

SUFFIX: -ness

B2 | Vocabulary, gap fill and discussion

1 Vocabulary

The suffix -ness changes many adjectives into nouns that name a quality or state.

awareness

knowledge or understanding of a situation

effectiveness

the ability to produce a good result

willingness

the desire to do something

preparedness

the state of being ready

loneliness

the feeling of being alone

nervousness

the feeling of being worried or afraid

usefulness

the quality of being useful

politeness

the quality of having good manners

2 Complete the sentences

Choose a word from the vocabulary box. Use each word once.

1. Emergency _____ can save lives during a natural disaster.

2. A little _____ can make difficult conversations easier.

3. The campaign raised _____ of mental health issues.

4. His _____ before the interview was easy to understand.

5. Her _____ to help made the project much easier.

6. The _____ of this app depends on your needs.

7. We need to measure the _____ of the new training programme.

8. Moving to a new city can sometimes cause _____.

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B2 | Discussion questions

1 Talk about the vocabulary

Discuss each question with a partner, then write short notes or your own answer.

Try to use at least one word ending in -ness in every answer.

2 Conversation questions

1. How can schools raise awareness of important issues?

2. What makes training or education effective?

3. How can people prepare for an emergency?

4. Why might people experience loneliness in a crowded city?

5. How does politeness affect communication?

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B2 | Teacher answer key

1 Suggested answers

Suggested answers for the gap-fill activity are shown below.

Discussion answers will vary. The target word is highlighted in bold.

2 Gap-fill answers

1. Emergency **preparedness** can save lives during a natural disaster.

2. A little **politeness** can make difficult conversations easier.

3. The campaign raised **awareness** of mental health issues.

4. His **nervousness** before the interview was easy to understand.

5. Her **willingness** to help made the project much easier.

6. The **usefulness** of this app depends on your needs.

7. We need to measure the **effectiveness** of the new training programme.

8. Moving to a new city can sometimes cause **loneliness**.