

Adjectives

Fact: A sentence with only nouns or pronouns and verbs would be very short and dull.

Adjectives are words used to help describe the following:

WHAT KIND? The **old** car needs to be painted. or Do you like **fresh** broccoli.

Other examples: *large hawk, lost boy, metallic gleam, purple feather*

WHICH ONE? **These** boots belong to Stacy. or I like the **black** boots.

Other examples: *that bird, any number, other door, last opportunity*

HOW MANY? **Thirty** people attended the meeting. or He owns **many** tapes.

Other examples: *both swans, some falcons, five dollars, frequent interruptions*

HOW MUCH? **Little** room was left in the suitcase. or She deserves **much** praise for her work.

Other examples: *enough birdseed, more fun, less effort, adequate space*

****Note:** Adjectives that modify nouns are usually, but not always, placed before the noun.

Example: The *large* condor is at the zoo.

Example: The condor at the zoo is *large*.

*****Note:** Three adjectives - a, an, and the - are called articles.

Example: We will go to *the* zoo.

Example: The parrot ate *an* apple.

Nouns Used as Adjectives

Noun	Adjective
pineapple	pineapple juice (what kind of juice?)
Summer	summer habitat (Which habitat?)

Proper and Compound Adjectives

Proper Noun	Adjective
Vermont	Vermont cheddar (what kind of cheddar?)
Brahms	the Brahms symphony (Which symphony?)
Shakespeare	Shakespearean play (What kind of play?)
Germany	German tribes (Which tribes?)

Compound Adjectives

Freeze-dried coffee	(what kind of coffee?)
Heavy-duty boots	(what kind of boots?)

Verbs Used as Adjectives

Verb	Adjective
The owl <i>was sitting</i> still.	The <i>sitting</i> owl was still.
The ice melted in the sun.	The <i>melted</i> ice was in the sun.