



Word Forms

Student Name: _____

Date: _____

Instructor: _____

Course: _____

About This DLA

Important Note

All the activities (3) in the DLA must be completed in their entirety before meeting with a tutor and receiving credit. Where indicated, complete your work on this sheet. If your instructor wants evidence of this completed DLA, return this form to him or her with the tutor's signature included.

Learning Outcomes

Through computer and other independent work, this activity will familiarize you with the main parts of speech and their forms and help you select the correct form of words for different parts of sentences.

Activities (approximately 1 hour)

Read the information, complete the activities that follow, and be prepared to discuss your answers when you meet with a tutor.

Understanding the Parts of Speech

English has four main parts of speech: noun, verbs, adjectives, and adverbs.

Part of Speech	Definition	Example
Noun	person, place, thing, or idea.	The runners will start the competition .
Verb	action or state of being	The runners compete every month.
Adjective	a word that describes a noun	The runners are very competitive people.
Adverb	a word that describes a verb, an adjective, or another adverb.	They will run competitively .

Because there are different parts of speech, a word will usually take different forms depending on whether it is acting as a noun, a verb, an adjective, or an adverb in the sentence. As you can see from the examples above, the word will change according to its function. Sometimes, however, a word can look the same in different parts of speech.

- ❖ They like **fish**. (noun)
- ❖ They **fish** every Sunday. (verb)

Problems with Word Forms

Non-native speakers of English sometimes use the incorrect word form, which means that sometimes they write one form of a word when they need another form.

Incorrect	Correct
She is a very energy person.	She is a very energetic person.
They turned off the electric .	They turned off the electricity.
We drive careful .	We drive carefully.

The word *energy* is a noun, but because we are describing person (a noun), we need to use the adjective form of the word, which is *energetic*. The word *electric* is an adjective, but in the sentence above, we need the noun form, which is *electricity*. In the last examples, *careful* is an adjective, but we need the adverb, *carefully*, because we are describing a verb.

Some Helpful Suffixes

In order to help you understand which form you should use, here are some common suffixes (word endings) that can help you see the difference between a noun, a verb, an adjective, and an adverb. Sometimes suffixes can be used in more than one part of speech.

Nouns	Verbs	Adjectives	Adverbs
-tion, -sion (<i>nation</i>)	-ate (<i>create</i>)	-able, -ible (<i>washable</i>)	-ly (<i>quickly</i>)
-cy, -gy (<i>mercy</i>)	-ize, -ise (<i>realize</i>)	-ac, -ic, -ical (<i>logical</i>)	-ward(s) (<i>downward</i>)
-eer, -er, -or (<i>baker</i>)	-fy (<i>magnify</i>)	-ous (<i>fabulous</i>)	-wise (<i>clockwise</i>)
-ity (<i>unity</i>)	-en (<i>brighten</i>)	-ive (<i>active</i>)	
-tude (<i>attitude</i>)	-ed (<i>skated</i>)	-ful (<i>beautiful</i>)	
-ist (<i>artist</i>)	-ing (<i>running</i>)	-less (<i>harmless</i>)	
-ism (<i>criticism</i>)		-ant, -ent (<i>radiant</i>)	
-ness (<i>roughness</i>)		-y (<i>fishy</i>), -ish (<i>foolish</i>)	
-ment (<i>treatment</i>)		-ed (<i>bored</i>), -ing (<i>boring</i>)	

Not all parts of speech follow these patterns, but they will generally help you understand.

Activities

Check off each box once you have completed the activity.

1. Word Forms Review

Review the information on this sheet. Then, answer the following questions.

What are the main parts of speech?

Write down one suffix for each of the main parts of speech.

2. **Online Quiz**

Go to <http://tinyurl.com/WordFormsDLAQuiz> and take the [Word Forms DLA Quiz](#). You must score at least 80% on the exercises before seeing a tutor. After you complete the task, **PLEASE ASK A LAB TUTOR OR FRONT DESK ATTENDANT TO PRINT THE PAGE THAT HAS YOUR SCORE. DO NOT EXIT THE PROGRAM UNTIL THIS PAGE HAS BEEN PRINTED (FREE OF CHARGE)**. If you have any other questions, do not hesitate to ask a lab tutor.

Choose 3a or 3b Below

3a. **Review Your Own Writing**

Collect some of your graded work. Find THREE different sentences that have word form errors. Write them down below, and then write the corrected sentence with the appropriate word form. You may use a dictionary to look up different word forms.

1a. Original sentence:

1b. Corrected sentence:

2a. Original sentence:

2b. Corrected sentence:

3a. Original sentence:

3b. Corrected sentence:

If you do not have your own essay to work with, please complete the supplemental activity below (3b).

3b. **Word Form Practice**

Complete the following table with the correct forms of the missing parts of speech. You may use a dictionary to look up different word forms if you need help.

Noun	Verb	Adjective	Adverb
1. energy			
2.	roughen		
3.		bright	
4.			nationally

Next, make four different sentences using *softness* (n.), *soften* (v.), *soft* (adj.), and *softly* (adv.) correctly.

a. softness:

b. soften:

c. soft:

d. softly:

Finally, make four different sentences using *beauty* (n.), *beautify* (v.), *beautiful* (adj.), and *beautifully* (adv.) correctly.

a. beauty:

b. beautify:

c. beautiful:

d. beautifully:

4. Review the DLA

Go to <https://mtsac2.mywconline.com> and use the [Mt. SAC Writing Center Appointment System](#) to make a DLA appointment, or sign-up to see a tutor on the “**DLA Walk-in**” list in the Writing Center. During your session with a tutor, explain your work to demonstrate your understanding of word forms. Refer to your own graded writing (or the completed activity) and explain to the tutor strategies that you used to create sentences with accurate word forms.

Student's Signature: _____

Date: _____

Tutor's Signature _____

Date: _____

If you are an individual with a disability and need a greater level of accessibility for any document in The Writing Center or on The Writing Center's website, please contact the Mt. SAC Accessible Resource Centers for Students, access@mtsac.edu, (909) 274-4290.

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