

Adjective

An adjective is a word which describes or gives more information about a noun or pronoun.

Adjective expresses the property of a substance and presupposes relation to some noun

- Big and small fish
- Orange fish
- Beautiful fish



Functions in the sentence

Functions of an attribute

When an adjective is placed before its noun, it is used attributively.

*The **green** bush is over there.*

*The **tall** boy is walking in the park.*

[Attributive]

Functions of predicative

When it follows a linking verb, it is used predicatively.

*The bush is **green**.*

*The boy is **tall**.*

[Predicative]

Functions of postpositive

Sometimes an adjective occurs immediately after a noun.

Postposition is obligatory, when the adjective modifies a pronoun:

*something **useful***

*everyone **present***

*those **responsible***

Classification of adjectives

Relative

the direct relation of the substance to some other substance.

- wood- a *wooden* stick
- history- a *historical* event

No comparison

Qualitative

various qualities of substances which admit of a quantitative estimation

We can compare them

a hearty welcome — not a very hearty welcome

But no comparison: *blind, dead* e.t.c.

Adjectives

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graph TD; A[Adjectives] --> B[Gradable]; A --> C[Non-gradable];
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Gradable

Some qualities can vary in intensity or "grade"

for example: *rather hot, hot, very hot; hot, hotter, the hottest*

Non-gradable

Other qualities cannot vary in intensity or grade because they are:

extremes (for example: *freezing*)

absolutes (for example: *dead*)

classifying (for example: *nuclear*)

Two kinds of adjectives:

Gradable:

You can be ***very cold*** or ***a bit cold***.

Gradable adjectives show that something can have different degrees.

Non-gradable:

You can ***be married or not***.

You can't be very married or a bit married. Non-gradable adjectives do not have different degrees.





The nounal forms of adjectives (adjectivids) fall into two main grammatical subgroups:

- ***pluralia tantum*** (*the English, the rich, the unemployed, the uninitiated, etc.*)- **sets of people (personal multitudes)**
- ***singularia tantum*** (*the invisible, the abstract, the tangible, etc.*)- **abstract ideas of various types and connotations.**

The synthetic forms of comparison

- *positive degree*

The boy is strong

- *comparative degree*

.He is stronger than that boy

- *superlative degree*

.He is the strongest boy

The analytical forms of comparison. Auxiliaries
more and most.

- two-syllable words with the stress on the first syllable ending in other grapho-phonemic complexes than -er, -y, -le, -ow or words of more than two-syllable composition
- ***positive degree*** – *The room is beautiful*
- ***comparative degree*** - *This room is **more** beautiful than another*
- ***superlative degree*** - *This room is **the most** beautiful*

Most-combination can take *the indefinite article*, meaning “very”

- It was **a most** dangerous trip (relative meaning)
- As for me it was **the most** dangerous trip in my life (superlative meaning)

Auxiliaries *less and least*.

Negative degree, semantically analogous to combinations of *more/most*

- ***positive degree*** – *The room is beautiful*
- ***comparative degree*** - *This room is **less** beautiful than another*
- ***superlative degree*** - *This room is **the least** beautiful, it is ugly*

Irregular comparisons

Positive	Comparative	Superlative
Bad	Worse	Worst
Good	Better	Best
Far (place & time)	Further	Furthest
Far (place)	Farther	Farthest
Old (people)	Elder	Eldest
Little (amount)	Less	Least
Late (order)	Latter	Last