

ADJECTIVES – Detailed Notes with Fun Tips & Interactive Ideas

1. What Are Adjectives?

Adjectives are **describing words**.

They **add detail** to nouns (names of people, places, things, or ideas).

Examples:

- *a tall building*
- *a smart student*
- *cold water*
- *three apples*

Without adjectives, sentences become boring and plain!

2. What Do Adjectives Describe?

Adjectives can describe:

a. Quality

How something looks or feels.

Examples: *beautiful, lazy, soft, noisy, expensive*

b. Size

Examples: *small, huge, tiny, tall*

c. Shape

Examples: *round, square, oval, flat*

d. Colour

Examples: *red car, blue sky, green leaves*

e. Age

Examples: *old man, young girl, ancient tree*

f. Number

Examples: *two pencils, thirty students, many books*

g. Origin

Where something comes from.

Examples: *Pakistani food, French perfume, Chinese toys*

h. Material

What something is made of.

Examples: *wooden table, plastic bottle, cotton shirt*

i. Purpose

Why something is used.

Examples: *sleeping bag, running shoes, cooking pot*

3. Types of Adjectives

1. Descriptive Adjectives

Describe qualities.

Examples: happy, red, tall

2. Quantitative Adjectives

Tell **how many** or **how much**.

Examples: some, few, many, a lot of

3. Demonstrative Adjectives

Point out things.

Examples: this, that, these, those

4. Possessive Adjectives

Show ownership.

Examples: my, your, his, her, our, their

5. Interrogative Adjectives

Used in questions.

Examples: which, what, whose

Example: Which book is yours?

6. Distributive Adjectives

Refer to individual items.

Examples: each, every, either, neither

7. Articles (a, an, the)

Articles are also considered adjectives.

4. Order of Adjectives (Super Easy Guide!)

When more than one adjective is used, they must follow a **special order**.

Here is the correct sequence:

ORDER OF ADJECTIVES

1. **Number** (one, two, several)
2. **Opinion** (beautiful, smart, lovely)
3. **Size** (big, small, tall)
4. **Age** (new, young, old)
5. **Shape** (round, long, square)
6. **Colour** (red, blue, black)
7. **Origin** (Pakistani, French)
8. **Material** (wooden, plastic)
9. **Purpose** (sleeping, running)

Example Using All Order Steps:

Three lovely small old round blue Italian wooden cooking bowls

Sounds long, but the order is correct!

Memory Trick to Remember the Order

Use this acronym:

"NO-SAS-COMP"

- **N** – Number
- **O** – Opinion
- **S** – Size
- **A** – Age
- **S** – Shape
- **C** – Colour
- **O** – Origin
- **M** – Material
- **P** – Purpose

Students love it because it sounds like "No sass, comp!"

5. Interactive Learning Activities

Activity 1: Adjective Hunt

Ask students to look around the classroom for 5 objects and describe each with **2 adjectives**.

Example:

- Chair → *brown, wooden*
- Bag → *big, black*

Activity 2: Build the Crazy Sentence

Give students 5 random adjectives and 1 noun; they must arrange them correctly.

Example:

Adjectives: **red, big, old, German**

Noun: **car**

Correct answer:

the big old red German car

Activity 3: Draw My Sentence

Teacher says a sentence full of adjectives; students draw it.

Example:

"A small angry green monster with long sharp teeth."

Students love this!

Activity 4: Adjective Ladder

Start with a noun. Students add 1 adjective each step following the order.

Example:

1. *car*
2. *two cars*
3. *two beautiful cars*
4. *two beautiful small cars*
5. *two beautiful small new red cars*

6. Fun Facts About Adjectives

Fact 1: English allows 3–4 adjectives before a noun. More than that sounds unnatural.

Fact 2: Native speakers use adjective order automatically—they don't even realise it!

Fact 3: Some adjectives don't have comparative or superlative forms (e.g., *perfect*, *unique*, *dead* and in this case, we use *- more* and *most* - before these adjectives depending upon the context as shown in the examples below)

Your dress is more perfect than mine.

This is the most unique place of all I have ever visited.

7. Tips to Use Adjectives Effectively

✓ Use **strong adjectives**:

Instead of *very big*, say *huge*

✓ Don't use too many adjectives—keep it natural

✓ Check order when using 3 or more adjectives

✓ Use adjectives to create imagery in stories

✓ Practice by describing your room, food, or clothes daily