



The story of a marriage

If my mother hadn't moved to Germany with us, I would never have met him. He was the most attractive man I had ever seen. His behaviour was very mature and what he said was always relevant. He was very polite and always opened the door for me and paid the bill at the restaurant. He was popular with other people too, because he was friendly, respectful, reliable and had a kind personality. If this wasn't enough, he was also sensitive to other people's feelings and loyal to his family. On top of all that, he was successful at what he did for a living and the money he earned was legal.

What would you have done if you had been me?

We got married and he became my husband.

Prefixes and opposite meaning

Exercise 1: The prefixes **un-**, **in-**, **im-**, **ir-**, **il-**, and **dis-** can be added to the beginning of some words to give them an opposite meaning. Fill in the gaps by adding the appropriate prefix to the adjectives you underlined in the text to give an opposite meaning. The first one has been done for you.

We got married and he became my husband. But then everything was different. Suddenly, he was the most **unattractive** man I had ever seen. His behaviour was very..... and what he said was always He was very and only opened doors for other women and let me pay the bills. He was with everybody because he was,, and had an personality. If this wasn't enough, he was also to other people's feelings and to his family. On top of all that, he was at what he did for a living and the money he earned was

What would you have done, if you had been me?

We got divorced and he became my

Exercise 2: Does word stress change when we add a prefix to a word?

Exercise 3:

a) Match up these adjectives with their definitions. Check with your partner.

Not enough	insufficient
fixed	incomplete
not logical	imprecise
unable to read or write	illiterate
causing trouble or discomfort	immovable
not lawful	irrational
not exact	illegitimate
unique	impassable
blocked or closed	irreplaceable
unfinished	inconvenient

b) Some prefixes change their form. Look at the adjectives above and complete the rules of use of the prefix **in-**.

When adding the prefix **in-** to a word that begins with an , , or change **in-** to

When adding **in-** to a word that starts with an, change **in-** to

Finally, when adding **in-** to a word that begins with an , change **in-** to

c) Which adjectives in the text do not fit the rule?

Exercise 4: How can knowing about prefixes help you improve your English? Discuss with your partner.

Exercise 5: Discuss these in your group.

- Your friend does something illegal. What do you do?
- Would you marry someone unattractive?
- Which is worse: being unreliable or insensitive?
- What is seen as impolite in your country?
- Are people in your country disrespectful towards elders?
- Have you ever been unsuccessful in something?