

Parts of speech

Adjectives





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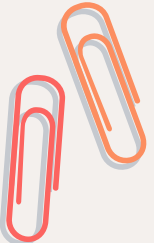
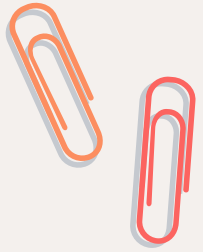
Objectives:

- to define and identify adjectives.
- to recognize adjectives in a sentence.
- to use adjectives correctly in their writing
- to describe things

Adjectives



An **adjective** is a describing word. It tells you more about a noun. An adjective usually appears before the noun it describes. Sometimes, though, the adjective appears after the noun, later in the sentence.





For example:



a **smart** dog



an **old** building



a **low** fence



For example:



a **tall** basketball player

a **busy** street

a **dark** corner

a **deep** sea

a **large** bed

It is **windy**.

John's handwriting is very **neat**.

The sea is **rough**.

All the players are very **tall**.

The baby's hands are very **small**.

Sue's drawing is **beautiful**.

That problem is too **difficult**.

Peter is very **quiet** today.



Adjective Endings





Adjectives have different endings. Some adjectives end in **-ful** or **-less**.

1



homeless people



playful puppies

a **beautiful** dress
a **careless** driver
a **faithful** dog
a **harmless** insect
a **useful** tool



An adjective that ends in **-less** is the opposite of the same adjective that ends in **-ful**.

For example:

careful – careless

useful – useless

colorful – colorless

harmful – harmless

The **-ful** ending means **having a lot of something**.

For example:

painful = having a lot of pain

hopeful = having a lot of hope

The **-less** ending means **without**.

For example:

leafless = without leaves

sleeveless = without sleeves





Some adjectives end in -y.

2

a **dirty** street
a **noisy** room
an **oily** pot
a **sleepy** passenger
a **sunny** day



a **stormy** sea



a **muddy** path



Some adjectives end in **-ive**.

an **active** child
an **attractive** hat
a **creative** toy

an **expensive** necklace



talkative pupils



Some adjectives end in **-ing**.

a **caring** nurse
an **interesting** book
loving parents
matching clothes
a **smiling** face

a **cunning** fox



dazzling sunshine



Some adjectives end in **-ly**.

a **costly** diamond ring
an **elderly** woman
lively kittens
a **lonely** boy
a **lovely** girl
a **weekly** magazine

a **daily** newspaper



a **friendly** police officer



Many **adverbs** also end in **-ly**.



Here are some adjectives with the endings -able, -al, -en, -ible, -ish and -ous.

6



a **broken** chair



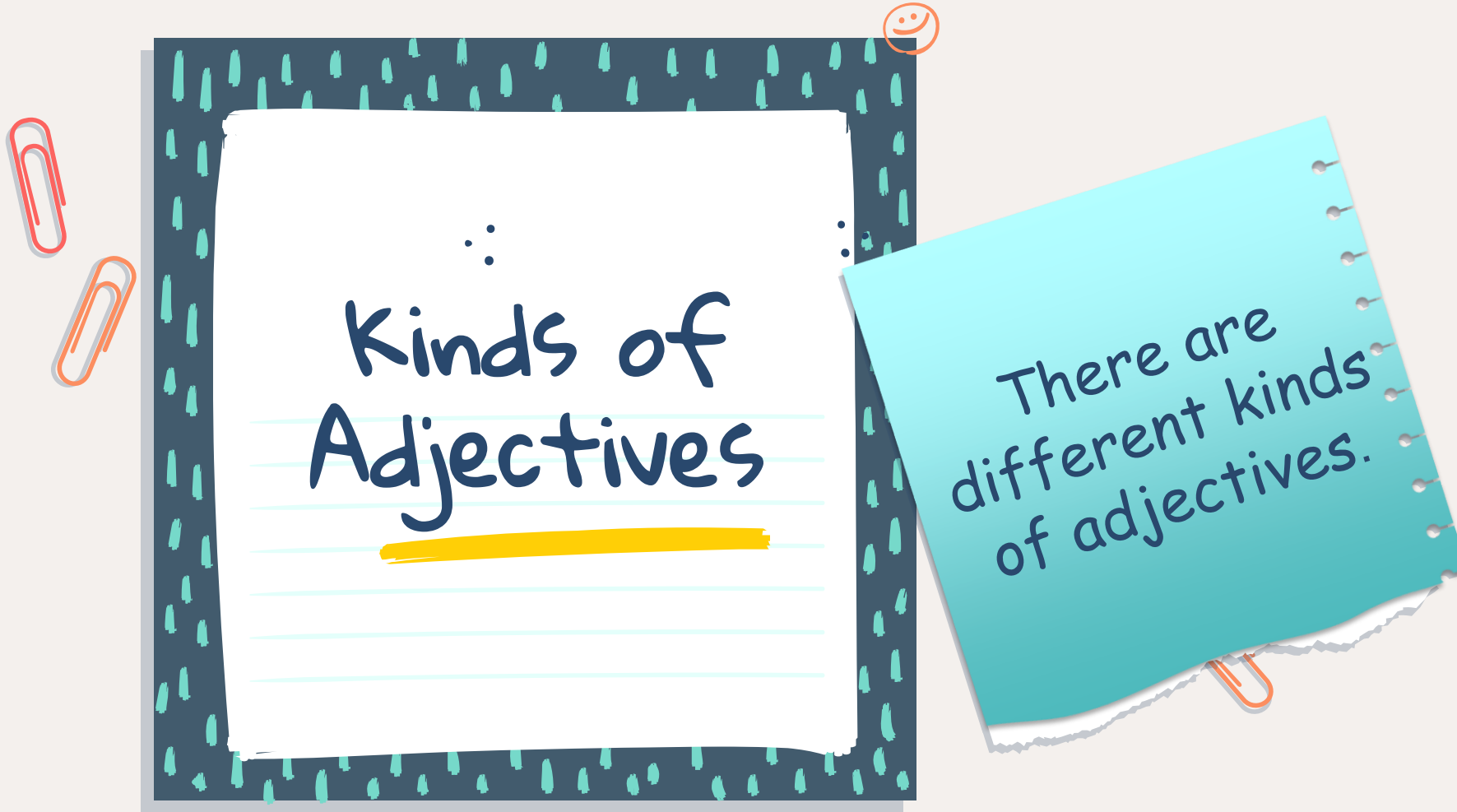
a **famous** pop singer

childish behavior
a **comfortable** chair
a **dangerous** place
a **foolish** act
a **horrible** smell
a **loveable** koala

a **national** costume
a **musical** instrument
a **terrible** mess
a **woolen** sweater
a **wooden** table

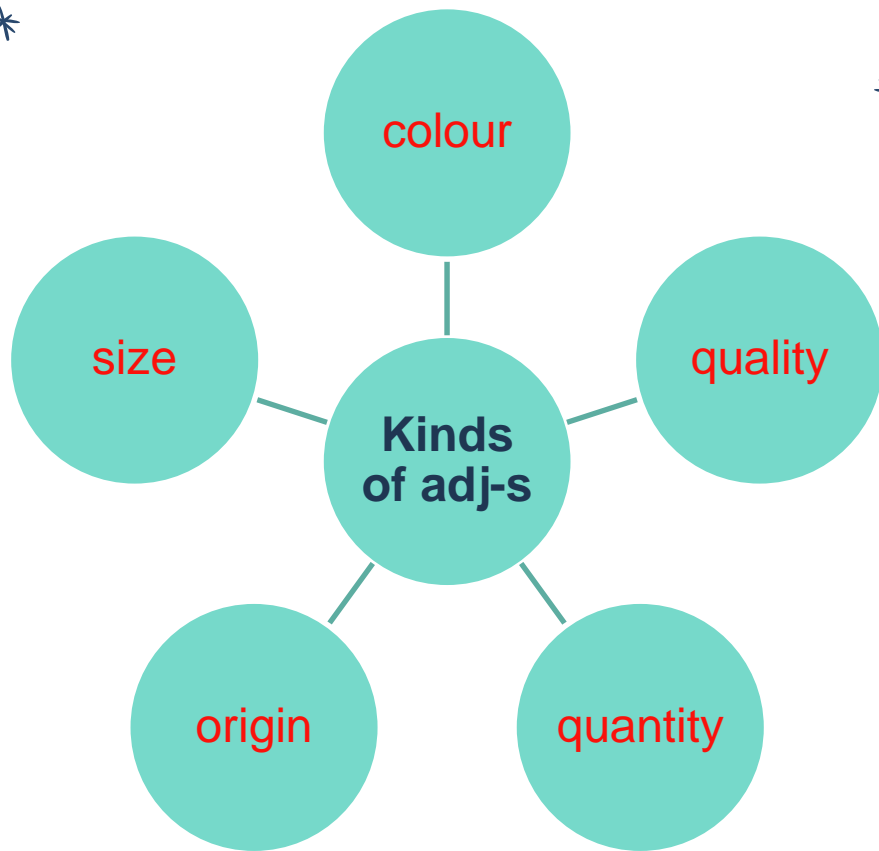


a **poisonous** snake



Kinds of Adjectives

There are
different kinds
of adjectives.



Adjectives of quality

Some adjectives describe *
the **qualities** of nouns.



a **cold** drink



a **hot** bun

Example:



a **fierce** dog



a **loud** crash

a **beautiful** rainbow
a **clever** monkey
a **difficult** question
happy children
a **kind** lady
a **new** car
an **old** house
a **pretty** girl
a **rich** family
a **sad** story
a **strong** man
a **wicked** queen

Adjectives of origin

Some adjectives tell you which place or country a person or thing comes from, or belongs to. They are **called adjectives of origin**.



Chinese kungfu



an **Indian** temple

Example:



a **Mexican** hat



Dutch clogs

Australian apples
a **Balinese** dancer
the **English** language
the **French** flag
an **Italian** car
a **Japanese** garden
a **Scottish** kilt
Thai boxing

Adjectives of colour

Some adjectives tell you the **color** of things.



Please get me some **white** paint.

Example:

The sky is **gray**.



Your hands are **black**!

The sea is **blue**.

George is wearing **brown** shoes.

I don't like **green** apples.

Carrots are **orange**.

Flamingos are **pink**.

Eggplants are **purple**.

Roses are **red**.

Adjectives of size

Some adjectives tell you the **size** of the nouns they describe.

a **fat** sumo wrestler



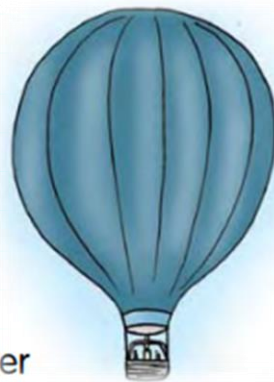
a **thin** boy



a **short** man



Example:



a **huge** balloon

a **big** hat
a **broad** shoulders
a **high** mountain
a **large** ship
a **long** bridge
a **low** ceiling
a **narrow** path
small animals
tiny insects
a **wide** street

Adjectives of quantity

Numbers are adjectives, too. *
They tell you how many
people, animals, or things there
are. Sometimes they are called
adjectives of quantity.



two princes



three princesses

Example:



four mermaids



five witches



ten angels

eleven hens

twelve geese

thirteen birds

fourteen mice

fifteen frogs

sixteen snails

seventeen kittens

eighteen ants

nineteen lizards

twenty butterflies

Adjectives of quantity

Other adjectives tell you something about quantity without giving you the exact number

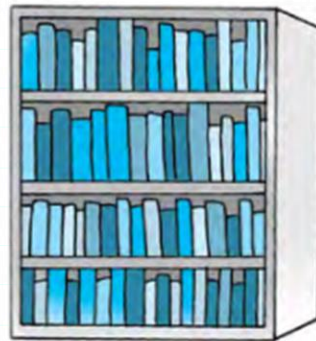


some soldiers

Example:



a few puppies

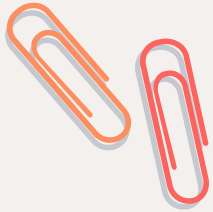


a lot of books


a little ice cream
a little rice
not **many** people
too **much** salt
lots of insects
plenty of money
some food
Is there **any** milk?



a few cups



When you compare
two people or things,
use the **comparative**
form of the adjective.



Comparison of Adjectives

Lots of comparative adjectives end in **-er**.



small



smaller

fast



faster

cheap

clear

loud

new

old

rich

short

tall

slow

thick

cheaper

clearer

louder

newer

older

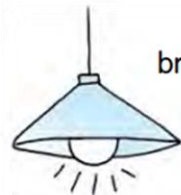
richer

shorter

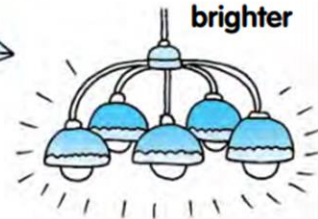
taller

slower

thicker



bright



brighter



The word **than** is often used with comparative adjectives. For example, you might say:

Jack is taller **than** John.

A sports car is faster **than** a motorbike.

Use the superlative form of an adjective to compare three or more nouns. Lots of superlatives end in **-est**.



You often add **the** before the superlative form. For example, you say:

Mount Everest is **the** highest mountain in the world.

Peter is **the** tallest boy in his class.

clean	cleaner	cleanest
easy	easier	easiest
fat	fatter	fattest
flat	flatter	flattest
heavy	heavier	heaviest
hot	hotter	hottest
narrow	narrower	narrowest
noisy	noisier	noisiest
simple	simpler	simplest
thin	thinner	thinnest
wet	wetter	wettest



- With adjectives that end in **-e**, add **-r** to form the **comparative**, and **-st** to form the **superlative**.
For example:

close
large
safe
wide

Comparative

closer
larger
safer
wider

Superlative

closest
largest
safest
widest



- Some adjectives have only one syllable, end with a consonant, and have a single vowel before the consonant. With these adjectives, double the last letter before adding **-er** to form the **comparative**, and **-est** to form the **superlative**. For example:

big
dim
mad
sad

Comparative

bigger
dimmer
madder
sadder

Superlative

biggest
dimmiest
maddest
saddest



- Some adjectives have two syllables and end in **-y**. With these adjectives change the **y** to **i**. Then add **-er** to form the **comparative**, and **-est** to form the **superlative**. For example:

busy
dirty
happy
pretty

Comparative

busier
dirtier
happier
prettier

Superlative

busiest
dirtiest
happiest
prettiest

With some adjectives, you use **more** to make the comparative form, and **most** to make the superlative form.



beautiful



more beautiful



most beautiful

active

more active

most active

charming

more charming

most charming

cheerful

more cheerful

most cheerful

comfortable

more comfortable

most comfortable

delicious

more delicious

most delicious

Adjectives that form their comparative and superlative with **more** and **most** are usually adjectives with two or more **syllables**, or sounds. For example:

ac-tive

ex-pen-sive

beau-ti-ful

fa-mous

charm-ing

for-tu-nate

cheer-ful

in-tel-li-gent

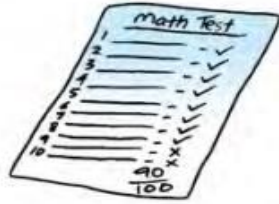
com-fort-a-ble

pow-er-ful

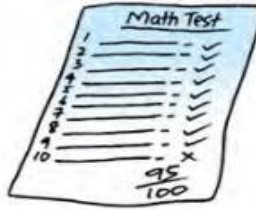
de-li-cious

val-u-a-ble

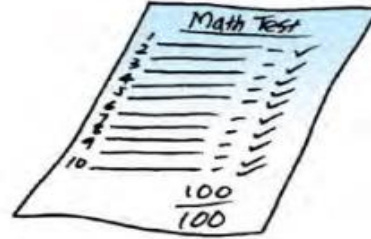
The comparative and superlative forms of some
adjectives are completely different words.



good



better



best



little



less



least



Remember!

bad
few
many
much

worse
less
more
more

worst
least
most
most



With these adjectives, you don't add **-er** or **more** to form the comparative, or **-est** or **most** to form the superlative.

