

## Affixation in English

Of course the great wastage is in the verbs and adjectives, but there are hundreds of nouns that can be got rid of as well. It isn't only the synonyms; there are also the antonyms. After all, what justification is there for a word which is simply the opposite of some other word? A word contains its opposite in itself. Take "good", for instance. If you have a word like "good", what need is there for a word like "bad"? "Ungood" will do as well...  
(George Orwell, 1984)

Consider the following paradigms

important	unimportant
qualified	unqualified
happy	unhappy

drink	drinkable
scale	scalable
justify	justifiable

Explain how we get these forms. Make sure also to explain why we do not get the following:

- \* unbirthday
- \* undrink (meaning in particular 'to not drink')
- \* educationable
- \* qualifiedable

Also explain how we can get the following forms:

undrinkable  
unscalable  
unjustifiable

But not the following:

- \* unimportantable
- \* unqualifiedable
- \* unhappiable

Now consider the following paradigms. Carefully consider the differences between these forms and the first set. Also carefully consider the meaning.

fold	unfold
tie	untie
pack	unpack

Finally look at the following

unfoldable  
untieable  
unpackable

If you consider these last forms carefully you will notice that they have two meanings. Does this follow from your explanations above? Explain the two meanings using paraphrases, and show how these forms follow from your assumptions. Also notice that the following are acceptable as well:

ununfoldable  
ununtieable  
ununpackable

What do these forms mean? Does this follow from your explanations as well?