

Adjectives

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1. DEFINITION

Adjectives are words that describe or modify another person or thing in the sentence. An adjective qualifies or describes a noun or pronoun. Adjectives can also be identified by their inflections and position or function in the sentence.

For example: - The grey dog barked. (The adjective grey describes the noun "dog".)

The form of an adjective does not change. It does not matter if the noun being modified is male or female, singular or plural, subject or object. Some adjectives give us factual information about the noun - age, size, color etc (fact adjectives - can't be argued with). Some adjectives show what somebody thinks about something or somebody - nice, horrid, beautiful etc (opinion adjectives - not everyone may agree).

If you are asked questions with which, whose, what kind, or how many, you need an adjective to be able to answer. There are different types of adjectives in the English language:

Numeric: six, one hundred and one

Quantitative: more, all, some, half, more than enough

Qualitative: colour, size, smell etc.

Possessive: my, his, their, your

Interrogative: which, whose, what

Demonstrative: this, that, those, these.

The articles a, an, and the and the possessives my, our, your, and their are also adjectives.

Adjectives can be used to give your opinion about something. Good, pretty, right, wrong, funny, light, happy, sad, full, soft, hard etc.

For example: He was a silly boy.

Adjectives can be used to describe size. Big, small, little, long, tall, short, same as, etc.

For example: "The big man." or "The big woman".

Adjectives can be used to describe age.

For example:

"He was an old man." or "She was an old woman."

Adjectives can be used to describe shape. Round, circular, triangular, rectangular, square, oval, etc.

For example:

"It was a square box." or "They were square boxes."

Adjectives can be used to describe color. Blue, red, green, brown, yellow, black, white, etc.

For example:

"The blue bag." or "The blue bags".

Adjectives can be used to describe origin. For example: "It was a German flag." or "They were German flags."

Adjectives can be used to describe material.

For example:

"It was a cotton cushion." or "They were cotton cushions."

Adjectives can be used to describe distance. Long, short, far, around, start, high, low, etc.

For example: "She went for a long walk."

Adjectives can be used to describe temperature. Cold, warm, hot, cool, etc.

For example: "The day was hot." or "The days were hot."

Adjectives can be used to describe time. Late, early, bed, nap, dinner, lunch, day, morning, night, etc.

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