

الصفة والموصوف

Descriptive Phrase

- A descriptive phrase consists of a noun followed by an adjective.
- This noun in Arabic is called موصوف (Mausuf), which means, 'that which being described'.
- The adjective in Arabic is called صفة (Sifah), which means, 'that which is describing the noun'.
- In a descriptive phrase, the basic point to be noted is that the adjective will be identical to the noun in:
 1. Gender : If the noun is masculine or feminine, the adjective will be identical; example:

A great reward (masculine)	أَجْرٌ عَظِيمٌ
A beautiful girl (feminine)	بِنْتُ جَمِيلَةٍ

2.Number: If the noun is singular, dual, or plural, the adjective will be identical; examples:

A righteous man (singular)	رَجُلٌ صَالِحٌ
Two good students (dual)	الطَّالِبَانِ الطَّيِّبَانِ

There is an exception for things/animals (. The adjective for things/animals doesn't follow in numbers; examples:

I have a new pen (singular)	عِنْدِي قَلَمٌ جَدِيدٌ
I have new pens (plural)	عِنْدِي أَقْلَامٌ جَدِيدَةٌ

3. Type of noun: If the noun is definite or indefinite, the adjective will be identical; examples

The sacred mosque (definite)	المَسْجِدُ الْحَرَامُ
A big book (indefinite)	كِتَابٌ كَبِيرٌ

4. I'raab: If the noun ends with Fathah, Kasroh, Dhommah or Tanwin, the adjective will be identical; examples:

A big house	بَيْتٌ كَبِيرٌ
Diligent teachers	مُعَلِّمُونَ مُجْتَهِدُونَ

houses	البيوتُ (الكبيرةُ)
Male students	طُلَّابٌ (مُجْتَهِدُونَ)
cloth	ثَوْبٌ (جَدِيدٌ)
cats	قِطَطٌ جَمِيلَةٌ
doors	أَبْوَابٌ (كَثِيرَةٌ)
Two books	كُتُبٌ (صَغِيرَةٌ)