

Adjective Challenge

An **adjective** is a word that changes, modifies, or tells more about a **noun**. **Adjectives** do **not** work with any other types of words. An **adjective** might describe the quality (yellow, good, terrible), state of being (happy, sad, angry), or indicate the quantity (millions, eleven, few) of a **noun**.

In the first sentence below, there are no **adjectives**. The sentence contains a **subject**, **verb**, and **object**. But in the next sentence, **adjectives** were added to tell more about the **nouns** (**subject** and **object**). What kind of cows? They are “**big**” cows. What color grass? It is “**green**” grass.

Cows eat grass.

Object
Subject Verb

subject = “cows” / verb = “eat” / object = “grass”

The **big** cows eat the **green** grass.
Subject Verb Object

subject = “cows” / verb = “eat” / object = “grass”
adjective = “big” / adjective = “green”

Special Adjectives

Articles

In English, there are three words that are called **articles**. They are: “a,” “an,” and “the.” These words are actually **adjectives**, but they are used so frequently that they were given a special name. **Articles** are used to indicate that there is one of something or one group of something. For example, “**It is a dog.**” means we are talking about one dog out of all the dogs everywhere. “**Go feed the dog.**” means one specific dog and in this sentence it means the dog that you own and is your pet.

Article	Definition	Example
A	any one noun out of many (noun begins with consonant sound)	a dog, a uniform, a mistake, a design
AN	any one noun out of many (noun begins with vowel sound)	an apple, an umbrella, an error, an example
THE	one specific noun	the dog, the apple, the uniform, the umbrella

Adjective Order

When using **adjectives** in a sentence, it is also important to put them in the correct order. This means that some **adjectives** should come before other **adjectives** when describing the same **noun**. In the following sentence, the **adjectives** are in the correct order first and then in the wrong order.

She was wearing an amazing round green hat.

Opinion **Shape** **Color**

Correct Adjective Order

She was wearing a green amazing round hat.

Color **Opinion** **Shape**

Incorrect Adjective Order

Both sentences sound OK, but there is a correct order when including more than one **adjective** to describe a **noun**. Be careful because sometimes when the order is not correct, the sentence will be confusing or not make sense.

Order	Relating To	Example
1	Opinion	unusual, lovely, beautiful, excellent
2	Size	big, small, tall, short
3	Physical Quality	thin, rough, smooth, messy
4	Shape	round, square, triangular, oblong
5	Age	young, old, youthful, childhood
6	Color	blue, pink, mauve, green
7	Origin	Dutch, Japanese, American, Russian

Adjective Examples

Use **adjectives** to give more information about a **noun**. The information might be about the quantity (how many), the quality (color, size), or state of being (angry, sad). Remember that **adjectives** should be used in the correct order when they describe the same **noun**.

ADJECTIVE
NOUN

ARTICLE
DETERMINER

Susan is a beautiful French woman who likes to wear gorgeous hats.

It was an itsy-bitsy, teeny-weeny, yellow polka dot bikini.

What an amazing, little, old, Chinese vase!

I like to wear over-sized T-shirts.

That is made out of a strange, green, metallic substance.

Could you be a cuter kid?

Would you like to buy a used car or a new car today?

I bought a small toothbrush yesterday, but I found out that it has stiff, hard bristles.

Finally, my father let me go to the awesome BTS concert in the big city!

George Burns and Gracie Allen are famous actors from the United States.

Don't go breaking my lonely heart.

Instead of washing your laundry, go enjoy a nice meal at an expensive restaurant.

Abraham Lincoln said, "Four score and seven years ago, our fathers brought forth on this continent, a new nation, conceived in liberty, and dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal."

This soup is cold, so please bring me some hot soup.

I will be with you in a few minutes, so please wait behind the blue line.

It isn't that I hate avocados, it's that I don't like green and mushy food.

Go tell Aunt Rosie that her old, grey goose has flown to the south coast.

Before the end of the movie, would you get me some hot, buttered popcorn and an ice-cold Pepsi? Oh, and a crunchy chocolate bar, but not the one with peanuts, the one with puffed rice.

Let's Practice

Use the **adjectives** listed to create a sentence. Remember to use an **article** when referring to one **noun** and use a **determiner** when referring to the owner of a **noun**. Be sure to use the correct **adjective order** in the sentence.

Adjective Practice

Using the adjectives below, make a sentence.

Adjectives: **Italian, spicy**

I love spicy Italian meatballs.

Using the adjectives below, make a sentence.

Adjectives: **beautiful, ugly, happy**

Using the adjectives below, make a sentence.

Adjectives: **sixteen, orange, funny**

Using the adjectives below, make a sentence.

Adjectives: **smooth, round**

Using the adjectives below, make a sentence.

Adjectives: **silly, fast, few, long**

You Try

See if you can make your own sentences using the **adjectives** from the Adjectives #1 through #7 handouts you received in class or use your own **adjectives**. Don't forget to use the correct **adjective order**.

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

5. _____

6. _____

7. _____

8. _____
