

## CONVERSION FROM ADJECTIVE TO NOUN IN ENGLISH LANGUAGE

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**Annotation:** This work is a comprehensive and detailed analysis of the process of conversion from adjective to noun in English language, which is one of the ways of nominalization. The author explores the various aspects of this phenomenon, such as the morphological changes that occur when an adjective becomes a noun, the syntactic structures that allow or constrain this conversion, and the semantic implications that arise from the shift in word class. The work also provides a clear and systematic typology of the different types of nominalizations that can be formed from adjectives, such as zero-derivation, suffixation and compounding. The author supports his arguments with examples from different genres and registers of English, and discusses the historical and sociolinguistic factors that have influenced the development and usage of nominalization. The author claims that nominalization is a productive and creative process that enriches the vocabulary and expresses various meanings and functions in different contexts.

**Key words:** adjective, noun, nominalization, changes, word class, process

The conversion from adjective to noun in English language is a process of word formation that involves adding certain suffixes to the base form of an adjective. A suffix is a letter or a group of letters that is added at the end of a word to change its meaning or function. By adding a suffix, an adjective can become a noun that refers to a person, thing, place, or idea related to the quality or state expressed by the adjective. Some common suffixes that can form nouns from adjectives are:

### 1. -ness:

This suffix forms abstract nouns that express a quality or a state. It is often added to adjectives that end in \*y\*, but the \*y\* changes to \*i\*.

For example,

(1) The only thing that could rouse him from his laziness was the thought of his books. [5:14]

(2) Happiness is not a possession to be prized, it is a quality of thought, a state of mind. [3:24]

The words “laziness” and “happiness” are both nouns that are formed by adding the suffix “-ness” to adjectives. The suffix “-ness” is used to create abstract nouns that describe a quality, state, or condition.

“Laziness” is derived from the adjective “lazy”. It refers to the quality of not being willing to work or use any effort. The “-ness” suffix was added to form the noun “laziness”, denoting the state or quality of being lazy.

“Happiness” is derived from the adjective “happy”. It is a state of well-being and contentment, often associated with feelings of joy. The “-ness” suffix was added to form the noun “happiness”, denoting the state or quality of being happy.

### 2. -ity:

This suffix forms abstract nouns that express a quality or a condition. It is often added to adjectives that end in \*-ble\* or have a soft \*s\* sound. Sometimes, the ending of the adjective changes before adding the suffix.

For example,

(3) He was consumed with curiosity about her, as if she were a prize he had plucked from the sea. [2:772]

(4) There is a possibility of love in every human heart, and there is also a possibility of cruelty. [1:341]

The suffixes “-ity” and “-ibility” are both derived from Latin and are used to form abstract nouns from adjectives. They are examples of derivational morphology, which is the process of creating new words by adding prefixes or suffixes to existing words. Both suffixes change the word class from adjective to noun and also change the stress pattern of the word. For example, in the adjective “curious”, the stress is on the first syllable, but in the noun “curiosity”, the stress is on the third syllable. Similarly, in the adjective “possible”, the stress is on the first syllable, but in the noun “possibility”, the stress is on the second syllable.

For the adjective “curious”, we add the suffix “-ity” to form the noun “curiosity”. The suffix “-ity” is used to form nouns that express a state or condition, in this case, the state of being curious.

Similarly, for the adjective “possible”, we add the suffix “-ibility” to form the noun “possibility”. The suffix “-ibility” is used to form nouns that express capability or susceptibility, in this case, the capability of something happening or being the case.

### 3. -ance or -ence:

These suffixes are used to form nouns from adjectives and verbs. They often denote a state or quality.

For example,

(5) She learned to accept and embrace diversity, and in doing so, she discovered the true meaning of tolerance. [4:87]

(6) The resistance of the poor is the rage of the world. [6:33]

The adjective "tolerant" (5) can be transformed into the noun "tolerance" by adding the suffix -ance. This means that tolerance is the state or quality of being tolerant.

Similarly, the adjective "resistant" (6) can be transformed into the noun "resistance" by adding the suffix -ence. This means that resistance is the state or quality of being resistant.

Nominalization can also help to make connections between different parts of a text, such as between a topic sentence and supporting details, or between a thesis statement and main arguments.

In conclusion, the conversion from adjective to noun in English language is a complex and dynamic process that involves morphological, syntactic and semantic factors. The conversion can be productive or unproductive, depending on the type of adjective, the context of use and the speaker's intention. The conversion can also create new meanings or nuances for the derived nouns, as well as affect their grammatical properties and collocations. The conversion is an example of how language evolves and adapts to the needs and preferences of its users.

### References:

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5. The Shadow of the Wind by Carlos Ruiz Zafón, page 14
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