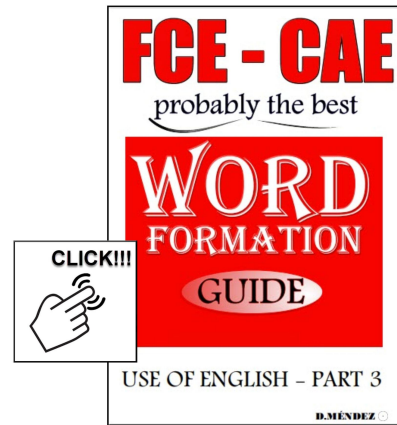


economic or economical?



B2 / C1
learn to do
Word formation
exercises

commonly confused adjectives (-ic /ical suffixes)

classic

Completely typical

- She was displaying **classic** symptoms of shock.
- Their romance is a **classic** case of opposites attracting.

classical

Widely accepted and used for a long time; traditional in style or idea.

- Does she study **classical** ballet or modern ballet?
- Do you like **classical** music?

comic

Relating to comedy / intentionally funny

- A **comic** actor.
- The clown performed many **comic** tricks.

comical

Funny, especially because it is strange or silly.

Unintentionally funny.

- She often wears large **comical** hats.

economic

Relating to the economy of a particular country or region.

- **Economic** growth is slowing down.

economical

Not costing or spending much money.

- It would be more **economical** to switch the machine off at night.

electric

Using electricity for power:

- An **electric** blanket/car/kettle/light
- I'm thinking of buying an **electric** car.

electrical

Relating to electricity:

- **Electrical** equipment/goods/devices
- He works as an **electrical** engineer

historic

Important or likely to be important in history.

- The **historic** city of York.
- Park's impeachment marked a **historic** moment for South Korea

historical

Connected with studying or representing things from the past.

- Many important **historical** documents were destroyed when the library was bombed.

lyric

Relating to poetry.

- A **lyric** writer

lyrical

Beautifully expressed in words, poetry, or music

- The new concerto is intensely **lyrical**.

magic

Having or using special powers to make impossible things happen or seem to happen

- A **magic** spell/charm/potion.
- There is no **magic** formula for passing exams—only hard work.

magical

Containing magic; used in magic

- Her words had a **magical** effect on us.
- Diamonds were once thought to have **magical** powers.

politic

Tactful, sensible (formal adj)

- I deemed it **politic** to leave at that point.
- It would not be **politic** for you to be seen there.

political

About or concerned with politics.

- Can you think of a **political** solution to this problem, as opposed to an economic one?