Mixed Word Formation

CEFR B1 · Word families and exam-style transformation
WS1 Word-Family Tables · WS2 Right Form in Context · WS3 Affixes & Negatives · WS4 Exam Gap-Fill & Writing · Answer Key

Worksheet 1: Word-Family Tables

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

Reference: Building the Whole Family

Word-formation exam tasks test whether you can build the right member of a word family. Watch spelling and stress changes: *decide → decision*, *strong → strengthen*, *able → ability*. Some families have negative forms too (*able / unable*).

Noun	Verb	Adjective	Adverb
strength	strengthen	strong	strongly
ability	enable	able / unable	ably
decision	decide	decisive	decisively
comparison	compare	comparable	comparably
organisation	organise	organised	—

Part A – Complete the Family

#	Noun	Verb	Adjective	Adverb
1	strength			
2	decision			
3	comparison			
4	ability			

Part B – Build the Member Named

1. organise (noun) → _____
2. strong (verb) → _____
3. decide (adjective) → _____

Score: ____ / 20

Worksheet 2: Right Form in Context

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

Reference: Let the Sentence Decide

The gap's position tells you the word class; the meaning tells you whether you need a negative or a different family member. A noun after "the" or an adjective; an adjective after "be" or before a noun; an adverb after a verb; a verb after a subject.

Signal	Form	Example
the + ___ / adj + ___	noun	the **decision**
be / very / more + ___	adjective	very **decisive**
verb + ___ (how?)	adverb	acted **decisively**
subject / to + ___	verb	to **decide**
meaning = 'not'	negative form	**unable**, **impossible**

Part A – Choose the Correct Form

1. Her _____ was final. (decide)
2. He acted _____. (decide → adverb)
3. They were _____ to help. (able → negative)
4. Reading can _____ your mind. (strength)
5. The two results are not _____. (compare)

Part B – Fix the Word Class

#	Wrong sentence	Correction
1	She made a quick decide.	
2	He is a very organise person.	
3	They compared the results careful.	
4	Exercise can strong your heart.	

Score: _____ / 25

Worksheet 3: Affixes & Negatives

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

Reference: Suffixes, Prefixes and Negatives Together

Harder items need a suffix AND a prefix, or a suffix AND a negative: *rely → unreliable* (un- + rely + -able), *care → carelessly* (care + -less + -ly). Choose the negative prefix that fits the word (un-, in-, im-, ir-, il-, dis-).

Base	Built word	Parts
rely	unreliable	un- + rely + -able
care	carelessly	care + -less + -ly
responsible	irresponsibly	ir- + responsible + -ly
logic	illogical	il- + logic + -al
success	unsuccessful	un- + success + -ful

Part A – Build the Word

1. rely (adjective, negative) → _____
2. care (adverb, 'without care') → _____
3. logic (adjective, negative) → _____
4. success (adjective, negative) → _____
5. responsible (adverb, negative) → _____

Part B – Complete the Sentence

1. The old car is completely _____. (rely → negative adjective)
2. He drove _____ and caused an accident. (care → 'without care', adverb)
3. Their plan was _____; it made no sense. (logic → negative)
4. The first attempt was _____. (success → negative)

Part C – Two Changes at Once

#	Base + instruction	Answer
1	happy → noun, negative	
2	use → adjective, 'without use'	
3	patient → adverb, negative	

Score: _____ / 30

Worksheet 4: Exam Gap-Fill & Writing

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

Part A – Word Formation (exam style)

Read the text. Use the word in CAPITALS at the end of each line to form a word that fits the gap.

Learning a language takes _____ and patience. **(DETERMINE)**

Good teachers make lessons _____. **(ENJOY)**

They explain grammar _____. **(CLEAR)**

Many learners feel _____ at first. **(CONFIDENCE → negative)**

But with practice, real _____ is possible. **(IMPROVE)**

You must _____ your weak points. **(STRONG)**

Part B – Edit

This text has **five** word-form errors. Underline and correct them.

My teacher is very organise and always explains things clear. She has the able to make hard topics simple. Last term I made real improve in writing. I felt unconfidence before, but now I write more strong.

#	Error	Correction
1		
2		
3		
4		
5		

Part C – Writing

Write 120–150 words about learning a skill. Use at least **six** formed words across all four classes (noun, verb, adjective, adverb), including at least one **negative** form. Underline each.

#	Line
1	
2	
3	
4	
5	

6	
7	
8	

Formed words: _____ / 6 Score: _____ / 35

Answer Key & Teacher Notes

For teacher use only — B1 Level, Mixed Word Formation

Worksheet 1 – Part A

strength → strengthen / strong / strongly · decision → decide / decisive / decisively · comparison → compare / comparable / comparably · ability → enable / able (unable) / ably

Worksheet 1 – Part B

1 organisation · 2 strengthen · 3 decisive

Worksheet 2 – Part A

1 decision · 2 decisively · 3 unable · 4 strengthen · 5 comparable

Worksheet 2 – Part B

1 quick decision · 2 organised person · 3 compared … carefully · 4 strengthen your heart

Worksheet 3 – Part A

1 unreliable · 2 carelessly · 3 illogical · 4 unsuccessful · 5 irresponsibly

Worksheet 3 – Part B

1 unreliable · 2 carelessly · 3 illogical · 4 unsuccessful

Worksheet 3 – Part C

1 unhappiness · 2 useless · 3 impatiently

Worksheet 4 – Part A

1 determination · 2 enjoyable · 3 clearly · 4 unconfident · 5 improvement · 6 strengthen

Worksheet 4 – Part B

1 organised · 2 clearly · 3 ability · 4 improvement · 5 strongly (write more strongly) — accept "unconfident" if flagged as 6th

Worksheet 4 – Part C: Marking Guide

Criterion	Descriptor	Marks
Range of classes	Words across all four classes	0–4
Negative form	At least one correct	0–4
Accuracy	Suffix/prefix/spelling correct	0–3
Task & length	120–150 words; coherent	0–3