

THE BEST MATERIALS TO PREPARE FOR CAMBRIDGE ENGLISH EXAMS

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Commonly confused adjectives (-ic /ical suffixes)

| Classic | Classical |
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| Completely typical She was displaying <u>classic</u> symptoms of shock. Their romance is a <u>classic</u> case of opposites attracting. | Widely accepted and used for a long time; traditional in style or idea. Does she study <u>classical</u> ballet or modern ballet? Do you like <u>classical</u> music? |
| Electric | Electrical |
| Using electricity for power: An <u>electric</u> blanket/car/kettle/light I'm thinking of buying an <u>electric</u> car. | Relating to electricity: <u>Electrical</u> equipment/goods/devices He works as an <u>electrical</u> engineer |
| Historic | Historical |
| Important or likely to be important in history. The <u>historic</u> city of York. Park's impeachment marked a <u>historic</u> moment for South Korea | Connected with studying or representing things from the past. Many important <u>historical</u> documents were destroyed when the library was bombed. |
| Economic | Economical |
| Relating to the economy of a particular country or region. Economic growth is slowing down. | Not costing or spending much money. It would be more <u>economical</u> to switch the machine off at night. |
| Politic | Political |
| Tactful, sensible (formal adj) I deemed it politic to leave at that point. It would not be politic for you to be seen there. | About or concerned with politics. Can you think of a political solution to this problem, as opposed to an economic one? |
| Comic | Comical |
| Relating to comedy / intentionally funny A <u>comic</u> actor. The clown performed many <u>comic</u> tricks. | Funny, especially because it is strange or silly. Unintentionally funny. ● She often wears large <u>comical</u> hats. |
| Lyric | Lyrical |
| Relating to poetry. ● A <u>lyric</u> writer | Beautifully expressed in words, poetry, or music The new concerto is intensely <u>lyrical</u>. |
| Magic | Magical |
| 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. | Containing magic; used in magic Her words had a <u>magical</u> effect on us. Diamonds were once thought to have <u>magical</u> powers. |