



Exercise – Academic word building

Introduction

This exercise focuses on developing a broad range of academic vocabulary that you can use in your writing.

On pages 2, 3 and 4 there are ten sets of sentences. In each set, one sentence contains a highlighted word (in the form of a noun, verb or adjective). The other two sentences are missing another form of that word. You are required to identify each missing word.

Suggested answers are presented on page 5.

Further information

The Learning Resources Study Hub provides a range of opportunities (such as workshops and drop-ins) for you to enhance your academic skills. For more information visit:

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Exercise

For each word form group, choose a suitable form of the highlighted word to suitably complete all of the sentences in each group.

As an example, the first one has been done for you.

Word form 1

- a) (missing noun) An analysis of the results was conducted.
- b) (missing verb) The results were first analysed in terms of age and gender.
- c) (missing adjective) The researcher was required to take an analytical approach.

Word form 2

- a) (missing noun) The significance of the findings is particularly relevant to middle income households.
- b) (missing verb) The improved results achieved by students _____ a change in the approach taken by tutors.
- c) (missing adjective) A _____ proportion of the population take some form of exercise at least once a week.

Word form 3

- a) (missing noun) A _____ of the term 'psychosomatic' is provided in the glossary.
- b) (missing verb) Kukhareva (2007) **defines** resilience as an interdisciplinary concept that allows for a holistic approach to events, experiences and processes.
- c) (missing adjective) The _____ approach to analysing language involved specifying the context in which the utterance took place.
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Word form 4

- a) (missing noun) Before outlining any research proposal it is important to accurately articulate your _____.
- b) (missing verb) Atkins (2009) _____ that there is a link between socio-demographic characteristics and level of education.
- c) (missing adjective) The tutor provided a **hypothetical** scenario to help students understand the concept.
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Word form 5

- a) (missing noun) Some of Japan's most well-know _____ include, Nokia phones, foods such as sushi, Nissan, Mitsubishi, and Toyota cars.
- b) (missing verb) Last year's poor wheat crop yield means mills **produce** less bread. This results in an increase in the price of loaves in the supermarket.
- c) (missing adjective) In the survey, students reported that they were at their most _____ early in the morning. This is the best time to do more challenging tasks.

Word form 6

- a) (missing noun) The government have provided the clearest **indication** to date that the next budget will involve cuts to social welfare.
- b) (missing verb) Environmental campaigners _____ that a more aggressive approach is need to ensure governments introduce more concrete environmental policies.
- c) (missing adjective) The patient displayed symptoms _____ of type two diabetes and had to be referred to the GP.
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Word form 7

- a) (missing noun) The finance minister unveiled plans to stimulate growth in the _____.
- b) (missing verb) With spiralling energy costs, families can _____ by switching off household appliances when they are not in use.
- c) (missing adjective) The **economic** outlook for the new year is bleak, with consumer confidence low and proposed cuts promised.

Word form 8

- a) (missing noun) There will first be an analysis of current research on sports massage therapy, and then an _____ of the treatment in sports injury.
- b) (missing verb) Lennon (2010) **evaluated** the impact of task-based learning approach on student levels of linguistic attainment.
- c) (missing adjective) Students are required to provide an _____ account of their experiences on placement.
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Word form 9

- a) (missing noun) There was a number of reasons why genetic **variation** exists between populations.
- b) (missing verb) The rate of unemployment _____ between 14.5% and 15% between January and August.
- c) (missing adjective or could be a missing noun) Over the five year term the _____rate mortgage proved to be better value than both tracker and fixed rate alternatives.
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Word form 10

- a) (missing noun) Through _____ it is possible to cut costs and thereby reduce expenditure.
- b) (missing verb) All group members **collaborated** on the project report.
- c) (missing adjective) Government leaders must _____ to resolve the current financial crisis.

Answers

Exercise	Noun	Verb	Adjective
1.	analysis	analyse	analytical
2.	significance	signify	significant
3.	definition	define	definitive
4.	hypothesis	hypothesise	hypothetical
5.	product	produce	productive
6.	indication	indicate	indicative
7.	economy	economise	economic/economical
8.	evaluation	evaluate	evaluative
9.	variation	vary	variable
10.	collaboration	collaborate	collaborative

Please note: Certain words can assume multiple word forms. However, for the sentences provided there is only one correct answer.