

Lesson 13 Adjectives with suffixes –ful, –less

Focus forming adjectives using suffixes such as –ful, –less, –y

Key terms adjective, suffix, noun

Focus text Prince Herman was a **careful** prince.
Prince Edgar was a **careless** prince.

TEACH

Show the focus text. Read aloud the two sentences. Discuss how the two princes are different and which words make this clear [careful, careless]. Ask: What might a careful prince do? What about a careless prince? Establish the different meanings of these two words [e.g. full of care; without care].

Discuss what type of word is highlighted [adjectives: they tell us more about the noun – the prince]. Ask the children what they notice about the two adjectives [they both begin with the word ‘care’ but they have different endings, –ful and –less].

Explain that the endings –ful and –less are called suffixes. A suffix is a group of letters added on to the end of a word to make a new word with a different meaning. For example, –ful and –less are added to words to make adjectives, which can be used to describe people or things. Establish that –ful means ‘full of’; –less means ‘without’.

Use two or three other words [e.g. hope; power; fear] in the focus text to replace ‘care’. Discuss the meaning of the new words you make [e.g. hopeful/hopeless; powerful/powerless; fearful/fearless]. Ask the children to think of other adjectives with these suffixes. You may wish to point out that –ful and –less cannot always be added to the same word [e.g. ‘forgetful’ is a word but ‘forgetless’ is not].

Discuss other familiar suffixes used to form adjectives, such as the suffix –y [e.g. a lucky/sleepy/cheeky/greedy prince].

EXTEND Look at other suffixes used to form adjectives, such as –ish [e.g. foolish] and –en [e.g. wooden].

PRACTISE

Pupil book page 20

APPLY

- The children write stories about characters [e.g. Fearless Fergus; Powerful Percy; Forgetful Felix] to show the meaning of the words. Alternatively, they write what happens when two contrasting characters meet [e.g. Careful Colin and Careless Cora].
- When reading stories or poems together, collect adjectives ending with –ful or –less [e.g. beautiful; pitiful; restless]. Display these in the classroom and encourage the children to use them when writing.
- In other subjects, draw attention to adjectives formed by adding suffixes [e.g. in design and technology or cooking – useful; bendy; tasteless].
- Challenge the children to use at least one adjective ending with –ful or –less when writing a story or description.

ASSESS

Dictation: My granny is forget but she is a wonder cook.

Say: Two words in this sentence need a suffix. Underline the words and write them correctly.

Answer: My granny is forgetful but she is a wonderful cook.