Use of English

Word formation & key word transformations · B2 · Answers on the last page.

HOW IT WORKS

Word formation: change the word in CAPITALS to fit the gap — add prefixes or suffixes to to make a noun, adjective, adverb, or a negative. Check if it should be positive/negative and and singular/plural.

Key word transformations: rewrite the second sentence so it means the same as the first, using the KEY WORD. Don't change the key word. Usually 2–5 words.

1 Word formation — use the word in CAPITALS to complete the gap.

1 She gave a very _____ performance. **IMPRESS**

2 The instructions were _____, so nobody understood. **CLEAR**

3 He works as a _____ for a big company. **SCIENCE**

4 Her _____ to help everyone was admirable. **WILLING**

5 We need to make a _____ very soon. **DECIDE**

6 It was _____ cold for the month of May. **USUAL**

7 Don't worry — the spider is completely _____. **HARM**

8 His strange _____ surprised everyone. **BEHAVE**

2 Word formation in a text — write the correct form of each word.

Learning a language takes (1) _____ (PATIENT) and a lot of practice. Many students feel (2) _____ (COMFORT) when they have to speak, but this is completely (3) _____ (UNDERSTAND). The best advice is to speak (4) _____ (CONFIDENT) and learn from your mistakes. With (5) _____ (DETERMINE) and regular study, real (6) _____ (IMPROVE) will come.

1 _____ 2 _____

3 _____ 4 _____

5 _____ 6 _____

3 Make the opposite by adding a prefix (un-, im-, in-, ir-, il-, dis-).

1 possible → _____

2 honest → _____

3 patient → _____

4 regular → _____

5 legal → _____

6 appear → _____

4 Key word transformations — complete the 2nd sentence (2–5 words) using the KEY WORD.

1 *It isn't necessary to book in advance.* **(HAVE)**

You _____ book in advance.

2 *I'm sure he forgot about the meeting.* **(MUST)**

He _____ about the meeting.

3 *She started learning English five years ago.* **(BEEN)**

She _____ English for five years.

4 *They couldn't finish because it rained.* **(PREVENTED)**

The rain _____ finishing.

5 *A mechanic is fixing my bike.* **(HAVING)**

I _____ fixed.

6 *Perhaps she missed the train.* **(MIGHT)**

She _____ the train.

7 *It was a mistake to tell him.* **(SHOULD)**

I _____ him.

8 *I last went to the cinema in May.* **(BEEN)**

I _____ to the cinema since May.

Soluciones

Answer key.

1 · Word formation

1 impressive 2 unclear 3 scientist 4 willingness
5 decision 6 unusually 7 harmless 8 behaviour

2 · Word formation (text)

1 patience 2 uncomfortable 3 understandable 4 confidently 5 determination 6 improvement

3 · Opposites (prefixes)

1 impossible 2 dishonest 3 impatient 4 irregular 5 illegal 6 disappear

4 · Key word transformations

1 don't have to 2 must have forgotten 3 has been learning 4 prevented them from
5 am having my bike 6 might have missed 7 shouldn't have told 8 haven't been