

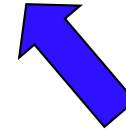
**Adjectives**

# Adjectives modify (describe) nouns and pronouns.



That is a **fast** **car**.

**Adjective**



**Noun**

**Articles** are adjectives :

**A** dog

**The** happy girl

**An** apple

**Some** apples

**Few** people

**Numbers** are adjectives:

**Five** books

**Twenty** papers

## Adjectives are colors:

**brown** boxes

**the blue** sky

**green** apples

## Adjectives are shapes:

**round** containers 

**a square** room 

# Adjectives are sizes:

**tiny** egg



**huge** gorilla

QuickTime™ and a  
GIF decompressor  
are needed to see this picture.

# Adjectives are conditions:

**frightened** man

QuickTime™ and a  
GIF decompressor  
are needed to see this picture.

**energetic** dog

QuickTime™ and a  
GIF decompressor  
are needed to see this picture.

**silly** behavior

QuickTime™ and a  
GIF decompressor  
are needed to see this picture.

# Adjectives can also be:



## 1. Phrases:

A cat **with orange fur** is always in the driveway.

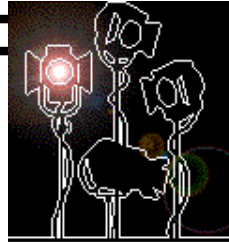
## 2. Clauses:

Everyone **who wants to go** needs to get on the bus.



## 3. Participles:

The **flashing** lights were cameras.



**Rule 1: Adjectives usually come BEFORE the noun they describe:**

**Examples:**

**the tall man**

**the black cat**

**Note: The articles (*a, an, the*) are adjectives.**

**Exception to Rule 1:** When indefinite pronouns (such as *something*, *someone*, *anybody*) are modified by an adjective, the adjective comes after the indefinite pronoun:

*Someone guilty* of doing *something cruel* to humans or animals deserves to be punished.



## **Exception to Rule No. 1:**

When **adjectives** follow a **linking verb**, they are called **PREDICATE ADJECTIVES**. In this case they modify the noun subject, but they are in the predicate of the sentence.

**Examples:**

**Juana is beautiful.**

**Ahmed looks handsome.**

**That boy appears too young to drive.**

**Another exception to Rule No. 1:**

**Adjective clauses and phrases follow the **noun** they modify.**

**Examples:**

**A **woman** *who works in my office* is not here today.**

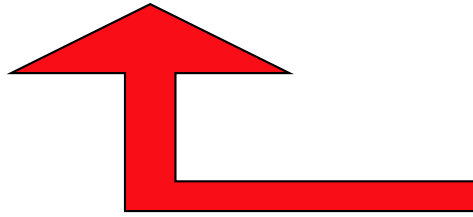
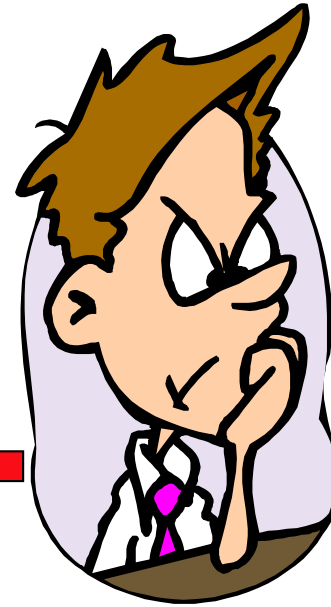
**You can wear the **suit** *in the closet*.**

**Any word, phrase, or clause that modifies  
a noun or a pronoun  
is an adjective.**

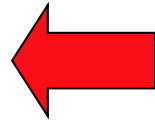
**Adjectives have three forms depending on the number of nouns being described or compared.**

<b>Positive (Describing one)</b>	<b>Comparative (Comparing two) -er + than</b>	<b>Superlative (Comparing three or more) the + - est</b>
<b>tall</b>	<b>taller than</b>	<b>the tallest</b>
<b>rich</b>	<b>richer than</b>	<b>the richest</b>
<b>big</b>	<b>bigger than</b>	<b>the biggest</b>

My father is **angry**.



My father is **angrier**  
**than** yours.



My father is the  
**angriest** of the  
**three**.



He is **happy**.



She is **happier** than him.

He is the **happiest** man  
in the world.



This turtle has a **long** neck.



This crane has a **longer** neck **than** a turtle.

This giraffe has the **longest** neck of all.

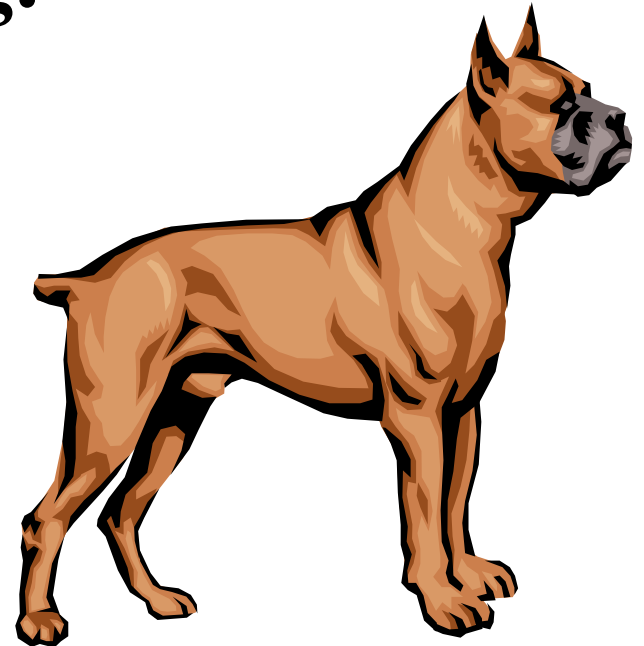


My dog has a **short** tail.



My dog has a **shorter** tail  
**than** your dog.

My dog has the **shortest**  
tail of the three.





This domestic cat is **fast**.



The ocelot is **faster than** the domestic cat.



The cheetah is the **fastest** land animal in the world.

The manatee is **slow**  
moving.



The loris is **slower than** the  
manatee.



This turtle is **the slowest** of the  
three.



**This deer lives in a **cold** habitat.**

**This wolverine lives in a **colder** habitat **than** the deer.**



**This polar bear lives in one of the **coldest** habitats on this planet.**



**rough**



**This horny toad  
has rough skin.**

**smooth**



**This green tree frog  
has smooth skin.**

**This poodle  
has curly hair.**



**This doberman  
has straight hair.**

## Rules for comparative forms of adjectives:

1. Add *er* for the comparative form when comparing two nouns *if the adjective is one or two syllables*.

Examples:

Positive: These trees are **tall**.

Comparative:

The boy on the left  
is **taller than** the  
boy on the right.



**Note: taller than**

## Rules for **comparative** forms of **adjectives**:

2. Add **more** for the comparative form when comparing two nouns *if the adjective is more than two syllables*.

Examples:

**Positive:**

Pomegranates are  
**delicious.**



**Comparative:**

No, oranges are  
**more delicious than**  
pomegranates.



**Note:** *more delicious than*



## Rules for superlative forms of adjectives:

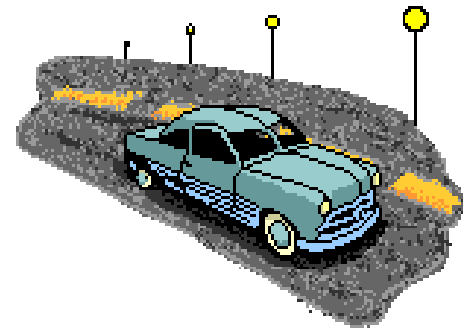
1. Add ***the and -est*** to the adjective for the comparative form when comparing two nouns ***if the adjective is one or two syllables.***

### Examples:

**Positive:** This car is **fast**.



**Superlative** No, this car is **the fastest** car in the world.



**Note:** *the fastest*

## Rules for superlative forms of adjectives:

2. Add *the most* for the comparative form when comparing two nouns *if the adjective is more than two syllables*.

Examples:

**Positive:**

Pomegranates are  
**delicious.**



**Superlative**

No, oranges are **the most  
delicious** fruit of all the  
fruits in the world.



**Note:** *the most delicious*

## Rules for superlative forms of adjectives:

3. Add *the most* for the comparative form when comparing two nouns *if the adjective is a participle.*

Examples:

**Positive:**

*The Princess Bride* was an **exciting** movie.

**Superlative**

*Diehard With a Vengeance* was **the most exciting** movie I have ever seen.

**Note:** *the most exciting*



Adjectives usually do not have plural forms.

**Correct:**

The **black** dogs are barking every night when I go to sleep.

**Incorrect:**

The **blacks** dogs are barking every night when I go to sleep.

# Exception: Demonstrative

Adjectives: **this, that, these, those**

## Singular

**This** hat is mine.

**That** hat is yours.

## Plural

**These** hats are mine.

**Those** hats are yours.