

Here's the **simple difference** 👍

## ☑ Declarative Pipeline — how to specify agent

You use the agent block.

### ◇ Run on ANY node

```
pipeline {  
  agent any  
  
  stages {  
    stage('Build') {  
      steps {  
        sh 'mvn clean install'  
      }  
    }  
  }  
}
```

### ◇ Run on a specific label

```
pipeline {  
  agent { label 'docker-node' }  
  
  stages {  
    stage('Build') {  
      steps {  
        sh 'mvn clean install'  
      }  
    }  
  }  
}
```

## ◇ Run inside Docker (very common)

```
pipeline {
  agent {
    docker { image 'maven:3.9-eclipse-temurin-17' }
  }

  stages {
    stage('Build') {
      steps {
        sh 'mvn clean install'
      }
    }
  }
}
```

## ☒ Scripted Pipeline — how to specify agent

In scripted pipelines you use `node`.

### ◇ Any agent

```
node {
  stage('Build') {
    sh 'mvn clean install'
  }
}
```

### ◇ Specific label

```
node('docker-node') {
  stage('Build') {
    sh 'mvn clean install'
  }
}
```

## Easy memory trick

Type	Agent keyword
Declarative	<code>agent {}</code>
Scripted	<code>node {}</code>

## Interview one-liner

**“In declarative pipelines agents are defined using the `agent` block, while scripted pipelines use the `node` statement to select the executor.”**