



Word Formation

Word formation is the way words are used in English and how root words are altered to change the part of speech.

- 1) Add prefixes: Extra letters at the beginning of the root word. *E.g. comfortable → uncomfortable*
- 2) Add suffixes: Extra letters at the end of the root word. *E.g. act → actor*
- 3) Back formation: Reducing the extra letters from prefixes and suffixes. *E.g. teacher → teach*
- 4) Conversion: The word remains the same but just changes function: *E.g. I sent her a text → Can you text her?*
- 5) Compound words: Two words combined together to create a new one, which could be compound nouns, adjectives or verbs. *E.g. hairbrush.*
- 6) Blended words: Two individual words are mixed together to create one new word. *E.g. breakfast + lunch → brunch*
- 7) Abbreviations: Short versions of words. *E.g. centimetre → cm*
- 8) Loanwords: Words not originally from the English language but borrowed from another. *E.g. café*