



3 Adjectives

Let's Remember

A *Underline the adjectives in the sentences given below.*

1. Ralph is a Swede who is married to a French citizen.
2. Which pen is yours?
3. I have a few tickets still left with me.
4. She came up with unique ideas.
5. We have about twenty students in this group.
6. The air in the hills is purer than in the city.
7. Your notebooks are kept on that shelf.
8. He is as hard-working as his sister.
9. David is a dependable person.
10. Whose books are you reading?
11. These mangoes are very sweet.
12. Ms Patel is our new teacher.
13. There was some confusion regarding the show timing.
14. The Japanese tea ceremony is a ritual of preparing and serving green tea.
15. Gaurav won a gold medal at the tournament.



An **adjective** is a describing word. It tells us something specific about a noun.

Adjectives can be used either before or after the noun they describe.

Examples:

- (a) David is a *dependable* person. (before)
- (b) Rupa is very *kind*. (after)
- (c) Both are *hard-working* dancers. (before)
- (d) Rupa's dancing is *better*. (after)

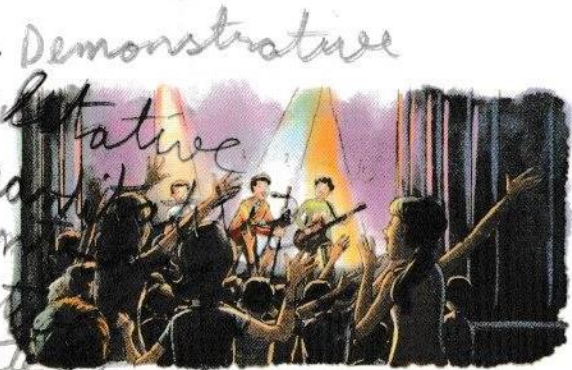
before = attributive adjective
after = predicative adjective

Kinds of Adjectives

Adjectives	Function	Examples
Qualitative (of Quality)	describe shape, size, colour, state, manner	She came up with <i>unique</i> ideas. He gave me a <i>pleased</i> look.
Quantitative (of Quantity)	answer <i>how much</i> or <i>how many</i> questions	We have about <i>twenty</i> students here. I have <i>a few</i> tickets still left with me.
Possessive	show possession	Ms Patel is <i>our</i> new teacher. <i>Your</i> exercise books are kept on that shelf.
Demonstrative	point out or identify nouns	<i>These</i> mangoes are very sweet. I have already cleaned <i>those</i> shelves.
Interrogative	used for asking questions (usually followed by nouns)	<i>Which</i> pen is yours? <i>Whose</i> book are you reading?
Proper	formed from proper nouns (especially names of places)	Ralph is a <i>Swede</i> who is married to a <i>French</i> citizen.

B Identify the adjectives in the following sentences and state their kind.

- This town has withstood many fierce battles. *Demonstrative*
- I write every day in my little blue diary. *Qualitative*
- I'm sorry, I have no money to lend you. *Quantitative*
- Which band member do you like more? *Interrogative*
- The naive man believed the story. *Qualitative*
- I am not going to buy these shoes. *Demonstrative*
- This palace was built in the 19th century. *Demonstrative*
- Many Indian students are enrolled in American universities. *Quantitative*
- It was a glorious day with a clear blue sky. *Qualitative*
- There is little sense in what was being suggested. *Quantitative*



Participles as Adjectives

The present and past participles of verbs are commonly used as adjectives.

Examples:

- I watched an *interesting* film last night.
- There was *broken* glass all over the floor.

Present participle = verb + *-ing*

Past participle = verb + *-d/-t/-n/-ed/-en*

- The present participle of a verb used as an adjective can often show an existing state or an action that is going on.

Examples:

- The *rising* temperature is making life difficult for everybody.
- The firefighters saved everyone from the *burning* building.

- The past participle of a verb used as an adjective can often show an action that is complete.

Examples:

- The *excited* children were quite happy with the decision.
- The police claim that they have recovered the *stolen* goods.



C Fill in the blanks with suitable participles of verbs given in brackets.

- I have just received a very *puzzling* (puzzle) bit of news.
- We withdrew the offer because nobody was *interested* (interest).
- She has a very *engaged* (engage) way of talking.
- The *burnt* (burn) remains of the paper held all the clues.
- She has joined a group of *performing* (perform) artists.
- Everybody felt very *annoyed* (annoy) by the things that happened.
- He felt *trapped* (trap) in the difficult situation.
- The experts are really worried about the *increase in* (increase) population.
- That jug on the table has some *sparkling* (sparkle) water.
- When the dog ran out, Mohit had a *worried* (worry) look.



Compound Adjectives

Compound adjectives are made up of two or more words.

- Compound adjectives are often joined by a hyphen.

Examples:

- I have never known a more *kind-hearted* person.
- I will wear that *bottle-green* dress today.