

## Adjectives

### Adjectives

- An adjective is a word or phrase that modifies or describes a noun or pronoun.
- Answers the questions of: What kind?, How many?, or Which ones?
  - Examples: tall, old, larger, smaller, beautiful, etc.
- Adjectives can be broken into different categories including comparative, superlative, predicate, compound, possessive, demonstrative, proper, participial, limiting, descriptive, interrogative, attributive, and distributive adjectives.

### Comparative Adjectives

- used to compare two different people or things to each other.
- Example sentence: We moved from a big city to a **smaller** town.
- one-syllable adjectives:
  - add -er to the end. (clear → clearer)
  - ends in -y: replace the -y with -i before adding the -er. (dry → drier)
- two-syllable adjectives that end in:
  - -er, -le, or -ow: add -er to the end. (simple → simpler)
  - -y: the -y, replace with an -i, add -er. (ugly → uglier)
- If it ends in consonant-vowel-consonant: double the final consonant before adding -er (big → bigger)
- Add the words "more" or "less" to the positive form of the two-syllable or longer adjectives (acceptable → more acceptable)
- Example Comparative Adjectives:
  - angrier • more energetic • kinder • vaster • more questionable
  - busier • less jarring • meaner • wiser • more expensive
  - happier • less gruesome • nicer • zestier • less sincere

### Superlative Adjectives

- used in comparisons to describe something as being of the highest degree or extreme.
- Example Sentence: Out of every movie I have seen, that one was the **scariest**.
- one-syllable adjectives: add -est to the end. (warm → warmest)
- one-syllable adjective ends in:
  - -e: add -st. (vile → vilest)
  - -y: replace the -y with -i and add -est. (dry → driest)
  - consonant-vowel-consonant: double the final consonant before adding -est. (hot → hottest)
- two-syllable adjective ends in:
  - -er, -le, or -ow: add -est to the end. (narrow → narrowest)
  - -y: replace the -y with -i and add -est. (silly → silliest)
- All other adjectives two-syllables or longer: add the words "most" or "least" to the positive form. (energetic > least energetic or more energetic)
- Example Superlative Adjectives:
  - angriest • most boring • goofiest • hungriest • quickest
  - coolest • least entertaining • laziest • iciest • least visible
  - darkest • most miserable • nicest • jolliest • most overrated

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### Predicate Adjectives

- a predicate adjective is an adjective that is used in the predicate of a sentence.
- The **predicate**: tells us what the subject is doing or experiencing and usually consists of a verb or a verb phrase and possibly a direct object, subject complement, and/or other modifiers.
- Uses a *Linking Verb* + Predicate Adjective (The dog *smells* bad.)
- Linking Verb Examples:
  - be and all of its forms: be, is, are, am, was, were, been, being
  - sense verbs: feel, taste, look, sound, smell, feel
  - status verbs: appear, become, seem, grow, turn, make, stay, keep, and remain
- Example Predicate Adjectives:
  - funny     • different     • bad     • afraid     • fierce
  - good     • impossible     • alike     • alone     • scary
  - alive     • too fishy     • asleep     • brave     • loyal

### Compound Adjectives

- Compound Adjectives are compound words that act as adjectives and are defined by what they can do instead of what they contain.
- Example sentence: We live in one of the *most densely populated, highest-taxed, and most ethnically diverse* states in the country.
- How do I create a compound adjective?
  - Adjective + Noun = short-term, long-distance
  - Adjective + Present Participle = fast-talking, backward-facing
  - Noun + Past Participle = sun-dried, homegrown
  - Number + Noun = second-place, four-wheel, seventeenth-century
  - Noun + Adjective = ice-cold, cruelty-free
  - Noun + Present Participle = German-speaking, self-effacing
  - Adjective + Past Participle = double-baked, deep-fried
  - Noun + Noun = meat eater, bulletproof

### Possessive Adjectives

- modifies a noun by identifying who has ownership or possession of it.
- Example sentence: The mother bird was building *her* next.
- Example Possessive Adjectives:
  - my, your, her, his, its, our, their, whose

### Demonstrative Adjectives

- used to specifically describe the position of something or someone in space or time.
- Example Demonstrative Adjectives:
  - this, that, those, these
  - Examples of how these work:
    - Describing near
      - singular: **this** chair
      - plural: **these** chairs
    - Describing not near
      - singular: **that** chair
      - plural: **those** chairs

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### Proper Adjectives

- adjective that comes from a proper noun.
- can be used directly before the noun/pronoun they modify or as a subject complement of a sentence when used with a linking verb.
- Example sentence: The new professor specializes in *Mexican* literature.
- **Proper Noun**: describes unique people, places, and things. (Isaac Newton, Twitter)
- Examples of Proper Adjectives:
  - People: Victorian, Napoleonic, Shakespearean, Edwardian, Maoist, etc.
  - Places: American, Japanese, Chinese, Australian, Chilean, Norwegian, Jamaican, etc.

### Participial Adjectives

- an adjective that has the same form as the participle. (words usually ending in -ed and -ing)
- Example sentence: I put on my *running* shoes.
- **Past Participles** as participial adjective examples:
  - awakened • destroyed • glazed • jinxed • whispered
  - burnt • enhanced • heated • kept • yelled
  - crushed • frozen • iced • licensed • zapped
- **Present Participles** as participial adjective examples:
  - answering • entertaining • listening • quivering • daring
  - boring • freezing • moving • rustling • waiting
  - caring • guessing • nursing • smiling • zooming

### Limiting Adjectives

- modifies a noun or pronoun by restricting it rather than describing the qualities or traits of it.
- Example sentence: Dakota owns *some* dogs.
- Limiting adjective examples:
  - Demonstrative adjectives: **this, that, these, those**
  - Interrogative adjectives: **whose, what, which**
  - Quantifying adjectives: **many, some, few, couple, any, all, several**
  - Cardinal numbers: **one, ten, thirty, one million**
  - Ordinal numbers: **first, fifth, sixteenth**
  - Possessive adjectives: **my, your, her, his, its, our, their, whose**
  - Articles: **a, an, the**

### Descriptive Adjectives

- describes or qualifies the noun or pronoun it modifies.
- Example sentence: The chickens were very loud.
- Example descriptive adjectives:
  - angry • eager • little • quiet
  - blue • hot • mighty • wide
  - careful • great • nice • zesty

## Adjectives

### Interrogative Adjectives

- modifies a noun or pronoun in order to ask a question
- Example sentence: Which color is your favorite?
- Example Interrogative Adjectives:
  - which, what, whose

### Attributive Adjectives

- an adjective that is directly adjacent to the noun or pronoun it modifies.
- it is possible to come after the noun it modifies (I got my mom something *special*).
- Attributive adjective used with a subject: *Purple* flowers are my favorite.
- Attributive adjective used with an object: Peter picked *purple* flowers.
- Example Attributive Adjectives:
  - beautiful, purple, special

### Distributive Adjectives

- refers to members of a group individually.
- used before the nouns and pronouns they modify (Any person can make a donation.).
- Example Distributive Adjectives:
  - each, every, either, neither, any, both

Adjectives

*\*The table below comes from Thesaurus.com and serves as a quick guide for the adjective types\**

<b>Adjective Type</b>	<b>Definition</b>	<b>Examples</b>
<b>Comparative</b>	compares two different people or things	smaller, faster
<b>Superlative</b>	compares more than two people or things	smartest, loudest
<b>Predicate</b>	predicate of a sentence as the subject complement	delicious, funny
<b>Compound</b>	multiple words connected	never-ending, meat eater
<b>Possessive</b>	expresses possession or ownership	their, its
<b>Demonstrative</b>	expresses relative positions in space and time	that, these
<b>Proper</b>	formed from proper nouns (related to people or places)	Napoleonic, Victorian
<b>Participial</b>	based on participles, which are words usually ending in -ed or -ing and derive from verbs	amazing, impressed, fascinating
<b>Limiting</b>	restricts a noun or pronoun rather than describing it	these, your, some
<b>Descriptive</b>	describes the characteristics, traits, or qualities of a noun or pronoun	what, which, whose
<b>Interrogative</b>	used to ask questions	what, which, whose
<b>Attributive</b>	placed directly next to the noun and pronoun it modifies	beautiful, special
<b>Distributive</b>	refers to members of a group individually	every, either, neither

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