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Adjectives

Let's Understand It

A noun is the name of a person, place, animal, object or anything that can be named. A pronoun is used in place of a noun. A word that gives us more information about a noun or pronoun is called **adjective**.

- ◆ The **old** man built a **small** house in the forest.
- ◆ It was a **warm** and **comfortable** penthouse.

An adjective may be a part of the subject of a sentence.

An adjective may be a part of the predicate of the sentence.

Example: ◆ The **hungry** man ate a **large** and **tasty** meal.

In this sentence, 'hungry' is an adjective that is the part of the subject of the sentence; 'large' and 'tasty' are adjectives that are a part of the predicate of the sentence.

An adjective may be a subject complement when it is used after a linking verb. It then adds meaning to the subject.

- Examples:**
- ◆ Kartik is **intelligent**.
 - ◆ My brother was **unwell** last month.
 - ◆ This book is **interesting**.



Kinds of Adjectives

There are six kinds of adjectives.

Kinds of Adjectives	Examples
Adjective of Quality	<i>red shirt, long hair</i>
Adjective of Quantity	<i>some rice, more food</i>
Adjective of Number	<i>ten peas, one baby</i>
Demonstrative Adjective	<i>those children, such things</i>
Interrogative Adjective	<i>which pen, whose house</i>
Possessive Adjective (used before a noun)	<i>my shoes, our shoes</i>

Let's Practice It

A. Underline the adjectives in the following passage. Also, tell their kind.

We entered through the open gate into a large square courtyard. No less than fifty horses were lined up for the Rajah's annual parade. The saddle seats of these splendid animals were covered with silken cloth. The enormous mansion had four minarets and broad balconies. These were now bedecked with jasmine garlands. Twinkling bulbs of many hues added to the charm of the surroundings. Members of the household — aged grandmas, tiny toddlers and rugged men — were all going to participate in the day's events. The Rajah, in his oriental attire and ancestral jewelry, stepped into the courtyard at 9 a.m. His loyal relatives rushed to greet him. A large retinue of servants stood to attention. However, the members of the household did not know that they would soon become hapless victims of a British conspiracy that a conniving relative had ensured.

CATEGORIES OF ADJECTIVES

Adjectives can be classified under different categories.

Age: An adjective of age tells us how young or old a person or a living thing is.

- ◆ The **ancient** pyramids of Egypt are visited by many tourists every year.
- ◆ A **newborn** baby is entirely dependent on its parents.

Colour: An adjective of colour tells us the colour of what is being talked about.

- ◆ Vartika wore a **lime green** shirt with **black** jeans.
- ◆ Her **greenish blue** eyes were quite striking.



Opinion: An adjective of opinion explains what opinion we have about someone or something.

- ◆ Gurnain looks **ill**, but says she is **fine**.
- ◆ The play had a **mixed** review. Some thought it was **interesting**.
- ◆ Some thought it was **ordinary**.



Shape: An adjective of shape describes the shape of something.

- ◆ The girl had an oddly **triangular** face and **round** eyes.
- ◆ You cannot put a **square** peg into a **round** hole.

Size: An adjective of size describes the size of a person/object.

- ◆ The **huge** hound chased the **small** rabbit across the field.

Origin: An adjective of origin indicates which country someone/something belongs to.

- ◆ The **Indian** shooters have won many medals.