

Adjectives:

An **adjective** modifies (describes) a noun or pronoun.

For example A poetry book can be very **inspiring**.

Normally in English, the adjective comes before the noun. For example: The **smart** student earned an "A".

They also come after linking verbs. For example: I feel happy.

1. Adjectives can be used to make comparisons.

- For most adjectives of one or two syllables, you can add –er. For example, greater, faster, stronger.
- For adjectives longer than two syllables, you should use the word more.

For example, He was more intelligent than his brother was.

2. Adjectives can also be used as superlatives.

- This is usually done by adding –est to the end of an adjective that is one or two syllables.

For example, the loudest, the coolest, the smartest.

- If an adjective is three syllables or longer, you must use the words the most. For example, Tom is the most intelligent student.

WARNING- Never use both an –er ending and the word more or an –est ending and the word most.

- ☒ For example, I am the **most happiest** when my students learn.
- ✓ Instead, it should be: I am the **happiest** when my students learn.

There are some regular adjective forms. For example:

| Adjective | Comparing two | Superlative |
|-----------|----------------|----------------|
| Tall | Taller | tallest |
| Fat | Fatter | Fattest |
| Sad | Sadder | saddest |
| Happy | happier | happiest |
| Simple | simpler | simplest |
| important | More important | Most important |
| expensive | More expensive | Most expensive |
| Difficult | More difficult | Most difficult |

*** If the final letter is consonant preceded by a vowel then it is doubled**

There are some irregular adjective and adverb forms. For example:

| Adjective | Adverb | Comparing two | Comparing three or more |
|-----------|--------|---------------|-------------------------|
| Bad | badly | Worse | worst |
| Good | Well | Better | Best |
| Little | | Less | Least |
| Much | Many | More | Most |

Punctuation Note: Adjectives are not usually capitalized unless they are the first word in a sentence. BUT, nationalities are also adjectives and should be capitalized.

For example: Messi is **Argentinian** and Ronaldo is **Portuguese**.

These are called proper adjectives. And, like proper nouns, **proper adjectives** are always capitalized in English. They are derived from proper nouns and are words like: African-American, Vietnamese, Latino, Italian, Japanese, Korean, etc.

When they are used together, they are arranged in a certain order.

| Determiner* | Opinion | Size | Age | Color | Origin | Material | Noun |
|-----------------|--------------|-----------|----------|--------------|---------|---------------|-------|
| The, This, Some | Pretty, Tall | Big, Thin | New, Old | Blue, Purple | Italian | Leather, Wood | Sofa |
| My | Expensive | Small | Ancient | Black | Chinese | Silk | Scarf |

For Example: **I saw that tall, thin, old, blue silk scarf at the store and I bought it.**

For Example: **Tom drives an expensive old Italian car.**