

DESCRIPTIVE ADJECTIVES

What is a descriptive adjective?

A descriptive adjective describes the characteristics of a noun or pronoun. It may be the color, size, or quality of the noun it modifies.

7 Types of descriptive adjectives

1. Proper adjectives

A proper adjective is a word that modifies nouns and pronouns and is formed from a proper noun.

Examples:

Alex is an Australian player.

Robin is an Indian player.

Sushi is an Asian player.

Mini Exercise:

Change the following proper nouns into proper adjectives.

- a. I love (Ireland) _____ coffee.
- b. He is joining the (Mars) _____ exploration.

2. Comparative adjectives

Comparative adjectives compare two people, places or things.

Mini Exercise:

Fill in the blanks with the comparative form of the word.

- a. Mary is (smart) _____ than Jill.
- b. Mary is (beautiful) _____ than Jill.

3. Superlative adjectives

Superlative adjectives are used when talking about THREE or more things: big, bigger, **BIGGEST**. We can use superlative adjectives to describe extremes..

Mini Exercise:

Fill in the blanks with the correct superlative adjective:

- a. December is the _____ (cold) month of the year in my country.
- b. What's the _____ (dangerous) animal in the world?
- c. Ethan is the _____ (happy) boy that I know.

4. Participial Adjectives

Participial Adjective is an adjective that is a participle in origin and form, such as burned, cutting, engaged.

Mini Exercise:

Fill in the blanks with the correct participial adjective:

We walked by the _____ (damage) bridge.

The news was _____ (damage) to his reputation.

I found the song to be very _____ (relax). It made me feel calm.

There were a lot of _____ (relieve) people in the room after the troublemaker left.

5. Predicate Adjectives

Predicate adjectives are adjectives that modify or describe the subject of a sentence or clause and are linked to the subject by a linking verb.

Exercise: Choose the predicate adjectives in the following sentences.

- a. The little girl is very mean to the other kids.
- b. The project for school was hard.
- c. My homeroom teacher is very strict.

6. Attributive Adjectives

Attributive adjectives are adjectives in the first position. They are placed before nouns.

Choose the attributive adjectives in the following sentences.

- a. What a brilliant idea!
- b. Cycling is a cheap way to get around.
- c. Peter suffered cracked ribs.

7. Compound Adjectives

A compound adjective is formed when two or more adjectives are joined together to modify the same noun.

Example Sentences:

1. I love this brightly-lit room.
2. He is an obedient and well-behaved dog.
3. You have to be open-minded about things.

Mini Exercise:

Choose the compound words in the following sentences.

1. The actress is well known.
2. This is a four-foot table.
3. Daniella is a part-time worker.