes an adverb from an adjective	quickly, happily
ness	makes an abstract noun from an adjective	happiness, sadness
y	makes an adjective from a noun	sandy, sunny

He's a hard **worker**. He works 12 hours a day.

She's a very good **swimmer**. She was in the Olympic team.

Her tennis is much better now that she has a new **instructor**.

We've got a new **gas cooker** so the food should be delicious!

Can we use our **calculators** in the maths test?



Thanks for the **information**. It was very **useful**.

What a **beautiful** photo. I think it will win the competition.

This book is no help at all – it's **useless**.

I can't finish this book – it's **endless**.

He was late for work so he went **quickly** to the station.

They are **happily** married with two young children.

The mother was smiling with **happiness** as she held her baby in her arms.

They said goodbye with great **sadness** because they knew they would probably never meet again.

That beach is very popular with tourists because it is long and **sandy**.

It's a lovely **sunny** day – let's go to the beach.



Exercises

59.1 Which of the example words from the opposite page do these pictures illustrate?



1 a sunny day.....



3 a s.....



5 a c.....



2 a golf i.....



4 He's smiling h.....



6 a u..... thing

59.2 Find the adjectives and match them with the nouns they go with in the box. Some adjectives can go with more than one noun.

electric	worker	fast	beautiful	cooker	sandy	weather	sunny	car	hard	idea
useful	book	endless	swimmer	beach	guitar	smile	picture	fun	useless	

- 1 electric cooker / guitar.....
- 2 6
- 3 7
- 4 8
- 5 9

59.3 Complete the sentences using the word in brackets and a suffix.

- 1 Can I use your bottle opener....., please? (open)
- 2 I'm tired because I slept very last night. (bad)
- 3 The waiter was very and explained everything on the menu. (help)
- 4 Thank you very much for all your (kind)
- 5 It's important not to make mistakes in your writing. (care)
- 6 It was wet and most of last week. (wind)
- 7 I did the homework very (easy)
- 8 Do you know a good who could do some work on our house? (build)

59.4 What do you think these words and phrases mean? Use the information about suffixes from the opposite page to help you.

- 1 a hair dryer a thing that you use to dry your hair
- 2 a traveller
- 3 slowly
- 4 hopeful
- 5 rainy
- 6 painless
- 7 badly
- 8 a tin opener
- 9 a footballer
- 10 snowy

Words you may confuse

This unit looks at words which are easy to mix up.

A Similar sounds

quite /kwaɪt/ / quiet /'kwaɪət/

This book is quite good. —→ bad —→ quite good —→ good

My bedroom is very quiet. (= silent)

lose /luːz/ / loose /luːs/

A: Why do I always lose my keys!

B: Here they are.

A: Oh, thank you!



If you lose something, you do not know where it is / you can't find it.

These trousers are very loose. (loose means they are not tight, because they are too big)



fell / felt

Fell is the past of fall.

Yesterday I fell and broke my arm.

Felt is the past of feel.

I felt ill yesterday, but I feel OK today.



cook / cooker

He is a very good cook. [the person who cooks]

This cooker costs £500. [the thing you cook on]



B Similar or related meanings

lend / borrow

If you lend something, you *give* it.

If you borrow something, you *get* it.

Sam wants a bicycle:

SAM: Will you lend me your bicycle? (= you *give* it to me for one day / an hour, etc.)

or Can I borrow your bicycle? (= I *get* it from you)

RITA: Yes, take it.

SAM: Thanks.

check / control

The passport officer checked my passport. [looked at it]

We use the mouse to control the computer. [tell it what to do]



C Other words often mixed up

They're waiting for the bus.

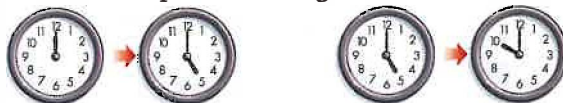
I hope I pass my exams. [I really want to pass]

I haven't studied; I expect I'll fail my exams. [it's probable]

In English the **afternoon** is from about 12 o'clock till 5 or 6 pm.

The **evening** is from 5 or 6 pm until about 9 or 10 pm.

After 9 or 10 pm it is the **night**.



Exercises

60.1 Fill the gaps with words from A opposite. The first letter is given.

- 1 Please be *quiet*..... . The baby is sleeping.
- 2 If you l..... your passport you must call the embassy.
- 3 I f..... tired this morning, but I am OK now.
- 4 We are going to buy a c..... for our new kitchen.
- 5 She f..... and broke her leg. She had to go to hospital.
- 6 It's q..... cold today.
- 7 Do you have this skirt in a smaller size? This one is too l..... .
- 8 My sister is a good c..... . I love eating at her house.

60.2 What does each word below sound like? Circle the correct word.

- 1 lose *juice* *shoes*
- 2 loose *juice* *shoes*
- 3 quite *right* *higher*
- 4 quiet *right* *higher*

60.3 Answer these questions.

- 1 Why do we use a mouse with a computer? To *control it*.....
- 2 What does the passport officer do to your passport? He/She
- 3 If you want to use someone's camera for two hours, what do you say?
Can I
- 4 What do you say to someone at 3 pm? Good
- 5 What do people do at a bus stop? They
- 6 What do you say to a friend if you need £1?
Can you
- 7 What do you say if someone makes too much noise? Please be

60.4 Answer these questions.

- 1 Are you expecting any visitors today?
- 2 What do you hope to do this summer?
- 3 Do you borrow things from your friends? What things?
- 4 Would you lend £100 to your best friend?

Look at these units to find other words that are often confused:

Do and make	Units 38 and 39
Take and bring	Units 41 and 42
Say, tell, speak and talk	Unit 46
Rob and steal	Unit 32

Follow-up

Look up these pairs of verbs in a dictionary and make notes on the difference in meaning:

- 1 lie – lay – lain
lay – laid – laid
- 2 rise – rose – risen
raise – raised – raised