



# 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.



a **smart** dog



an **old** building



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.



a **low** fence

## Exercise 1

Underline the *adjectives* in the following sentences.

- 1 There is an empty room upstairs.
- 2 It's a hot summer.
- 3 You are so kind.
- 4 Don't be crazy.
- 5 This park is clean and green.
- 6 Many people exercise to keep healthy.
- 7 I think these eggs are rotten.
- 8 We are all bored. There isn't anything to do.
- 9 The pupils don't find the joke amusing.
- 10 James was absent because he was ill.

## Exercise 2

Fill in the blanks with suitable *adjectives* from the box.

hot	large	short	free
high	sweet	poor	playful

- 1 The ice cream is very \_\_\_\_\_.
- 2 It's very \_\_\_\_\_ in summer.
- 3 The company is giving away \_\_\_\_\_ gifts to its customers.
- 4 They live in a \_\_\_\_\_ house.
- 5 Jean is wearing a \_\_\_\_\_ skirt.
- 6 The climbers are climbing up a \_\_\_\_\_ mountain.
- 7 These puppies are very \_\_\_\_\_.
- 8 Many \_\_\_\_\_ people have no home.

# Adjective Endings

Adjectives have different **endings**.

Some adjectives end in **-ful** or **-less**.

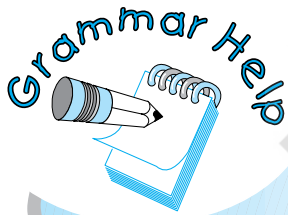


**homeless** people



**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**.

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



a **stormy** sea

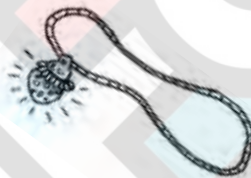


a **muddy** path

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



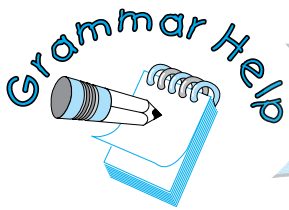
Some adjectives end in **-ly**.

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**.

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

## Exercise 1

Add the correct endings to turn these words into *adjectives*.

-y

-ful

-less

-al

1 peace \_\_\_\_\_

6 dirt \_\_\_\_\_

2 storm \_\_\_\_\_

7 music \_\_\_\_\_

3 mud \_\_\_\_\_

8 nation \_\_\_\_\_

4 forget \_\_\_\_\_

9 dust \_\_\_\_\_

5 spot \_\_\_\_\_

10 play \_\_\_\_\_

## Exercise 2

Add the correct endings to turn these words into *adjectives*.

-en

-y

-ing

-ish

-ous

-ly

1 wind \_\_\_\_\_

6 fool \_\_\_\_\_

2 gold \_\_\_\_\_

7 charm \_\_\_\_\_

3 friend \_\_\_\_\_

8 child \_\_\_\_\_

4 rot \_\_\_\_\_

9 love \_\_\_\_\_

5 danger \_\_\_\_\_

10 interest \_\_\_\_\_