

Respect and happiness are two qualities that we recognise in people, but we cannot actually touch, smell, taste, hear or see them. The names we give to qualities or things, which we cannot recognise with one of our five senses, are called **Abstract Nouns**. Abstract nouns are the names for the feelings, thoughts and ideas which can exist in your mind.

For example: The sharpness (abstract noun) of the knife made him cut his finger.

You can see and touch the knife, but sharpness is an idea you think of which doesn't have an actual shape.

To find an abstract noun in the dictionary, you will need to look carefully and read through the whole entry.

For example: Here is a dictionary entry for the word **cruel**.
cruel (adj -merciless, hard-hearted, inhuman. cruelty is the quality of being cruel).

Note: the **n** after cruelty tells us that it is a noun which can be formed from the word cruel.

Use your dictionary to find the abstract nouns formed from the following words:

grateful _____	assist _____
generous _____	desire _____
hate _____	slay _____
please _____	satisfy _____
succeed _____	miserable _____

Change these words to abstract nouns:

champion _____	knight _____
lovely _____	honest _____
shrink _____	patriot _____