

# Adjective phrase

An adjective phrase is a group of words that modifies a noun or a pronoun in a sentence. They function in two basic ways:

## Attributively:

Appearing inside a noun phrase and modifying that noun phrase.

### EXAMPLE :

- The surgeon removed a very big tumor.
  - ⇒ “very big” is the adjective phrase.
  - ⇒ “big” is the adjective.
  - ⇒ “tumor” is the noun modified by the adjective phrase.
  - ⇒ “a very big tumor” is a noun phrase.

## Predicatively:

Appearing outside the noun phrase that they modify and typically following a linking verb.

### EXAMPLE :

- My periods used to be **unbelievably painful**.
  - ⇒ “unbelievably painful” is the adjective phrase.
  - ⇒ “painful” is the adjective.
  - ⇒ “My periods” is the noun phrase modified by the adjective phrase.

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## Position of the adjective in an adjective phrase:

The adjective in an adjective phrase can:

### 1) Come at the beginning.

#### EXAMPLE :

- She’s **careful** with the baby.
  - ⇒ “careful” initiate the adjective phrase “careful with the baby”.

### 2) Be in a medial position.

#### EXAMPLE :

- I’m quite **interested** in obstetrics.
  - ⇒ “interested” comes in a medial position of the adjective phrase “quite interested in obstetrics”.

### 3) Come at the end of the phrase.

#### EXAMPLE :

- Her periods are pretty **heavy**.
  - ⇒ “heavy” comes at the end of the adjective phrase “pretty heavy”

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## Adjective phrase dependents:

The dependents of the head adjective can be:

**1) Adverbs:**

- Screening mammography is extremely important.

**2) Prepositional phrases:**

- Patients often get tired of waiting for their turn.

**3) Clauses:**

- Amine is a much better doctor than he thinks he is.